

# *A Sure Covenant*

## Church Membership

Is it important? Is it Biblical?



By: Pastor Walter "Chick" McGill  
Edited by: David P. Aguilar

“And the rest of the people, the priests, the Levites, the porters, the singers, the Nethinims, and all they that had separated themselves from the people of the lands unto the law of God, their wives, their sons, and their daughters, every one having knowledge, and having understanding; they clave to their brethren...” (Nehemiah 10:28,29)

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## **A SURE COVENANT (Church Membership: Is It Important? Is It Biblical?)**

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## A Sure Covenant

### A SURE COVENANT (Church Membership: Is It Important? Is It Biblical?)

#### Introduction

 When the Savior was speaking to His eager listeners in the well-known “Sermon on the Mount” discourse as recorded in the Gospel of Matthew, He said unto them, “Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you... Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.” (Matthew 7:7,13,14)

There is a crisis in Christianity today, a silent enemy that sneaks into churches and drains away vital energy from those who would direct their worship to the Throne of Heaven. Paul warned about it in his ministry; every apostle and disciple who wrote a book of the New Testament addressed it in one way or another, yet their earnest instructions go largely unheeded by a multitude of professed followers in whom the Scripture is truly fulfilled; they profess the promises of Heaven, “Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof.” (2Timothy 3:5) The name of this enemy is *Compromise*.

Most, upon hearing the word, will immediately begin to have pictures of “secret sins,” and indulgences in the flesh that are quickly regretted once performed. Yet Compromise has another face, one that is more subtle, more sinister. Jude wrote in his contribution to the Sacred Scriptures, “it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.” (Jude 1:3) Even before the apostles left the earth, false doctrines and incorrect interpretations of the Gospel were creeping in unawares – seducing souls from the narrow way. These challenges were met head-on by the writers of the New Testament, and we have the record of their entreaties, their warnings, and even their commands. In spite of this there was, as Paul foresaw, a “falling away.” (2Thessalonians 2:3) With the coming of the papacy, the principles that the followers of Christ had long upheld were surrendered – either to the fear of persecution or the executioner’s blade. For centuries there was a stain imposed upon the character of the gentle Redeemer in men’s minds, a stain that has yet to be scrubbed away. The Inquisitions, the Crusades and other “holy” wars, these continue to affect our global culture though centuries have passed.

The history of the Reformation is a record of the attempt to recover that vital, primitive Christianity from the mouth of the enemy of souls. Brave men, crying out against the abominations being done in the name of God, began to cast off the traditions which disagreed with the Scriptures, and made a heroic effort to fulfill the will and wishes of the One who paid the

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price for our sins, that terrible and infinite price that will be the subject of our conversation and adoration for ceaseless ages in glory. Many paid for their fidelity with their own lives, and we who are the recipients of their gift (an eventual – if unsteady – religious freedom) have a great debt; we owe them for their testimony, and for the Savior who sent them to us.

But have we paid that debt? Have we attempted to live up to the worthy name for which they died?

The apostle Paul gave us a description of the Church. He wrote of the members that they are to be “of one accord, of one mind.” (Philippians 2:2b) To this end he wrote, “Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Yahshua the Messiah, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be *no divisions* among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.” (1Corinthians 1:10)

But there are divisions among the churches claiming to be Christ’s. There are contentions among humans, all claiming to be led by the same Spirit, yet the apostle asks the question, “Is Christ divided?” (1Corinthians 10:13) The answer is No. Christ is not divided, and neither is His body. There is an objective “truth,” there is an objective “right,” and human interpretations, human wisdom, do not result in many equally valid, yet contradictory “forms” of Christianity, “For Yah is not the Author of confusion, but of peace, as in all Churches of the saints.” (1Corinthians 14:33)

Yes, there are many members in the Body of Christ (Romans 12:4); however some who style themselves teachers, some who are intimate friends with the demon of *Compromise*, apply this Scripture in a way never intended by the author, or by the Spirit of Truth that inspired him. To let Paul complete his thought, he said, “So [therefore] we, being many, are *one body in Christ*, and every one members one of another.” (verse 5) Can this be applied to different denominations, all teaching opposing doctrines, all claiming the favor and blessing of the Messiah, all claiming to be of one Body? The Bible teaches us how to know. Are they members one of another? Do they all have the same beliefs? Do they all have one doctrine, “One Lord, one faith, one baptism?” (Ephesians 4:5) Do they all say the same thing regarding the nature of God, the meaning of Salvation, the assurance of Salvation, the afterlife? Is there a single teaching, even one, that is common to all denominations considering themselves Christian? There is not one – not even the meaning of the Cross – yet some brazenly declare this multitude of voices to be “all part of the plan” of the Most High!

Are there many roads to God? The Bible teaches that there is a way to sanctification, but it is strait and narrow. The Messiah was accepting, and loving, and ever willing to meet people where they were – but He was not willing to compromise the truth. He loved all men, yet He rebuked them when they strayed from the path He was outlining for their lives. He

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embraced human weakness, yet He wrote the record of willful sins in the sand with His finger, and on golden pages in His Book of Remembrance. Both are true, both are part of His nature, both are Love. Love does not compromise the truth, or it would cease to be Love.

We must be united; but we cannot be united at the cost of compromising the truth. If there is an objective “right” way to read the Scriptures, it is our responsibility – it is our privilege – to seek it out and to follow it. That is what Church Membership is all about. Christ prayed to His Father that His followers “may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.” (John 17:23) Why do the atheists sneer at the Christians? Why do the evolutionists hold the believers up to contempt? Why are so many in the nominally Christian churches asleep, struggling with sins that should have been once confessed and eternally put away? Why hasn’t our Master returned? It is because we have not yet come together according to the prayer of faith – we have not yet become ONE, even as the Father and Son are one. (John 10:30) *The world does not yet know that Yah has sent the Christ*, and that He has sent us to testify of Him.

There are not many churches. There is one Church; the word “churches” as used in the New Testament applies strictly to congregations, not to self-sufficient religious institutions, each teaching its own “spin” on the Gospel. There is a word for this kind of confusion in the Bible, in which everyone speaks his own language – it is called Babylon. In the last days, there will be a “confusion” of the spirit, a multitude of voices, all claiming to be teaching the truth. The principles of the dark kingdom have never changed, however... it is still called Babylon by those who know it. (Revelation 16:29)

But there IS a unity possible. For those in the Spirit, it is the only kind of fellowship that *is* possible. For those who walk not after the flesh, how can disagreements about religion not wither and die in the light of the Spirit of Truth that leads us all into a knowledge of all things? (John 16:13) To make the statement that we have no way of truly knowing the “right path,” to claim that we are all just “doing our best,” and can safely accept the church that fits our perceptions the most comfortably – to claim that Christ has more than one valid Church on planet earth is to deny the very Spirit that was sent to unify believers. To adopt the position of compromise regarding the doctrines our Master gave us is verily to resist, to blaspheme the Holy Spirit – and those who continue to maintain this position are in the gravest of danger. The last Book of the Bible tells us of Heaven, “And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, *or maketh a lie*: but they which are written in the Lamb’s Book of Life.” (Revelation 21:27)

If a thing is not true, it is a lie. If a thing is not according to the teachings of Scripture, the true teachings of Scripture, it is not true. We can no longer

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afford to claim we don't have the tools to learn the truth. We can no longer deny the power of Godliness, and become complacent in our faith. We can no longer go on pretending that everything is fine, when one teaches (for example) that the Sabbath is the 7th day of the week, and is a continuing blessing for Christians, but another believes that it was taken away from us – nailed to the Cross of Calvary, or changed to another day. One teaching is true, the other is a lie – and because we have the Spirit of God, we are able to know what the truth is. The true believer trusts the power of Yahweh, and knows these things are so. Somewhere deep within the heart of even the most lethargic convert, if the Spirit is moving with him, he knows that these things are so. “I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth.” (1John 2:21)

There is a truth, an objective truth, and it can be for us an assurance of Salvation. Because Christ sent us His Spirit, we may ask, and it will be given to us. We may seek, and we will surely find. The confidence that we will find is the very essence of faith. “And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” (John 8:32) There is a Church on earth that is faithful to the Messiah's commands. There are a people who are “getting it right,” and preparing to meet the Son of Man when He returns for His people. There are those on the planet who have a new heart and a right Spirit, and it is time that they find each other. It is time for the light to be separated from the darkness, as it was at the Creation, and then, and only then, can life begin. (Genesis 1:4) There is a Church that understands these things, and that is seeking out these believers, and joining us one to another as members of one Body. There is a Church in which unity may come without a loss of individuality, without a loss of freedom, that image of God that our Creator gave His own life to protect.

If you, dear reader, feel a hunger and a thirst for this kind of unity, for this kind of sure covenant of faith, then this book was written for you. Going back to where we began, with the words of Yahshua during His sermon on the mount, we find that most precious promise falling from His lips: “Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: **for they shall be filled.**” (Matthew 5:6) Only believe, and nothing shall be impossible unto you.

This book is a series of 7 sermons delivered by pastor Walter “Chick” McGill of the Creation Seventh Day Adventist Church in 2001. I have attempted to preserve them intact, word-for-word whenever possible, altering the text only where it is necessary for reasons of clarity, to add new insights, to generalize a specific teaching, to emphasize a principle, or to include other supporting Scriptures. The spoken word is not always smoothly translated into that which may easily be read, and so at times it has been necessary to modify the sentence structures or the wording in order to communicate the intent of the speaker. By the Spirit of Yah, the message is intact, and it is my faith that these humble efforts have been guided by One greater than myself, One infinite in knowledge, One more

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interested in gathering His people together than I have the capacity to experience.

I send this work into the world, therefore, neither the author nor truly the scribe, yet intimately concerned with its reception by those whom I would gladly receive as my brothers and sisters in Christ. With a few more notes on the technical aspects of this work, I invite my readers to continue on, and to drink of this clear fountain.

The following devices have been employed in order to facilitate the readers' comprehension:

1) All Bible readings are from the King James Version unless otherwise noted, with the exception of the Names being changed. Some examples:

- "God" becomes "Almighty One" and "the LORD" becomes "Yah" in the Old Testament readings.
- "Jesus" becomes "Yahshua", "God" becomes "Yah," and "Lord" becomes either "Yah" or "Yahshua" depending on the subject of the New Testament verses.

2) Pronouns referring to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit ("He," "Him," "His," "It," etc.) are all capitalized in Bible verses. So are certain key terms such as "Book of Life" and "Woman" when used in reference to the Church.

3) I will sometimes capitalize the word Church, and sometimes leave it with a small "c." This is not an inconsistency – where I use the word "church" it refers strictly to the organizations that claim that title. When I use the form "Church," it is in reference to the spiritual Body of Christ, the Body of believers that is currently (or from the perspective of the timeframe used) being faithful to the Head, which is Yahshua.

4) Sentences that are "broken" as the speaker moves from one idea to another are sometimes preserved "as is," with ellipses [...] indicating this shift in subject matter.

5) Pastor Chick's more brief comments on Bible verses are added directly into the verses in [square brackets]; his longer comments and discussions of the verses are recorded outside of the "quotation" signs that enclose the verses' text.

6) Verses are not always quoted in full. Generally, only those portions quoted by the speaker are recorded with the reference given in (parentheses) or mentioned before the quote itself. These transcripts are obviously not intended to replace the readings of the Scriptures, but students are encouraged to have their Bibles handy to see the original text, unbroken by comments and insertions, in order to get the most meaning out of both the passages and these studies.

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7) My comments, usually editorial insertions, are added in {curly brackets}.

8) Additional studies on key subjects are indicated by {1} numbers, and the corresponding footnotes at the end of each chapter make references to documents included in the Appendices.

May Yah bless the reader as this work is examined.

-David P. Aguilar

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#### **Chapter 1: The Restoration of All Things**

Date: March 10th 2001

**J** only remember giving this study one other time, several years ago in Kansas. A controversy had arisen among some, about whether or not Church Membership was an important concept. Well, I didn't have any answers, and because I was the evangelist there, I was sort of put on the spot to come up with some answers. So I sought Yah's Throne, and petitioned Him in prayer, and that night He gave me some answers. Well, the next evening we had this study, and it was satisfactory to those that had entered into controversy. It ended the controversy, and we praised Yah for His timely intervention, and the wisdom that He bestowed upon us through the Scriptures. Since that time, I have not had occasion to go over these concepts again.

Recently, on February 23rd of this year, we officially organized the St. Joseph Creation Seventh Day Adventist Church here in St. Joseph, TN, and the subject of Church membership has come up again. I asked Yah if there was anything that I needed to share about this, and He began to unveil some things, and add to the understandings He had given me before. I wanted to share these things with you, and with those who are listening on the Internet, so that we can all have a better understanding of what Yah would have us know about this matter.

First of all, it is helpful to see where we've been and where we've come from. Many of us have Church backgrounds, some of us do not have Church backgrounds, a few of us have come from the occult. So many different backgrounds from which we come... I was raised a southern Baptist, and I had certain deceptions and misunderstandings about... the Sabbath, the state of the dead, hellfire, the character of the Father and the Son; many things. But as I studied through the years, Yah brought me out of those deceptions. And for most of you, you have also had certain areas of your lives that had to be updated. You had to get new information. You had to receive a newer and more clear understanding; to find more truth that you might walk in it.

The Bible tells us in Acts 3 – we can turn there together. In Acts 3 the Bible tells us that there is a “time of refreshing.” There is going to be a restoration of holy things. It doesn't tell us when this time will be, exactly. It doesn't tell us how long it will last, but let's read about it in Acts 3:19-21, and I am reading from the King James Version, which is really the best version from which to read this passage. It's our tradition here to read from the KJV in meetings at any rate. So, beginning at verse 19: “Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; And he shall send Yahshua the Messiah, which before was preached unto you: Whom the

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heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began.”

As we look at Church history, we see the Apostolic Church being formed. Actually, it had its beginning when Yahshua was yet alive. He had His twelve disciples. He called them out of the synagogue and taught them separately, and then after His death, burial and resurrection, the Apostolic church continued. Of course, it was somewhat influenced by Judaism for a time, but it had pure doctrine, a clear understanding of the work of the Messiah, a clear understanding of Salvation: by faith –by grace through faith, Ephesians 2:8 and 9 we’re going to quote it properly, so we should turn there.

Eph 2:8 and 9: “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of Yah: Not of works, lest any man should boast.”



So in the Apostolic Church, the Law and the Gospel were balanced, and the members had a good understanding of Yah’s will for their lives. The good news went to the Gentiles, and they began to be added to the Church, which was predominantly Jewish at the beginning. As time went on, if you trace Church history, Satan planted tares among the wheat, and little by little a falling away came. Paul even warned in Thessalonians that

“that Day,” or the coming of Christ, shall not arrive unless there is a falling away that comes first, and the man of sin be revealed. Well, we know that by 538 AD the papacy was well formed, and the Roman Catholic Church was well established. By this time many of the pure doctrines of the Apostolic Church were fading away.

Throughout the dark ages, for about 1200 years, the papacy ruled. And during those years, the good news and the holy things of Yah were laid aside until there were certain ones, such as Martin Luther, John Wesley and many others that we could list here, the reformers, that came on the scene and began to find difficulty accepting the papal institution and the Roman Catholic Church doctrines. These did not line up with the Bible, and so they protested. Eventually we had separation – the reformers separated, or were forced to separate, from the Roman Catholic fellowship, and they went their various ways forming various scattered denominations: Lutherans, Methodists, Anabaptists, Waldensians, and so forth. And there were others along the way.

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Eventually what happened in the 1800s was that there was a great awakening, a great religious awakening in this country {U.S.A.} and around the world, and it started around the years 1830 to 1831. It became known as the *Great Advent Movement*, because there were those who saw, from the Scriptures, prophecies that pointed to the second coming of Christ. The coming of Messiah, they said, was imminent. “You need to get your spiritual house in order.” This began the spirit of the times of refreshing. This was the beginning of what would become the “restoration of all things.” But it had to begin with the reestablishment of the “second coming of Christ” doctrine. The fact that He will be coming personally to receive His Church.

And so the doctrine spread around the world and was gratefully received by people from every denomination in Christianity. It eventually ended up in what is now known as the *Seventh-day Adventist Church*. The question may be asked: “In this time of refreshing, in this restoration time, what has been restored, and through what means?” Well truth has always been restored by a careful study of Scripture, a prayerful study of Scripture. People getting on their knees, laboring over these Scriptures and coming to an understanding of the knowledge of truth.

Well, what has been restored? Before I give you a list of these things I want to share with you that the Seventh-day Adventist Church ended its search for new things, it closed its door to new light, it ended its reformation, and therefore necessitated a continuation of the Reformation, which has now been called of our Father in Heaven. That new Reformation is known as the *Creation Seventh Day Adventist Church*. Yes, there are other reformers out there that are not in our fellowship. We might look upon them as other Tribes of Israel. Let us look at ourselves as one tribe in Israel, one tribe of the final Reformation.

Now let’s ask ourselves, “What has been restored?” And let’s talk about those things. We see the channel through which they have been restored, through the great Advent movement, through the Seventh-day Adventist Church and the various Seventh-day Adventist tribes that have branched off from where the Seventh-day Adventist Church stopped.

What has been restored?

Number 1: The names of the Father and the Son, and the truth about the Godhead. Is there a Trinity? IS the Trinity doctrine the truth? The great “central doctrine of the Roman Catholic Church,” is it the truth? We say, “Nay, it is not the truth.{1}” Let’s look at Scripture concerning who has names: Proverbs 30:4.

If the Trinity were true, the Holy Spirit would have a name. But in Proverbs we are given the key to this understanding. Proverbs 30:4: “Who hath ascended up into heaven, or descended? Who hath gathered the wind in His

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fists? Who hath bound the waters in a garment? Who hath established all the ends of the earth? What is His name, and what is His Son's name, if thou canst tell?"

Well, in the refreshing time we have come to know. From an intense study of Scripture we have come to know that His name is *YAH*. Some call Him Yahweh, some call Him Yahovah, Yaveh, Yavah, Yahuah, various pronunciations. But the KJV makes it clear His name is *YAH*; {Psalm 68:4 points this out, and demonstrates that the first part of the name is sufficient to identify the Father}. And so, every believing group around the world that knows of this Creator knows how to say "Hallelu-Yah," "Praise Yah." In English we say, "Praise the Lord." We have come to understand that the Father and Son have proper names, and They want to be spoken of in their proper names.



Let's look at Revelation 3:12 as a New Testament example. Rev 3:12, the Savior is talking here now: "Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God [or my Father], and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my [Father], and the name of the city of my [Father], which is New Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my [Father]: and I will write upon him my new name."

So, they that overcome sin are going to have three names written upon them: the name of the Savior's Father, the name of the city of the Father, which is the New Jerusalem, and the name of Yahshua Himself. There is no name for the Holy Spirit. We are not going to preach about the Trinity or the non-Trinity doctrine today, but the non-Trinity understanding has come back to us from early Adventism, and has been restored as a pillar of truth.

Now what is another thing that has been restored? In Daniel 7:25 – we need to turn there, and if I am rushing a little bit please take notes and you can go back over this at the end, later this evening, or at some time when you have a personal study. Daniel 7:25, speaking of AntiChrist, speaking of that papal power, says: "And he [AntiChrist] shall speak great words against the Most High, and shall wear out [persecute] the saints of the Most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time."

We understand from prophetic interpretation that this is the 1200 years of domination by the papacy. It says he will speak words against the Most High, that's against Yah the Father, and His Son Yahshua. He shall persecute, or wear out, the saints of the Most High, and he shall "think to change times and laws." Now, if he changed times and laws, that means there are some times and laws that need to be restored.

So what are these times and laws that were to be restored? Well, in Leviticus 23 – we will not turn there right now, but you can read it for yourself – in Leviticus 23, the whole chapter, you find the holy times or the

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appointed times of Yah. These are the times that Yah set aside for worship, for holy convocation, and they have never been changed, although the Roman Catholic system changed them. But now they have been restored to Yah's people. In Colossians 2:16 you can read about the annual Feast days, the monthly New Moon festivals, and the weekly Sabbath. All of these have been restored to Yah's people: they are holy times.

{There are many examples from the New Testament of Christians, even Gentile Christians, keeping the feast days, and in terms of ecclesiastical history, the continued observance of the annual feasts is very easily demonstrated. We include here a brief testimony from Polycrates, a bishop of the early Church, which he made before the Nicean Council. This took place over three centuries after the crucifixion of the Savior, as the compromising leaders were attempting to move the celebration of the death and resurrection of Christ from the Passover's Feast (of Unleavened Bread) to Easter Sunday:

“We for our part keep the day scrupulously, without addition or subtraction. For in Asia great luminaries sleep who shall rise again on the day of the Lord's advent, when He is coming with glory from heaven and shall search out all His saints such as Philip, one of the twelve apostles, who sleeps in Hierapolis with two of his daughters, who remained unmarried to the end of their days, while his other daughter lived in the Holy Spirit and rests in Ephesus. Again there is John, who leant back upon the Lord's breast, and who became a sacrificing priest wearing the mitre, a martyr, and a teacher; he too sleeps in Ephesus. Then in Smyrna there is Polycarp, bishop and martyr; and Thraseas, the bishop and martyr from Eumenia, who also sleeps in Smyrna.

Need I mention Sagaris, bishop and martyr, who sleeps in Laodicea, or blessed Papius, or Melito the eunuch, who lived entirely in the Holy Spirit, and who lies in Sardis waiting for the visitation from heaven when he shall rise from the dead? All of these kept the fourteenth day of the month [Nisan] *as the beginning of the Paschal festival, in accordance with the Gospel*, not deviating in the least but following in the rule of faith. Last of all I too, Polycrates, the least of you all, act according to the tradition of my family, some members of which I have actually followed; for seven of them were bishops and I am the eighth, and my family have always kept the day when the people put away the leaven. So I, my friends, after spending sixty-five years in the Lord's service and conversing with Christians from all parts of the world, and going carefully through all Holy Scripture, am not scared of threats. Better people than I have said: ‘We must obey God rather than men.’” [*The History of The Church*, Eusebius, pp. 171, 172]}

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So we've had holy names restored, we have had holy times restored. What about laws? Were there any holy laws that were done away? Yes, there were. The 10 commandments were changed by the Roman Catholic system, and through, and during, the great Advent movement, the Sabbath commandment was placed back into its proper place in the 10 commandments, and the commandment against making images and worshipping them was placed back in its proper perspective.

Health laws. What about the laws of the clean and the unclean? What we should eat? Eat the clean and avoid the unclean. We find that in Leviticus 11:2.

What about the law against consuming blood? Let's read some of these. You know, today people still eat bloody steaks, bloody hamburger? Christians do this – the Bible condemns it, and we're going to read these Scriptures. Genesis 9:3 and 4: "Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat [food] for you; even as the green herb have I given you all things. But flesh with the life thereof, which is the blood thereof, shall ye not eat."

That was from the beginning. Yah forbade them to eat the blood; they were not to eat meat with the blood in it. It is stated again in Acts 15:20 and 29. If some are tempted to say the Old Testament is to be done away for such things, that the laws of the Old Testament have been done away, let's look at Acts 15:20. This is after the council of Jerusalem; they had to make some decisions about what to tell the Gentiles. What are they going to teach the Gentiles? In verse 20 it says: "But that we write unto them [the Gentiles], that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and from fornication, and from things strangled, and from blood." And then in verse 29: "That ye abstain from meats [foods] offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled, and from fornication: from which if ye keep yourselves, ye shall do well. Fare ye well."

I want to go back to verse 21 now. It says in verse 20 what they were going to require of the new converts of the Gentiles, but then it further says in verse 21: "For Moses of old time hath in every city them that preach him, being read in the synagogues every Sabbath day."

In other words a new convert, a new Gentile coming into the faith, would be required to observe these things, and they weren't going to put any more on them because they could learn it from listening to Moses in the synagogues on the Sabbath. The Gentiles were to learn the proper ways to do things, but little by little by little, see. Little by little – they weren't going to put on them more than they could bear right up front, but they could hear Moses being preached in the synagogues every Sabbath. This was very early in the Apostolic church.

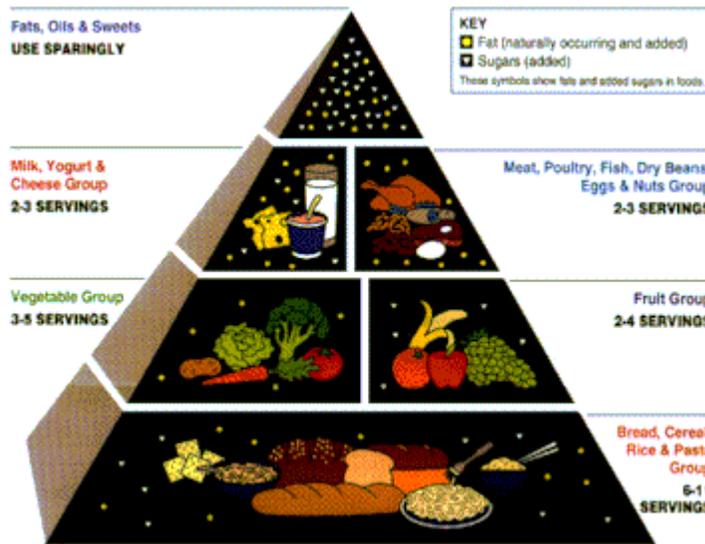
So, today we understand that certain meats are unhealthy for us, and that we should not eat any meat that has the blood still in it. The Jews have a

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process they call “Koshering” where they kosher the meat, and most meat eaters would not be likely to enjoy the meat after it had been koshered, because it probably doesn’t have as much taste. I’ve never eaten koshered meat myself.

There are other health laws that have been restored to us. But before those health laws could be restored, something else had to be restored, the proper understanding of spiritual gifts. You see, some of the churches threw out spiritual gifts altogether and said, “When Revelation was ended, there were no more spiritual gifts.” That’s the way they taught me in the Baptist church. “There’ll be no more prophets, there’ll be no more healings.” And there were others that went to another extreme, and they’re speaking in tongues and doing all sorts of things to try to prove that they’ve got the Holy Spirit, going overboard on that side of the issue{2}.

So, spiritual gifts had to be placed in its proper perspective. And what happened in the great Advent movement? There was a prophet called, and that prophet’s name was Ellen G. Harmon, who became Ellen G. White. She received the gift of prophecy, and through that gift of prophecy the great Advent movement received instruction on health. From Biblical principle she drew the eight laws of health. And today, we have an acronym, I guess you would call it, or a way to remember it in the words **NEW START**.



**N** stands for good Nutrition. The **E** stands for wholesome Exercise. The **W** stands for plenty of pure Water, inside and out. **S**, the beginning letter for **START**, is plenty of Sunshine. **T** stands for Temperance, or self-control. **A**

stands for pure Air, breathe deeply of pure air. The **R** stands for good Rest, which includes a restful day of Sabbath each week. And the final letter **T** represents Trust in God: trust in the Father and the Son.

These laws of our being were brought to view by the Spirit of Prophecy, and restored a health message which grew into a great sanitarium, that Dr. Harvey Kellogg administered for some time. People from all over the world came to this sanitarium for healing. And the first health food stores that

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were ever opened were Seventh-day Adventist health food stores, all of this initiated by the Spirit of Prophecy that was restored to Yah's people.

There were other things restored, having to do with ecclesiastical law, or church law. during the years of the Reformation, the reformers began to be called *Protestants*. If you ask someone today what a Protestant is, they will say any number of things. I think if you look it up in the dictionary it will say any who "protest" against the Roman Catholic church, or something like that. But that's not what "Protestant" means. A Protestant is one who believes two cardinal points of doctrine.

Number 1- as Protestants, we believe that in matters of religion, the individual's conscience takes pre-eminence over the judgment of a magistrate, a civil magistrate. In matters of religion, the individual's conscience is over the decision of the civil magistrate.

And Number 2 – as Protestants we hold the Word of Yah, from Scripture, above the decisions and the councils of the Church. In other words, the Word of Yah holds pre-eminence over the arbitrary authority of the Church. Now that defines Protestantism right there – those two points. If you don't believe those two points, you're not a Protestant.

And yes, they protested against the evils of the Roman Catholic church and the papacy; but today, we as protestants must protest things that are being done even in the Seventh-day Adventist Church – because they have left the principles of Protestantism. So we as Creation Seventh Day Adventists are restoring the principles of Protestantism.

There was, in the Reform churches, an understanding of the "Priesthood of Believers." Have you ever heard that phrase before, "the Priesthood of Believers?" There's nobody above anyone else? Yahshua said, "Ye are all brethren." {Matthew 23:8} Let's read about it in 1Peter 2:9: "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvelous light."

We are a Priesthood of Believers. There are none above any of the others; we are all equal in Christ. There isn't even male or female, it says, in Christ. {Galatians 3:28} We are all equals. So this has been restored as a holy position, a holy priesthood.

We as Creation Seventh Day Adventists have restored a couple of other things. One is the mode and manner of baptism. You witnessed it at the last baptism we just had, where the officiating pastor or evangelist is nothing more than a facilitator, facilitating baptism by immersion (by the way). Yes, our friends the Baptists helped us bring that one back into view, and restored the place of immersion. But they did not, neither they nor any of the others in the Advent movement, restore the proper *manner* of baptism.

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When Yahshua was baptized, John the Baptist did not take a hold of Him, lay Him down in the water and pick Him up. Yahshua went down into the water of His own volition and came up out of the water, representing His words that said, "I have power to lay my life down and take it up again." {paraphrase of John 10:17,18}

Yes, we are receiving new light and new understanding. You see, we are not to lord anything over anybody. I am a pastor, but I am not to lord it over any of you. And for me to say, "Let me bury you in this baptism, and let me put you down and bring you up;" there's something implied in that, that I have some jurisdiction over you. I'm just your brother; I am a facilitator. I am there to see that you go through this ordinance safely and properly.

Another thing that's been restored recently, through the Creation Seventh Day Adventist movement, is the New Moon doctrine of humility {3}, self-examination, and the holy kiss. The holy kiss... small things in the minds of people, but holy things in the mind of Yah.

Now there's a most important message that has been restored, and that is the Gospel message: the message of Victory over Sin through Righteousness by Faith {4}. Now, there will be many churches that will tell you, "We teach righteousness by faith." The Seventh-day Adventist church will tell you, "We teach, and believe, and accept, righteousness by faith." But it is a counterfeit, let me tell you. For if that righteousness does not reflect the righteousness of Christ Himself, it is a counterfeit.

But the Gospel message of Victory has been restored to the Church, and I challenge you, you who hear this by the internet, I challenge you in this room, to find where this message has been restored. At this moment I have searched the internet far and wide, and I have found but two witnesses, in the whole world, giving this message.

Yes, the truth of Victory over Sin by the righteousness of Yahshua, has been restored. And we should be shouting, "Glory be to the name of Yah!" Let's turn and look at some of the Scriptures that will help to strengthen this in our minds. Deuteronomy 28...

Some may be asking, "What has this to do with Church membership?" Well, I must build a foundation for the Church before I talk about the membership. Deuteronomy 28, verses 9, 10, 13 and 14. We're going to see here, Yah is going to talk about a holy people walking in Victory: "Yah shall establish thee an holy people unto Himself, as He hath sworn unto thee, if thou shalt keep the commandments of Yah thy [Father], and walk in His ways. And all people of the earth shall see that thou art called by the name of Yah; and they shall be afraid of thee." Verses 13 and 14: "And Yah shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; if that thou hearken unto the commandments of Yah thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do them:

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And thou shalt not go aside from any of the words which I command thee this day, to the right hand, or to the left, to go after other gods to serve them.”

This is a holy people, a people that go neither to the right nor to the left. They're always doing the will of the Father and speaking of the will of the Father.

I failed to mention two points, and let me go back and bring those into the message.

I was speaking about health reform, and it's part of the will of the Father that we need to know about. Let's look at Genesis 1:29, the original diet. The original diet has been restored, and this also came through the Spirit of Prophecy. Genesis 1:29, “And Yah said, ‘Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat [food].’”

That was the original diet in Eden, and it has been restored to Yah's people in this generation. Now, not everybody will have a body that can accommodate this, we understand. But in general, this is the diet of choice, and it will be the new diet that all of the saints will have in the New Earth. And there is a promise of health that has been made to us, Exodus 15:26, I want to read that to you. Exodus 15:26 says: “If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of Yah thy [Father], and wilt do that which is right in His sight, and wilt give ear to His commandments, and keep all His statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am Yah that healeth thee.”

The natural healing movement, the alternative medicine movement, has been brought about; it has come to be understood in Yah's church as a restored part of healing. It is Yah's will for His last day people. It is Yah's will for us to be drug free, and for us to be fully restored to perfect health. We will see more of that in a verse that's coming.

Okay, back to the Victory message, though the health message *is* all a part of the Victory message:

In Deuteronomy we saw a holy people walking in victory, who would not turn away from Yah's message. Now in Ezekiel 3:17-21 (I will read it quickly), the teaching that the righteous do not commit sin is the basis of this passage. “Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me. When I say unto the wicked, ‘Thou shalt surely die;’ and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not

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from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul. Again, When a righteous man doth turn from his righteousness, and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumblingblock before him, he shall die: because thou hast not given him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he hath done shall not be remembered; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Nevertheless if thou warn the righteous man, that the righteous sin not, and he doth not [commit] sin, he shall surely live, because he is warned; also thou hast delivered thy soul.”

That is a summary of the Victory message: the righteous do not commit sin. Look at Zephaniah 3:12, 13 – here we have a prophecy of the Remnant of Israel, and I will tell you that we have come to understand that the Remnant of Israel will be the 144,000 from the book of Revelation chapter 7, and Revelation chapter 14. You’ll see it clearly when we read it here. Zephaniah 3:12,13: “I will also leave in the midst of thee an afflicted and poor people, and they shall trust in the name of Yah. The remnant of Israel shall not do iniquity, nor speak lies; neither shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouth: for they shall feed and lie down, and none [nothing] shall make them afraid.”



They have no more fear. They are full of love, they are healthy, they don’t commit sin. That’s the Remnant of Israel, and that’s the prophecy of it in Zephaniah chapter 3. Now let’s go to Revelation chapter 14 to see the fulfillment of it. Revelation chapter 14 is the fulfillment of it, starting with verse 1: “And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with Him an hundred forty and four thousand, having

His Father’s name written in their foreheads.” It’s important to see that “YAH” is written in their forehead.

“And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps: And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth. These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto Yah and to the Lamb.”

And listen to the verse 5: “And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are *without fault* before the throne of Yah.” That’s the exact same description as we have in Zephaniah chapter 3. Verse 6 takes up the Three

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Angels' Message, which tells us how these 144,000 came to be without fault before the throne; and the Three Angels' Message has been brought to view through the great Advent movement.

So we have in Revelation 14 the fulfillment of the prophecy of the 144,000, the Remnant of Israel who have the Victory message in their hearts. 2Corinthians 7:1, let's take a look at that. Actually, let's go up to 2Corinthians 6, beginning with verse 17: "'Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate,' saith Yah, 'and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters,' saith Yah the Almighty One." Chapter 7 verse 1: "Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of Yah." Perfecting holiness in the fear of Yah. We have restored the Victory message. We are to clean ourselves up, both fleshly and spiritually; we are to cleanse ourselves from the filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of Yah.

And then in Hebrews 12 we conclude this study. Hebrews 12:10-14: "For they verily for a few days..." Well, let's go back a little bit – to verse 6 so we get a little sense out of this. Verse 6. "For whom Yah loveth He chasteneth [or corrects], and scourgeth every son whom He receiveth. If ye endure chastening [or correction], Yah dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye [illegitimates], and not sons. Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? For they verily [that is, our earthly fathers] for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but He [that is, the Father of spirits] for our profit, that we might be partakers of His holiness." And jump down to verse 14: "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see Yah."

So we are to become partakers of Yah's holiness, and without this holiness we will never see Him. This message has now been restored to the Church. Where do you hear it? Only in Yah's Church. All of the churches out there that claim to be His Church, if they do not teach this message they are *not* His Church; they are counterfeit. They are Satan's synagogue, if you will. Babylon: confusion. Now, there are good people there. There are good people in those congregations who are deceived; they are yet drunk on the wine of Babylon. They need to be called out of Babylon, into this time of refreshing, into this time of restoration.

Now, next week we will take up the restoration of Church membership to its proper, Biblical, setting. I hope you will all be here for this exciting presentation, not because I'm doing it, but because Yah has restored Church membership to its proper place, and we will be taking that up next week.

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Shall we pray?

Our Father in Heaven we thank you for blessing us this day with the Sabbath blessing. We thank you for showing us where the channel of truth is, and where we have come from: all the way from Creation through the Jewish Church, and then to the Apostolic Church, and through the Reformation Churches, and then the great Advent awakening and the great Advent movement. And then the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and then the Reformation Adventist Churches that have split away. And now, culminating into the great Creation Seventh Day Adventist Church movement.

We thank you, Father, for blessing us with light from Heaven. Thank you for blessing us with the gifts of the Spirit, thank you for giving us the gift of prophecy, to understand your will and your ways. Thank you for giving us the breastplate of Righteousness, thank you for giving us the Urim and Thummim, which the high priest had, so that we might know the will of the Father in Heaven. Thank you for blessing us with these truths, and restoring these holy things to their proper places. Father, we look forward to next week, where we will look specifically at what you have done about Church membership.

Dismiss us now, Father, with your love, and may the rest of our Sabbath be as it always is: a great blessing to our hearts. In Yahshua's name, Amen.

{1} See Appendix A1

{2} See Appendix A2

{3} See Appendix A3

{4} See Appendix A4

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### A SURE COVENANT Chapter 2: The Family

Date: March 17th 2001

First of all, in talking about Church Membership, we need to talk about Family. What it's all about is family, and when we talk about family we think of the heavenly family and we think of the earthly family. And there's so much that we could say about family, we could have a seminar just on that alone. But what we want to do today is open our Bibles – I hope you brought your Bibles, and I hope you're fast at finding Scriptures, because I'm going to read them as fast as I find them, and if you can't find them as fast as I'm finding them, you may want to take notes, go back over this. There will be tapes available for any that want to review this program, if you want to go back over it again. So we'll call this Church Membership part 2, and this is about "The Family."

The spiritual family. Let's start with John 1:12,13: "But as many as received Him [that is, the Christ], to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." We're reading from the King James Version, as our tradition is here. This is speaking of the heavenly family that resides on earth. There is a heavenly family that resides in heaven, and there is a heavenly family that resides on earth.

We want to go further. Let's go to 2Corinthians 6:14-18, and perhaps into the first verse of chapter 7: "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord [or agreement] hath Christ with Belial? Or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel [or unbeliever]? And what agreement hath the temple of Yah with idols? For ye are the temple of the living God; as Yah hath said, 'I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their [Father], and they shall be my people [or my family]. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate,' saith Yah, 'and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters,' saith Yah the Almighty One." And continuing on to verse 7:1, "Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from [how much?] *all* filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of Yah."

"Perfecting holiness in the fear of Yah."

Since we have the great blessing of being a part of the heavenly family residing on earth, let us perfect holiness in the fear of Yah. There are some conditions that He gives here in this passage, to being part of that heavenly family. He says, "I will be a Father to you, and ye shall be my sons and

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daughters if –” If what? “If you agree with me concerning the separation.” You must be separate from the unholy family. You cannot stay in the unholy family and be part of the holy family.

There was a war in Heaven, and Lucifer and his angels fought, and Michael and His angels fought. There was no agreement between the two anymore. They could not reside together anymore.



Holiness and rebellion, righteousness and unrighteousness, light and darkness, cannot live together. It won't even work on planet earth; much less will it work in the heavenly realm. But we're speaking here of the heavenly family, especially the heavenly family that is residing on earth.

Let's go to 1John 3:1: "Behold [or 'Take notice'], what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of Yah: therefore the world knoweth [or recognizes] us not, because it knew [or recognized] Him not." When Yahshua the Messiah, or Jesus the Christ, came to this planet, did everybody just run up to Him and say, "Oh, the Messiah! We're so glad you came!?" Did the religious leaders of that day say, "This is verily the Messiah, He has come to deliver us! Let us worship Him."? How many did that? They didn't recognize Him; they didn't know Him. He did wonderful works. He healed the sick; He raised the dead. He brought families back together, He worked miracles, He fed the multitudes, and the religious leaders of His own church called Him Satanic, called Him Ba'alzebub. They didn't recognize Him.

How much more will they fail to recognize us, who are the sons of God? They call us of Satan many times. I have been called a Ba'alzebub more than once. But we shall not allow that to bother us, because our elder Brother experienced this very thing before. So behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons and daughters of God. It thrills me. Sometimes my skin gets "Holy Ghost pimples" on it when I think of that blessing, to be referred to as sons and daughters of the Most High. A member of the family of Heaven, yet residing on the earth.

Let's go to Romans 8:14-16: "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage [or slavery] again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, 'Abba, Father.' [or 'Daddy, Daddy'] The Spirit Itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God."

You see, the Heavenly Family is led by the Spirit of Yah. That leaves out the flesh, doesn't it? If you're led by the flesh, how can you be led by the Spirit? For the Spirit and the flesh war one with another. The sons and

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daughters of Yah are led by the Spirit, and the Spirit Itself bears witness with our spirits that we are the children of Yah. And we cry, “Daddy, Daddy. Oh, my Papa.” Our Heavenly Father is to be as our Daddy, that we might run to Him in time of need, that we might receive every good gift, for what daddy is there that would give his children anything but good gifts?

We’ve spoken about that heavenly family residing on earth. Let’s go a little further in this understanding, but let’s take it now a little deeper, speaking of the heavenly family residing on earth, but yet being an earthly family. There is an “earthly” aspect to this family as well. We have the earthly family that has been made partakers of the heavenly family, those of us that are born again (for you must be born again to be a part of the Heavenly Family); the Church family results from that. We’re going to talk about the earthly Church family now, for a few minutes, and then you will see what I mean.

1Corinthians 1:12. I’m going to start with verse 11: “For it hath been declared [or told] unto me of you, my brethren, by them which are of the house of Chloe, that there are contentions [or quarrels] among you. Now this I say, that every one of you saith, ‘I am of Paul;’ and ‘I of Apollos;’ and ‘I of Cephas [or Peter];’ and ‘I of Christ.’” Reading on, verse 13: “Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?”

The apostle Paul has received a report here of these contentions and quarrels among the family members of the Church about who has which *father*. Let’s go a little further in this and you’ll understand fully what I’m talking about. Let’s go to 1Corinthians 3 and read verses 1 through 23, and this is a long read, bear with me; the whole chapter, chapter 3:

“And I, brethren, [Paul is speaking here] could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ. I have fed you with milk, and not with meat [or the solid food]: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it [or understand it], neither yet now are ye able. For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men? For while one saith, ‘I am of Paul;’ and another, ‘I am of Apollos;’ are ye not carnal?”

“Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man?” You see, what Paul is saying is, “We were just ministers that brought you into the faith.”

Verse 6: “I have planted, Apollos watered; but Yah gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but Yah that giveth the increase. [That’s the important thing.] Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one:” Get this: “He that planteth and he that watereth are one.” He is saying Paul and Apollos are one; that’s unity.

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“And every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour. For we are labourers together with Yah:” Get this unity, now. I want you to get a picture the picture of union here. “we are labourers together with Yah: ye are Yah’s husbandry, ye are Yah’s building.

“According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation...”

Now, you’re going to think – you’re going to be tempted to think that Paul’s a little arrogant. But Paul is speaking under the unction, he’s either writing or having his scribe write this letter, under the unction of the Holy Spirit. These are inspired words, now... It sounds like the apostle Paul is bragging by saying, “I am a masterbuilder. I have laid the foundation.”

“...and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.” That’s the only foundation there can be. Any other foundation would not be a true foundation.

“Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man’s work shall be made manifest...” Or shown for what it really is. In other words, Paul is saying, “I have laid the foundation. If Apollos builds on that foundation with gold and silver and precious stones, it’ll be proven. If he builds with wood, hay and stubble it will also be proven. Now get this: he’s talking about the quality of the converts. There will be different qualities of converts, and Satan will sow seeds, won’t he? He’ll sow some tares among the wheat, Yahshua already warned us about that.



Let’s go on:

“Every man’s work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it [that is, Judgment day], because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man’s work of what sort it is.” Will fire burn up gold? No, it purifies gold. Will fire burn up hay and stubble? Yes, it will. “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If

any man defile the temple of God [by building with wood, hay or stubble] him shall Yah destroy...” With the fire; you see how it fits in context here? Many of us might want to use these Scriptures out of context, and we can take some prophetic license with the principles in some cases – there are examples of that in Scripture. But taking this thing right in context here, he’s talking about our work for the salvation of souls. If a man is not built in the temple of Yah in holiness, he will be destroyed. Remember what Yah said in Corinthians, 2Corinthians 6. What did He say? “If you will come to

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me, *separate* from that uncleanness, *separate* from that darkness; if you will come unto me I will be your Father and you will be my sons and daughters.” But don’t defile the temple by an insincere conversion, or you will be destroyed, “for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.”

Continuing: “Let no man deceive himself...” and this is where we have to be very, very careful. Lucifer deceived himself, remember? The fallen archangel... he deceived himself. “Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with Yah. For it is written, ‘He taketh the wise in their own craftiness.’ And again, ‘Yah knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain [or empty].’

Next verse: “Therefore let no man glory in men.” Okay, there are two ways of looking at this sentence. Let no man glory in the man that brought you to the message. Don’t say, “Well, pastor Chick brought me to the message,” or “pastor X brought me to the message,” or pastor Y or pastor Z brought me to the message. Don’t glory in that. And, by the same token, pastor Chick does not glory in saying, “I brought a hundred to the message. I saved a hundred souls in that evangelistic series.” We are not to glory in our fruits, nor are we to glory in those that bring us to Christ - those are the two ways to apply that sentence. We are to glory in Christ, and Christ alone!

And I think he says that here: “For all things are yours; Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours; And ye are Christ’s; and Christ [belongs to Yah].”

We are secure; we are secure in Yah. We don’t have to argue about who is the better pastor. Or we don’t have to argue about who brought the most souls in. You know, a lot of Christians think that evangelists that bring thousands in, you know they have a crusade and they bring thousands in, are “good” evangelists; and all of a sudden they almost get worshipped, because they brought thousands in through their crusade. Paul says don’t glory in these things. He says every man’s work shall be made manifest. We don’t know if those thousands that came in were sincere or not... We don’t know if that’s gold or silver or precious stones, or wood, hay or stubble. It says, “In that day,” it will be proven by fire. But Paul says we are the temple of Yah, and do not defile that temple.

Let’s move on, and catch a little bit more of the flavor of this, in chapter 4 just across the page. Chapter 4:14-17. Now, we could read chapter 4 up to this point, but what he’s basically doing is giving some reproof a little bit. Of course, Paul is good to do this, but in verse 14 he takes it up and he says: “I write not these things to shame you...” He knew that they would probably feel like he was shaming them a little. “I write not these things to shame you, but as my beloved sons I warn you.” Now wait a minute, here’s family coming in. He’s warning these Corinthians as his sons. Now they’re sons of

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Yah, they're sons of God, let's don't get this mistaken. We have a heavenly connection but we have an "earthly" connection too in this family. Look at it, verse 15, reading through 17: "For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers: for in Christ Yahshua I have begotten you through the Gospel."

Wait a minute, now. Paul says we're not supposed to glory in this thing; now he's turned around and he says, "I'm your father. I begat you in the Gospel. You might have a thousand, you might have ten thousand instructors, or Sabbath school teachers, but you don't have but one father." Sounds like he's bragging a little bit again now, doesn't he? But there's a reason for this. He's trying to set up the proper respect in the family. "Wherefore I beseech [beg of] you, be ye followers of me." Whoa, Paul - we have to be careful with this. In another place he expands on the thought, saying, "Be ye followers of me as I follow Christ." Verse 17: "For this cause [or because of this] have I sent unto you Timotheus." Now that's little Timothy. Remember, Paul wrote 1 and 2nd Timothy to Brother Timothy. He says, "...have I sent unto you Timotheus, who is my beloved son, and faithful in Yah, who shall bring you into remembrance of my ways which be in Christ, as I teach every where in every church."

Do you think Paul had a little authority? Paul knew it, didn't he? Paul had authority and he knew it. And where was his authority coming from? His authority was coming right from the throne of Heaven. Paul is claiming to be their spiritual father. I wonder if that's where we got the notion of "godfather?" You know... someone's godfather or something. The "Godfather" concept would be a perversion of that, probably. Even in the Roman Catholic church, what do they call the priests? Father. There's another perversion of it.

What I'm setting up for you here is the understanding that in the Church it is a heavenly family on earth, and there is an earthly family whose members' hearts are as one. There is organization and familial authority. You don't see one going here, and one going there, and one saying, "I'm going to do this," and another saying, "I'm going to do that," without any respect for the family. There are going to be those that have authority in the family. Whoever brought you to Christ, whoever helped you to be begotten in Christ, that would be your spiritual father; and you should give them respect - honor your father. You should give them that respect, and they should respect you as a son or daughter, and give you good counsel and advice.

Let's just show how Paul refers to Timothy first, and then Titus. Let's go to 1Timothy 1:2 just real quickly. 1Timothy chapter 1 verse 2, Paul's writing to Timothy, he says: "Unto Timothy, my own son in the faith:," and then in 2Timothy he does a similar thing. In 2Timothy 1:2, he says, "To Timothy, my dearly beloved son..." Now get this, there was no blood connection here. It was his son in the faith. He brought him into the faith. He says, "I begat

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him by the Gospel.” Titus 1:4: “To Titus, mine own son after the common faith.”

In Philippians 2:19, 22: “But I trust in the Lord Yahshua to send Timotheus shortly unto you, that I also may be of good comfort, when I know your state. But ye know the proof of him [that is, Timotheus], that, as a son with the father, he hath served with me in the gospel.” He’s describing his relationship to Timothy as a son working with his father. And that’s how he served Paul in the Gospel work. So the Church family is literally a family. You have fathers, you have brothers and sisters, sons and daughters, spiritually speaking. And you are to have that same respect in this family, in the Church on earth, as you have in the Church in Heaven.

Philippians 2:25 is another example of brotherhood: “Yet I supposed it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, and companion in labour, and fellowsoldier, but your messenger, and he that ministered to my wants.” He calls his fellow worker his brother. Recently we’ve come to the light that it’s respectful to call each other brother: brother Ed, brother Keith, brother Anthony... etc. etc.

It’s a respectful endearment. 1Thessalonians 2:10... so we have a spiritual family. 1Thessalonians 2:10 (I know some of you are getting hungry already, and we’re just barely getting started). 1Thessalonians 2:10 and 11 (We’re getting fed here, though): “Ye are witnesses, and Yah also, how holily and justly and unblameably we behaved ourselves among you that believe: As ye know how we exhorted [or urged] and comforted and charged [or directed] every one of you, as a father doth his children.” Here Paul is talking like a father to his children in Thessalonica. And he sounds a little arrogant again, doesn’t he? He says, “You have witnessed how holy we were, how just we were, and how blameless we were in the way we behaved there.” Can you imagine? Can you imagine me going on a trip, and writing you a letter saying, “Brother Ed, you were a witness of how holy I was, and how blameless I was in my in my behavior there at the Church!”

People don’t like to hear those kinds of words today, do they? Because... why? Most everybody thinks everybody’s just a bunch of losers. It’s almost impossible for them to get the concept that we CAN behave in a holy and blameless manner. We really can, and that’s a shock to many people. And what’s an even greater shock is that a person can know they’re doing it! People tell me, “Well, if they’re holy they wouldn’t know it.” I tell you what, I can see and I can hear, and I can pretty well conceive how I’m moving my body generally speaking; and if I come into your house and act a fool, or if I come into your house and act like a mature, 55 year old man, I can know the difference. I still have that much brain left. I can tell the difference.

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Now, if I can't, please let me know! See, be a good family member and help me. If I am acting a fool, please straighten me out. See, that's where that is. Family does that for each other. Family loves each other enough to say, "Sister, there's a little... just a little dirt right there on your cheek." We don't condemn anybody, we just help them clean the dirt off, and they're fine again. A spiritual family - we love each other.



Matthew 12. We're going to find out the Savior's attitude about this because, after all, the Savior's attitude is the one that really counts in the big picture. Matthew 12:46-50: "While [Yahshua] yet talked to the people, behold [or take notice], His mother and His brethren stood without, desiring to speak with Him. Then one said unto Him, 'Behold, thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to speak with thee.'" Now here's a very, very unusual response: "But [Yahshua] answered and said unto him that told Him, 'Who is my mother? And who are my brethren?' And He stretched forth His hand toward His disciples, and said, 'Behold [take notice of] my mother and my brethren!'" Do you see what He's doing here, do you get the picture? He's pointing out His family. No, He's not disgracing His blood mother, He's not disgracing His blood brothers, but He's exalting His spiritual family. "For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother."

You see, Yahshua's attitude is, "You are my relative, you are my family, as long as you're doing the will of my Father in Heaven." There's a "but" to that, there's a flip side to that coin: "But if you're not doing the will of my Father in Heaven, you're not my true relative." And we're going to prove that in another Scripture. He's going to say it outright in another place, in Matthew 7; we'll come to it near the end of the study.

Now, I don't know if any of this is new to you; some of you might be thinking, "Oh, this is old hat. We've been through this ever since I've been in the Church." But if it's new, let it be a blessing; if it's old let it be a blessing – because, we can't hear these things too much. Unity in the family of God is something we need in this generation. Amen.

Hebrews 2:11 sort of puts a capstone on that. Hebrews 2:11: "For both He that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one." There's the unity, now – the Sanctifier and the sanctified are one, "for which cause He is not ashamed to call them brethren." In other words, Christ calls us His brethren. We are His brothers, He is our elder Brother.

Now let's move on. We have finished part 1 of the Spiritual Family; now we have to go a little further and look at spiritual Israel. And this one may challenge your thinking a little bit. Get on your spiritual eyeglasses, and

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stay awake for this part of it – because it's going to finish here in a little while. I want you to get this right now: spiritual Israel.

Who is Israel? The Bible tells us. Galatians 3:26-29: “For ye are all the children of Yah by faith in the Messiah Yahshua. For as many of you as have been baptized into the Messiah have put on the Messiah. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Yahshua. And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.” Who is that? If you're in Christ, you are spiritual Israel. You are heirs of the promise to Abraham. Yah said to Abraham, “You're going to be the father of many nations.” {Genesis 17:4}

We are brought right in and grafted right into that promise as Israel, spiritual Israel. We used to be Gentiles, but in Christ we are heirs according to the promise. Now, we have to go a step further, in Romans 9. Now, we're not going to go through this with a fine-toothed comb. A lot of our brethren who are going to be listening and reading may wish that I would do so, but we'll let some of our other theologians and pastors do that, if they wish. I just wanted to give you sort of a nutshell, a thumbnail sketch.

Romans 9:4-8, let's read it. Paul here is speaking of literal Hebrews, his “kinsmen according to the flesh”: “Who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises; Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, Yah blessed for ever. Amen. Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For *they are not all Israel, which are of Israel.*” Oh, what about that statement? They are not all Israel that are of Israel. That's a tongue-twister. What that means is this: those of blood Israel, those that are Abraham's seed by blood, are not all Israel in the faith, you see. It is Israel in the faith that really counts, because in Christ ye are Abraham's seed. So let's continue: “Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, are they all children: but, in Isaac shall thy seed be called. That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of Yah.” See, the children of the flesh are not the children of Yah, “but the children of the promise are counted for the seed.”

So that's who Israel is today. We call it Spiritual Israel – it has the Holy Spirit. Now let's go further, Romans 11:1-5: “I say then, Hath Yah cast away His people?” Are you saying, preacher, that the nation of Israel has just “had it?” That they're finished, that they have no hope? They're all going to hell – or something like that? No: “God forbid,” Paul says, “For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin.” Now Paul goes back to the bloodline again. He's coming back to the bloodline, he says the bloodline can still be a part of this, but it's not just because of the bloodline, or the genealogy after the flesh, {see 1Timothy 1:4} it's the faith-line.

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Let's go to verse 2, we're reading through verse 5: "Yah hath not cast away His people which He foreknew. Wot ye not [do you not know] what the scripture saith of Elias [or Eli-Yah]? How he maketh intercession to Yah against Israel, saying, 'Lord, they have killed thy prophets, and digged down thine altars; and I am left alone, and they seek my life.' But what saith the answer of Yah unto him? 'I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to the image of Ba'al.' Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant [or last part] according to the election of grace." Hallelu-Yah.

For by grace are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of Yah. Not of bloodline, not of works lest any man should boast. Hallelu-Yah. Let's skip over to verse 13: "For I speak to you Gentiles [now, he's going to speak to the Gentiles], inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify mine office [or I glorify my ministry]: If by any means I may provoke to emulation [jealousy] them which are my flesh, and might save some of them. For if the casting away of them [the rejection of blood Israel] be the reconciling of the world, what shall the receiving of them be, but life from the dead?"

Can you not understand this? You see, if blood Israel was cast off because of their lack of faith, how much more glorious will it be if they come back to the faith and get raised from the dead? "For if the firstfruit be holy, the lump is also holy..."Who's the firstfruit? Christ. Christ is the Firstfruit, so if He is holy, everybody else that comes into Him will be holy: "and if the root be holy, so are the branches." Now he's going to talk about the tree here. We're in verse 17, we're headed for 27.



"And if some of the branches be broken off [that is, some of the bloodline Israel], and thou, being a wild olive tree, wert grafted in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree; Boast not against the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee." In other words, how can the branch of a tree boast? The branch of the tree gets its nourishment from where? The root. Christ is the Root; what have we got to boast about? Anything? If I do one thing holy, can I boast? No. I can't boast about a thing, because whatever comes out of me that's holy is coming from Christ. He's the Holy One of Israel. And if I'm grafted into Christ as a branch, then I'm going to be holy because it says if the root is holy the branch will be holy. It all makes sense – there's nothing about this that's confusing except maybe the Old English for some people.

Verse 19: "Thou wilt say then, 'The branches were broken off, that I might be grafted in.'" Oh, the Gentiles can't say that; we can't say that Israel got rejected so that we could be accepted. No, that's not true. 20: "Well;

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because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear.” Have respect. Are you following me? “For if God spared not the natural branches [now that’s Israel, the bloodline of Israel], take heed lest He also spare not thee.” In other words, take heed of your own selves, don’t be boastful, don’t be bragging. Be sure you’re grafted in; be sure you’re getting that holy sap from the root – because every tree is known by the fruit. And if you’ve got lousy fruit on your branch you’re not connected to the true vine, you’re not connected to the true root. You’re deceiving yourself, and Paul warned you about that, he said, “Let no man deceive himself.” I’ll start preaching here in a minute!

Verse 22: “Behold therefore the goodness and severity of Yah...” There’s a spectrum here, here’s a spectrum: there’s a goodness and severity. Be not deceived, our Father is not mocked, for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap. If he reaps of the flesh he reaps destruction and corruption, if He reaps of the Spirit he reaps life everlasting. “Behold therefore the goodness and severity of Yah: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee [the Gentiles], goodness, if thou continue in His goodness –” There’s a condition, now. Don’t overlook the conditions, are you with me? Don’t overlook the conditions: If you continue in the goodness: “otherwise thou also shalt be cut off. And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be grafted in: for Yah is able to graff them in again.” Hallelu-Yah. God is able to bring those Israelites back to the olive tree, and put the branches back into the root again! Hallelu-Yah, He can do it. He can save the vilest sinner.

Verse 24: “For if thou wert cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and wert grafted contrary to nature into a good olive tree: how much more shall these, which be the natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree? For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits [or proud ideas]; that blindness [or hardness] in part is happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in. And so...” Listen to this conclusion in verse 26: “And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, ‘There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer [who is the Deliverer but Yahshua the Messiah?], and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall [do what?] take away their sins.’”

They shall call His name Yahshua. Why? Why did the angel tell Mary to call His name Yahshua? Because He will do what? He will take away His peoples’ sins. What does Yahshua mean? The word “Yahshua?” His name on earth was Yah-shua. That means Yah: the name of our Father, and Shua: Savior. Yah-is-our-Savior. He will save us from our sins. Is that good news? Is that not good news? We don’t have to be wrapped up in our guilt; we don’t have to be wrapped up in our sins anymore! Because we’ve been freed at the Cross of Calvary. Hallelu-Yah! Can I stand up and preach? I’ll just sit down. There ought to be somebody raising holy hands in this room, because Christ paid the debt that we could not pay. And if He could graft us

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in, who are unnatural branches, He can graft the bloodline back in too – by faith. As individuals, not as a nation, but as individuals – one at a time – one at a time, saving souls.

None are any better than the other, because Paul says the Root is what's holy. And when the Root is holy, and you're grafted into that Tree, you must be holy! It's just common sense.

We're almost finished (I don't know if that's good news or bad news). Israel means "Overcomer." You will remember Jacob had a name change when he was truly converted. Jacob meant "Supplanter," but Israel means "Overcomer." Now let's look at it. What does Overcomer mean, by the way? Overcomer means "Victorious over sin." Look at Matthew 7:21, we'll read some of the Savior's words here: "Not every one that saith unto me, 'Lord, Lord...'" Now some of you may want to substitute Yah, or Yahweh; some might want to say Master, some might want to say Yahshua, some might want to say Jesus, it doesn't matter what you say – what you call Him, not everyone that says unto Him "'Lord, Lord,' shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."

Does that remind you of something we read a while ago in Matthew 12, 46 through 50? Where Yahshua said, "My family are those who do the will of my Father?" He says, "Those who don't do the will of my Father will not go to heaven." Did I read it wrong? He says, "Many will say to me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? And in thy name have cast out devils? [verse 22] And in thy name done many wonderful works?'" Oh, works – that was the problem. "And then will I profess unto them, 'I never knew you [you are not part of my family, I never knew you]: depart from me, ye that work [what?] iniquity.'" What is iniquity? Sin. If you remain a sinner, you're not saved.

When you're saved, you get saved from sin. Shall we sin because of grace? Paul says, "God forbid!" {Romans 6:1,2} How can you sin, when you're saved by grace? Hallelu-Yah.

Let's go, now – just a little bit more. 1John 3:9, 10. This one causes more preachers problems than probably any other Scripture in all of the Bible. And you know, it used to cause me a big problem too, until I came to understand what the family of Christ was all about, when I found the power of His might, when I found the power of His Holy Spirit. It doesn't cause me trouble anymore. 1John 3:9,10: "Whosoever is born of Yah doth not commit sin." I'm going to stop there just a moment; some of your newer translations will say, "Whosoever is born of Yah does not practice committing sin." Do you know why they changed that, weakening the original and accurate statement? Because they can't quit sinning. The theologians, that wrote these new translations, don't know what it is to cease from sin. But in the King James – look it up in your Strong's

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Concordance if you don't believe me – the word for “commit” there is one act {Gk: *hamartia ou poieo* - “performs no sin”}. One act, a single act. Now you say, “Oh, preacher, you're legalistic.” No, I'm not; do you know that if your heart is changed... let me give an example.

Can you take a sledgehammer and go up to the maternity ward there in Lawrenceburg and start crushing little babies' heads? Can you do that? Can you take a sledgehammer up to the maternity ward and start whaling on those newborn babies? How many in this room can go do that? I don't see any hands. You cannot do it! Oh, it's possible. It's physically possible. You can lift the sledgehammer, you can go to the maternity room, and you can drop the hammer on their heads – that's perfectly possible. But your heart is not in it; you cannot bear to do it. That's the attitude of the family of Yah; we cannot bear to commit sin, because we've been *saved* from the corruption, and the darkness, of sin. We've been burnt; we have been burnt, we have been burnt by the terrible poison of sin. We've been burnt like on a stove; like if you touch the iron of a stove, you've been burnt and you don't want to touch it again.

That's the way our experience has been with sin. We don't want it anymore, and we would rather die than get involved in it again. So, continuing on: “Whosoever is born of Yah doth not commit sin; for His Seed [Christ] remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of Yah. In this [in this concept] the children of Yah are manifest [or made known], and the children of the devil [are made known]: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of Yah, neither he that loveth not his brother.” There's family. Love is the key to all of this. You cannot be saved without falling in love with Yah our Father and His Son Yahshua. You cannot be saved unless you have love in your heart. And if you are saved, you have the love of God in your heart. And you will love God, you will love your fellow man, you will love your enemy.

Because God is love.

Okay. Revelation; let's look at a few promises, now. Christ gives us some promises for the overcomer, for Israel, for spiritual Israel. The Messiah gave us some last-day promises, and I want to read them to you. Revelation 2:7, I'm going to go through these very quickly, because I perceive that we're getting short on time. Any time a preacher goes over one hour, he starts to lose somebody. I notice the young people are still wide-awake, so it must have been interesting at least to a point, huh?

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Okay,  
Revelation  
2:7: “He that  
hath an ear,  
let him hear  
what the  
Spirit saith  
unto the  
Churches;  
To him that  
overcometh  
will I give to  
eat of the  
Tree of Life,  
which is in  
the midst of  
the paradise  
of Yah.”  
Okay, Israel  
will eat of



the Tree of Life. Verse 11, same chapter: “He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the Churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.” He shall not be hurt of the second death; so Israel shall eat of the tree of life, and not be hurt of the second death.

Revelation 2:17: “He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the [white] stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.” And we will go more into this Scripture next week as we study more about the stone. But this is a promise to Israel, to them that overcome. And then we go to verses 26-28 of the same chapter: “And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end [see, unto the end – continue to the end], to him will I give power over the nations: And he [that one who overcomes] shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to [small pieces]: even as I received of my Father. And [verse 28] I will give him the morning star.” Interesting study - we need to do a study on the “Morning Star” sometime.

Revelation 3:5: “He that overcometh [to Israel, He says], the same shall be clothed in white raiment [the wedding garment]; and I will not blot out his name out of the Book of Life...” Did you know that some names will be blotted out of the Book of Life? Some names will be blotted out of the Book of Life because they did not continue to the end. He says, He that overcomes will I not blot out of the Book of Life, “but I will confess his name before my Father, and before His angels.”

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Verse 12 of the same chapter, one of my favorite verses of all the Scripture: “Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God [which is YAH], and the name of the city of my God, which is New Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.” Three things will be written on Israel: the name of the Father, the name of the Son, and the name of their new city, the New Jerusalem. See, our citizenship is not on earth, our citizenship is in Heaven. The Bible tells us that, and we will get to physically go there, and be there, and they that overcome will have that written on them - it will be their passport. In fact, let me give you just a preview of next week’s lesson:

Church Membership is the “passport” into the city. And I will prove it to you next week. Now, Church membership doesn’t save you – you must be connected to Christ, that’s the only salvation - to be covered by the blood of Jesus Christ is your only salvation; but when you are saved, there is required Church membership. And that Church membership we will go into more next week. We’re setting the stage for it this week, talking about family. Verse 21, Revelation 3:21: “To him that overcometh [to Israel] will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in His throne.”

Did you know that we are to replace the angels that fell from Heaven? Lucifer took with him a third of the heavenly Host, and Yah will replace the ones that fell with redeemed saints from this earth. Hallelu-Yah, they will rule with Christ on the Throne.

So, to finish up let’s go to 1Corinthians 12... this has been a long one, but it’s been an exciting one. And next week, you don’t want to miss it (unless there’s more to share before we can share that – I’ll find out this week), but please don’t miss next week! 1Corinthians 12:12-14: “For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. For the body is not one member, but many.”

And in Romans 12 we continue. Romans 12, we continue with verses 4 and 5: “For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.” Get that one? Members one of another. You cannot say, “I’m in Christ, but I’m not a part of you.” Be careful, you will sever yourself from the true Vine. Paul says we are members one of another. No man is an island. When the finger hurts, the toe hurts. Have you ever stubbed your toe? I’ve stubbed mine many times, and you know it nauseates me. Makes my stomach sick, makes my head hurt... if the body is hurting, it hurts the whole body. We’re members, one of another. Think of it in terms of unity. Christ is our unity. We are one in Christ, one Body. And

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this is the final verse, we close with this one... well, no we don't – we go to one before this one.

John... I just thought of this one, we can't leave it out. John 17, I call it the true Lord's prayer. Read this chapter very carefully some time and you will gain a great knowledge. John 17:22,23... well actually let's start with verse 17: "Sanctify them through thy truth [He's praying to His Father]: thy word is truth. As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them [my disciples] into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth. Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;" in other words, through their children, through their offspring, "That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me." It's an important thing; our unity proves to the world that the Father sent His only begotten Son. Verse 22: "And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me."

Oh, what a beautiful passage. Now we finish up with John 13. John chapter 13 verses 34 and 35. This is the test right here. If you weren't paying attention to any other part of this message, wake up for this line. This is the bottom line; Christ here in John 13:34,35 – our Savior says this, "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you." How much did He love you? How much did Yahshua love you? He left the glories of Heaven, He left the easy life, He left being commander-in-chief of the Heavenly Host. He left being the only begotten Son of the Father... for you, and me. He says, "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; [like] I have loved you... that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know..." Oh, what a wonderful promise! What a wonderful blessing – all men are going to know: "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if [condition] ye have love one to another."

Church Membership – is it important? Is it Biblical? We should know by now; next week you'll know for sure. I hope you'll come back.

Let us pray.

Our Father in Heaven, we thank you that we have a perfect record before us. We thank you that we have your Word upon which we can rely. You sent your only begotten Son into this world to show us what the family in heaven is like. And He sacrificed His life to save the human family on earth, that we might have an opportunity to live with you forever in Heaven, with all of our brothers and sisters that do the will of our Father.

Oh, Father, you have given us the commandment to love one another. Thank you that we can do that now, because we have been grafted into the

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olive tree; the root is holy and so are the branches. Thank you for the gift of love. You have told us that you have shed your love abroad in our hearts; we thank you for that gift.

We ask you to dismiss us from this holy place with that love until next Sabbath. We praise your holy name in the name of Yahshua your Son. Amen.

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#### Chapter 3: Stones of Memorial

Date: March 24th 2001

Last week we talked about Family, just to summarize a little. We talked about the spiritual family in heaven, and the spiritual family on earth. We talked about Church family, the relationship of church fathers and sons and daughters in the church. We covered just a bit on the blood family relationship, which is a biological family. We also covered the term “Israel,” and we came to understand that Israel means “Overcomers;” and that ancient Israel, or the nation of Israel, was literal Israel, or blood Israel, or biological Israel. But we’ve come to the Church age, where Israel is now Spiritual Israel, and Israel is now made up of the Church of “Overcomers.”

We want to continue with this theme going a little further. We have today a church condition – there is a family condition among the churches, those who profess Christianity. It’s called “Laodicea,” and it’s found in Revelation chapter 3; we need to go there. Revelation 3. I’ve decided to divide this study into two, so we’ll have part 4 next week, and maybe the conclusion of this. There’s so much more material than I’d realized, and I didn’t want to go as long this week as I’ve gone last week. I sort of went over my time last week.

Revelation 3:18 is the cure, the remedy to the Laodicean church condition, and Christ says, “I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment [clothing], that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.”

What we want today is to have spiritual discernment. We need the eyesalve, we need the Holy Spirit to give us clear spiritual understanding. We can’t come here, open the Bible and read words. We must understand these words, and be able to apply them in a spiritual context. Look at 1Corinthians 2:14: “But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of Yah: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned [or spiritually judged].” Today, we’re going to be covering material (and next week as well), which will require spiritual discernment.

Let’s turn to Malachi 3:16-18, a prophetic passage: “Then they that feared Yah spake often one to another: and Yah hearkened, and heard it, and a Book of Remembrance was written before Him for them that feared Yah, and that thought upon His name. ‘And they shall be mine,’ saith Yah of hosts, ‘in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.’ Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth The Almighty One and him that serveth Him not.” This is the day in which Yah

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is making up His jewels. We are living in the very last part of time, when Yah would put together His precious jewels. And, we have talked many times before about the 144,000. These are His firstfruits; these are His most precious jewels that He is making up in this last part of time. And there is a return to discernment. We, being called to the group of 144,000, must have spiritual discernment.

We must be able to discern between holy and unholy. We must be able to discern between righteousness and wickedness. We must be able to discern the importance of Church Membership. Let's go to Psalm 77:13 – this is a familiar Adventist passage. It says there: “Thy way, O Almighty One, is in the sanctuary: who is so great a God as our Almighty One?” Yah's way is in the Sanctuary, and if you remember, there was a sanctuary on the earth, and there is a sanctuary in Heaven. The Sanctuary on earth was patterned after the Sanctuary in Heaven, as we will read here shortly.

But first of all, we want to go directly to some of the instructions that Yah gave to Moses concerning the high priest. Exodus 28, we'll go there, in context to the sanctuary, now. Exodus 28, and we're going to read verses 1 through 12. Now, if you will remember, Aaron, the high priest, was a type of Christ. Christ is now our High Priest in the heavenly Sanctuary. Aaron was high priest in the earthly. Now let's look at the pattern of the clothing that the earthly high priest had by the instruction of Yah, starting in Exodus 28:1.

“And take thou unto thee Aaron thy brother, and his sons with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office, even Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar, Aaron's sons. And thou shalt make holy garments for Aaron thy brother for glory and for beauty. And thou shalt speak unto all that are wise hearted, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, that they may make Aaron's garments to consecrate him, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office.” Now remember, think of this spiritually, now, and be thinking of this in terms of Christ's High Priestly work in the Heavenly Sanctuary as well.



Verse 4: “And these are the garments which they shall make; a breastplate, and an ephod, and a robe, and a brodered coat, a mitre [or turban], and a girdle: and they shall make holy garments for Aaron thy brother, and his sons, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office. And they shall take gold, and blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen. And they shall make the ephod of gold, of blue, and of purple, of scarlet, and fine twined linen, with cunning work.” Now we're not going to go into the meaning of all these things today, but this is an interesting study, and all of these colors and such have some significance.

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Verse 7: “It shall have the two shoulderpieces thereof joined at the two edges thereof; and so it shall be joined together [or united together, here we have a symbol of unity]. And the curious girdle of the ephod, which is upon it, shall be of the same, according to the work thereof; even of gold, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen.”

Now we get into some very, very significant points concerning Church Membership. “And thou shalt take two onyx stones, and grave on them the names of the children of Israel: Six of their names on one stone, and the other six names of the rest on the other stone, according to their birth.” Now here we’re talking about biological family; we’re talking about blood family, we’re talking about tribes of Israel by birth. But in the spiritual family of Israel, how do we become part of the tribes of Israel? By birth, by the new birth; by being born again from above. You see, we are born into the family of Yah which is in Heaven, and we are now basically worshipping in the Heavenly Sanctuary. We’re not in the earthly tabernacle anymore; we’re in the Heavenly Sanctuary. But Yahshua, our High Priest, is wearing this same garment, because the earthly was patterned after the Heavenly. So we have two onyx stones on either shoulder. Six of the tribe’s names are on one and six are on the other, according to their birth. Now in the Heavenly it would be according to their new birth, not their blood birth.

Verse 11: “With the work of an engraver in stone, like the engravings of a signet...” Do you know what that word “signet” means literally? It means, “Seal.” “With the work of an engraver in stone, like the engravings [or the writings] of a seal, [we’re going to go further] shalt thou engrave the two stones with the names of the children of Israel: thou shalt make them to be set in ouches [settings] of gold.” What is the faith of Yahshua? It is gold tried in the fire. We, as newborn children of Yah, are to be set in the faith of Yahshua, born from above, engraved in stone as a seal, and placed upon the shoulders of the High Priest. Verse 12: “And thou shalt put the two stones upon the shoulders of the ephod for stones of memorial...”

Do you know what the word “memorial” means? Record. For a record. “Thou shalt put the two stones upon the shoulders of the ephod for stones of a record unto the children of Israel: and Aaron shall bear their names before Yah upon his two shoulders for a memorial [or record]. And thou shalt take ouches [settings] of gold...” etc.

We have an example of a Church Membership covenant document here with me. We have names, we have signatures, we have the dates of the signatures and we have a commitment to keep the commandments of Yah and the faith of Yahshua. It is set in gold. This is a record. This is a record on earth that is also recorded in Heaven. Upon the shoulders of the High Priest, as a seal, and a record placed before Yah. Let’s go further. Let’s go to Luke 15:4-6, to carry this a little bit further concerning the shoulders: “What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth

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not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it? And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, 'Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost.'”

It is written that the very hairs of our heads are numbered. Do you not realize that your name is numbered? How would the shepherd know which sheep was lost, had he not kept his name in his heart. And when he finds that lost sheep, he places it upon his shoulders to carry it home. The High Priest carries us even now, upon His shoulders, until He brings us home to Heaven. We are not a nameless people, we have a name. And it is engraved in stone upon the shoulders of our High Priest.

Isaiah 49 has a little bit more spiritual understanding of this, and as the truth of this strikes home with you, you may have an inclination to have tears coming from your eyes – as even I do at this very moment. Isaiah 49:15,16; and you who are mothers should be very touched by this, as we all are: “Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? Yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. Behold, I have graven [engraved] thee upon the palms of my hands...” Our Savior was crucified, nailed to a tree. Those nails engraved our name upon His palms. He knows us by name.



Revelation 2:17, a promise to the overcomers. A promise to Israel. “He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.” If you can’t understand this today, you’re not going to receive it today. But if you do understand it, if you have the Holy Spirit, if you have spiritual discernment, you will receive it. And you will understand the name that is written in your stone, that white stone. Do you know that the onyx stones in which these names are engraved... I studied a little bit about onyx stones... Onyx stones were anciently used for seals. They were good stones in which to engrave names, and they were used as seals, to seal names. Used for signatures, and in that onyx stone there was white. Some of the more pure onyx stones were white.

Nevertheless He says, “I will give you a white stone with a new name written therein.” Now here’s an interesting concept if we want to look at it, and this may be to what He is referring. Let’s go to Revelation 21:10. I am sure that light will unfold from this study, brighter even than it is right now. And those of you who are hearing this around the world may be inspired by some new light, and we would appreciate you sharing with us. Revelation 21:10 through 12: “And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from Yah, Having the glory of Yah: and her light was like

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unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal; And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel.”

Do you know that these gates of the New Jerusalem are made of pearl? And I believe I have this down... let's see... I did not record that Scripture; verse 21, yes... there it is. Revelation 21:21 – “And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass.” We have here 12 gates, which are twelve pearls. And in each pearl there is a name of one of the tribes of Israel. Now these are not the tribes of the blood tribes of Israel. These are the spiritual Israel tribes, because the New Jerusalem is Heavenly.

The earthly Jerusalem was earthly, the New Jerusalem is heavenly. It's going to make more sense as we travel along here. Let's go to Luke 10. By the way, pearls are white stones; if He intended to say that He was giving us a white stone with our name in it, that would be the white pearl gate of the New Jerusalem with the name of our tribe in it. Luke 10:19,20: “Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in Heaven.” Now they are written in the Lamb's Book of Life, and they are also written in stone upon the shoulders of the High Priest. Your tribe name is written upon the shoulder of the High Priest. Your personal name is written in the Lamb's Book of Life, and the Book of Remembrance as well. Matthew 6 – let's go there. So if you, as a born again Christian, are being carried on the shoulders of the High Priest, to what tribe do you belong? The name of your tribe is engraved there in stone upon the shoulders of the High Priest. To what tribe do you belong? You say, “I don't belong. I don't belong to any tribe.”

Well, Church Membership is the answer to that. Our Tribe is the “Creation Seventh Day Adventist.” There may be 11 other tribes; we are learning the details as we progress in truth. Now, our tribe name will probably be translated into Hebrew when we go to Heaven. But while we are on earth we have to deal with our English heritage, and Yah honors that. We are told in the Spirit of Prophecy that He has given us our name. A father does that, you know, a father gives you your name.

Let's look now at Matthew 6, verse 10. This is Yahshua's prayer. It's commonly called “The Lord's Prayer,” and I just want to point out this verse, verse 10: “Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in Heaven.” Everything that is done in Heaven Yah would like to see done on earth. There are holy angels in Heaven. He seeks to have a holy kingdom of priests on the earth. He writes the names of His people in Heaven, and He says, “Rejoice not that you have power over the demons; rejoice that your names are written in Heaven.” Let it be done on earth as it is in Heaven, and

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here we have an example of it being done on earth as it is in Heaven. Our names are engraved in a gold setting – the faith of Yahshua.

Let's go to Deuteronomy 30. Now some will say, "Oh, you're talking about denominationalism." No. We're not talking about denominationalism; we're talking about family. We're talking about the family of Yah; We're talking about the children of Israel, we're talking about the tribes of Israel, we're talking about Yah's holy arrangement. An order. Yah is very organized; if we study the children of Israel in the Old Testament there, in the wilderness, everything was very organized. In Heaven, everything is very organized; and in earth it must be the same. Deuteronomy 30:19: "I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live."

We see the messenger calling Heaven and earth as witnesses here, to record this day against the children of Israel. Remember, on the shoulders of the high priest it said these stones are engraved for a record, a testimony. Yahshua once said, "No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of Yah." {Luke 9:62} In another place he said, "No man goes to war, or goes to build an edifice, unless He counts the cost first." {summary of Luke 14:27-33} For it would be very humiliating for a person to take up a job and not finish it. It would be sad for us to engrave our names in stone, and not be settled into the truth in such a way that we cannot be moved.

Yah is calling us to be sealed. He is calling us to a right understanding of "once saved, always saved;" there is a popular counterfeit to that teaching as well. He is calling us to success, not failure. He is writing His law, or He has written His law, in our foreheads as a seal. He expects us to write our signature of commitment upon His covenant. Let's go to Hebrews and look at a little bit of the further understanding of the Sanctuary in Heaven.



Hebrews chapter 8, 1 through 5: "Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an High Priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the Heavens; A minister of the Sanctuary, and of the true Tabernacle, which Yah pitched, and not man. For every high priest is ordained [or appointed] to offer gifts and sacrifices: wherefore it is of necessity that this Man have somewhat also to offer. For if He were on earth, He should not be a priest, seeing that there are priests that offer gifts according to the law [that is the law of Moses]: Who serve unto the example and shadow [or image] of heavenly things, as Moses was

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admonished of Yah when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, ‘See,’ saith He, ‘that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount.’”

Moses was shown by Yah how to make these things, how to construct the tabernacle, how to make the clothing for the high priest, etc. This earthly was a shadow, or image, of the Heavenly. So we must be a part of the tribes of Israel, engraved in the stone; sealed, or we shall not go through the gates of the City. We have a passport to the City, and as we travel along in this study, and perhaps next week, you will see how the Church membership reflects our commitment, and our relationship to the family in such a way that it becomes our passport through the gates of the City.

Exodus 39, let’s review. We were in Exodus 28 before. We have Exodus 39 now. Verses 6 and 7: “And they wrought [or made] onyx stones inclosed in ouches [settings] of gold, graven, as signets [seals] are graven, with the names of the children of Israel. And he put them on the shoulders of the ephod, that they should be stones for a memorial [or record] to the children of Israel; as Yah commanded Moses.” Numbers 1, let’s go to Numbers 1, verses 1 and 2. “And Yah spake unto Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the tabernacle of the congregation, on the first day [that was a New Moon, by the way] of the second month, in the second year after they were come out of the land of Egypt, saying, ‘Take ye the sum of all the congregation of the children of Israel [a census], after their families, by the house of their fathers, with the number of their names, every male by their polls.’” That is, with the number of people by each family.

How many were in each family? That’s a census, they were numbering the tribes. Verse 19 of that same chapter: “As Yah commanded Moses, so he numbered them in the wilderness of Sinai.” Do you know that we’re going to be numbered? Revelation 7:2 through 4, let’s look at it. I’m sorry I am having to rush a little, but we’re trying to keep this within an hour today. Revelation 7:2-4: “And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, ‘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.” That’s the 144,000 – from the tribes of the children of Israel; that’s spiritual Israel, now.

“Of the tribe of Juda were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Reuben were sealed twelve thousand...” etc. etc. Each tribe had 12,000. We are numbered, dearly beloved; we are numbered among the tribes of Israel, of spiritual Israel. And we won’t take up today whether these are literal numbers, or whether they are spiritual, symbolic numbers. But suffice it to say, just as the children of Israel were numbered in ancient Israel, spiritual Israel is also numbered. And it has to do with the sealing, as we shall see.

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There is a parallel today. There is a parallel between ancient Israel and spiritual Israel; a parallel of coming out of Babylon. If you will remember, in ancient Israel they failed to keep the commandments of Yah; especially did they fail to keep the Sabbath {Ezekiel 20:21-24}. And they were taken to captivity in Babylon - 70 years they were held captive in Babylon. And then Cyrus, the Persian, delivered them and gave them permission to go back to their homeland and to rebuild Jerusalem. There is a parallel, now. The Advent movement was raised up to call the faithful out of Babylon, for Christendom was taken captive by the papacy, and taken off into Babylon because they did not keep the commandments.

But the Seventh-day Adventist Church was raised up, bringing the commandments back to view, and calling those faithful souls out of Babylonian captivity. But what happened? Just as it happened in ancient Israel, when they got to Jerusalem, they didn't have courage to build their character. They didn't build up the walls; they didn't build up the city. And their work was futile. Many years later, faithful Ezra, and then a decade later or so, Nehemiah, was called unto the scene to build the walls of the city. And what are the walls of the city but character?

Today, we have Nehemiahs among us that are calling Israel back to character: the character of Christ. We started this study with all those things that have been restored, those holy things that have been restored to Israel, to the Church. And today we see Nehemiah, in the person of Creation Seventh Day Adventists and other faithful Adventists, calling people out of Babylon, and calling people back to the New Jerusalem, calling them back to the character of Yah, and the commandments of Yah, and the faith of Yahshua.

Well, in Nehemiah 9 we take up the story from which we draw the parallel. Nehemiah chapter 9, verse 2: "And the seed of Israel separated themselves from all strangers, and stood and confessed their sins, and the iniquities of their fathers." We have brought a message of repentance to modern Israel. And then Nehemiah 9:33: "Howbeit thou art just {fair} in all that is brought upon us; for thou hast done right, but we have done wickedly:" You might want to read this passage, this whole chapter 9. It's sort of a lamentation and a confession of all the wickedness that Israel had done in not keeping the commandments of Yah. But in verse 33 he's saying, "Even though we have done wickedly, Yah, you have always done justly by us." And then verse 38: "And because of all this we make a sure covenant." Now the walls had been built back in Jerusalem now, the walls have been built back in Jerusalem here, and they're saying, "And because of all this [and having repented of all our sins and such] we make a sure covenant, and write it; and our princes, Levites, and priests, seal unto it."

Stay awake, now. Don't go to sleep. Here we have a parallel. Modern day Israel, now. We have rebuilt the walls of the city. We have come out of Babylon; we have reestablished the character of Christ, the living

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testimony, that we do always those things that please our Father. We are the family of Yah. And now we make a sure covenant, and we go back to the Church covenant.

Here it is:

In the letter and the spirit of unity with Yah's Church in Heaven, we the undersigned, who have sealed our names here, we hereby associate ourselves together as members of the Body of Messiah being identified as [and this is our particular tribe, and its location] St. Joseph Creation Seventh Day Adventist Church, covenanting to keep the commandments of Yah and the faith of His Son Yahshua, and accepting His character [accepting the walls being rebuilt] as our heritage: Yah is our righteousness. (Jeremiah 23:6 and 33:16)

We have sealed our names, just as they did so here in Nehemiah. Chapter 10: "Now those that sealed were..." and it gives all the names of all those that sealed their names to the sure covenant. Now, in terms of the sealing of the 144,000, we need to turn to Ezekiel chapter 9. I'm going to be reading verses 1 through 11, that's the whole chapter. This, the Spirit of Prophecy tells us, is the story of the sealing of the 144,000. Ezekiel chapter 9:

"He cried also in mine ears with a loud voice, saying, 'Cause them that have charge over the city to draw near, even every man with his destroying weapon in his hand.' And, behold, six men came from the way of the higher gate, which lieth toward the north, and every man a slaughter weapon in his hand; and one man among them was clothed with linen,



[get your spiritual eyesight on] with a writer's inkhorn by his side: and they went in, and stood beside the brasen altar. And the glory of the Almighty One of Israel was gone up from the cherub, whereupon He was, to the threshold of the House. And He called to the man clothed with linen, which had the writer's inkhorn by his side; And Yah said unto him, 'Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof.'" Do you see the picture? Are any of us upset, are any of us sighing and crying over the abominations done in Christianity today? Yes. And the angel is going about seeking to mark us in the forehead with the name of Yah. {In Hebrew, the word "mark" indicates the last letter, the Omega, of the Jewish alphabet. It was the letter *Tau*, and in the days of Ezekiel it was shaped like a *cross*. This, through the sacrifice of Yahshua, represents the character, and thus the name, of Yah.}

Verse 5: "And to the others he said in mine hearing, 'Go ye after him through the city, and smite: let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity: Slay

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utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is the mark {or cross}; and begin at my sanctuary.' Then they began at the ancient men which were before the house." That will be the pastors and so forth. We began with the most responsible ones in the church.

"And He said unto them, 'Defile the house, and fill the courts with the slain: go ye forth.' And they went forth, and slew in the city. And it came to pass, while they were slaying them, and I was left, that I fell upon my face, and cried, and said, 'Ah Lord Yah! Wilt thou destroy all the residue of Israel in thy pouring out of thy fury upon Jerusalem?' Then said He unto me, 'The iniquity of the house of Israel and Judah is exceeding great, and the land is full of blood, and the city full of perverseness: for they say, "Yah hath forsaken the earth, and Yah seeth not." And as for me also, mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity, but I will recompense [repay] their way upon their head.'" Do you remember before that Yah said, "'Vengeance is mine,' saith Yah, 'I will repay'?" {Romans 12:19}

Verse 11: "And, behold, the man clothed with linen, which had the inkhorn by his side, reported the matter, saying, 'I have done as thou hast commanded me.'"

Creation Seventh Day Adventists, as a tribe, have been called to bring this message to the world, the sealing message. We are inviting you to place your name upon the Church covenant – to keep the commandments of Yah and the faith of Yahshua. We are inviting you to be sealed in the forehead with the name of our Father Yah. We turn to Revelation 14, to close this part of the study.

Revelation 14:1-5 speaks of the 144,000 that are sealed, and now we must understand the sealing to be placing your name on Yah's side; having your name engraved in stone. We're told in the Spirit of Prophecy that to be sealed, here's the definition of being sealed: "A settling into the truth, both intellectually and spiritually, so that you cannot be moved." {*S.D.A. Bible Commentary Vol. 4*, p. 1161 - quoted from Ellen G. White in *Last Day Events*, p. 291 }

When you engrave your name in stone, it is not to be erased. When you place your name upon a Creation Seventh Day Adventist Church covenant, it should never be removed; you should be sealed unto the end by your name.

Revelation 14:1-5: "And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with Him an hundred forty and four thousand, having His Father's name written [or engraved] in their foreheads. And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps: And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the

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elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth. These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto Yah and to the Lamb. And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of Yah.”

They are ready and prepared for translation. They are taken to the holy City, and they enter through the pearly gates, without having experienced death. They are sealed, they are numbered, and they are family. They are members of the tribes of Spiritual Israel with their names engraved in the stones upon the shoulders of the High Priest. Yes, Church Membership is Biblical; Church Membership is important, for the 144,000 shall have their names sealed on a sure covenant; a sure covenant that says, “We shall keep the commandments of Yah, and the faith of Yahshua.”

We invite you today to join us in that sure covenant. And next week we will give more evidence of the importance of this Church covenant.

Shall we close in prayer?

Our Father which art in Heaven, we thank you so much for your dear Son, whom you gave as a Sacrifice to save us from sin. We thank you, Father, that you have elected us, you have selected us, you have graven us in the palms of your hands, and you are calling us by the sealing message to be settled into the truth, both spiritually and intellectually, so that we cannot be moved. You are inviting us to have our names engraved in stone. You are wanting to give us a white stone with a new name written therein.

Oh, Father, we want to go through the gates of that City. We long to see the face of our Father. Impress upon us, Father, impress upon us where we are in time, and what great responsibility we have as your dear children. Thank you for giving us a tribe name, and thank you for placing us in a tribe. May all the 144,000 find their tribes and be sealed, for the end is near. The High Priest is about to leave the Sanctuary, and probation will close forever.

Bless us now together as we receive the remainder of the Sabbath blessing. In Yahshua’s holy and precious name we pray. Dismiss us with your love. Amen.

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#### Chapter 4: The Signature of The Witnesses

Date: March 31st 2001

Let me very briefly review last week's teaching. We looked at the high priest's garment, that of Aaron. We saw that stones were engraved as seals, with the names of the 12 tribes of Israel. We also emphasized the principle of doing on earth what is done in Heaven. We saw on Aaron's garment that it was a reflection or image of what Christ's High Priestly garment is in the Heavenly Sanctuary. We see that the law of Moses calls for a numbering of the tribes of literal Israel, and the law of Yah calls for a numbering of the tribes of spiritual Israel in the book of Revelation.

Isaiah 8:16 says, "Bind up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples." So the 144,000 mentioned in Revelation 7 and Revelation 14, who are the last day remnant Church, will be made up of overcomers who have the law of Yah sealed upon their hearts. And they are sealed in their foreheads with the name Yah. And we will see that they have set their mark or seal among their various tribes, or congregations, indicating their unity of spirit and purpose with the Church in Heaven.

We showed last week how ancient Israel was numbered by name, and coming down to the last generation the 144,000 are numbered by name likewise. Here are three Scriptures that we did not consider. Let's turn there, to Psalm 147:4. Speaking of Yah it says: "He telleth the number of the stars; He calleth them all by their names." And in Acts 1, let's turn there. Acts 1:15-17: "And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,) 'Men and brethren, this Scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Yahshua. For he was numbered with us, and had obtained part of this ministry.'"

We see, even in the very fledgling Apostolic congregation, that there was a numbering by name – a numbering by name. Now we go to Revelation 3:4. Speaking unto the angel of the Church in Sardis it says: "Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy." We see in the Church of Sardis that they were numbered by name. So we see further evidence from these Scriptures that Yah places importance on numbering His people by name.

Now this week we want to investigate another aspect of the Church membership roll which proves to be important. And that is the signature of the witnesses. The signature of the witnesses. Let's turn to Isaiah 43:12. I have a lot of material as usual, and I'm going to have to go through it fairly quickly. If you want to take notes and then go back over these things please do that.

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Isaiah 43:12: “‘I have declared, and have saved, and I have shewed, when there was no strange god among you: therefore ye are my witnesses,’ saith Yah, ‘that I am the Almighty.’” Ye are my witnesses that I am the Almighty. Let’s turn to Acts 1:8. If nothing else, these sermons turn out to be quite a Bible drill, don’t they? Acts 1:8 – Yahshua is speaking, He says, “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part [or farthest points] of the earth.” When would they become powerful witnesses? After the Holy Spirit came upon them. They would then have power to become witnesses. We see a condition for being a witness. You must have the power of the Holy Spirit.

Now at the first Advent of Christ, we had these witnesses. Acts 10:39-42, Peter is preaching here, and in verse 39 he says: “And we are witnesses of all things which He [Yahshua] did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree: Him Yah raised up the third day, and shewed Him openly;



Not to all the people, but unto witnesses chosen before of Yah, even to us, who did eat and drink with Him after He rose from the dead. And He commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is He which was ordained of Yah to be the Judge of quick [living] and dead.”

We see that these witnesses had experience with Yahshua. They had a personal experience; they knew what they were talking about. At the second Advent of Christ, there are some witnesses, and we find them recorded in Revelation 14. Let’s turn there. Revelation 14:4: “These are they [speaking of the 144,000] which were not defiled with women [they’re not into denominationalism]; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto Yah and to the Lamb.” They go wherever the Lamb goes. If you were going to be a witness to something, would you not have to be present to see it happen? The 144,000 are witnesses because they go wherever the Lamb goes. They know what He is doing, and it says, number 2, they are firstfruits unto Yah and to the Lamb. We will speak to that more shortly.

How do these 144,000 witness? Let’s look at Revelation 12:11. “And they overcame him [that is, the old dragon, the devil] by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.” Number 1: The 144,000 overcome Satan by the blood of the Lamb. Their past is forgiven, and they are carrying no guilt. This presents in itself a witness. Number 2: The word of their testimony. What testimony is it? Let’s see what testimony it is in Revelation 12:17, same chapter, last verse: “And the dragon [that is, the devil] was wroth [or angry] with the woman

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[that's with the pure woman, the true Church], and went to make war with the remnant [or last part] of her seed [which is the 144,000, the true remnant Church], which [1] keep the commandments of Yah, and [2] have the testimony of Yahshua the Messiah.”

These 144,000 have the testimony of Yahshua Himself. The word of their testimony is the testimony of Yahshua. And Number 3: It says they loved not their lives unto the death. These 144,000 have a devoted commitment. They would rather die than be false witnesses.

What is another way in which the 144,000 witness? Yah says we are His witnesses, that He is the Almighty One. For this we'll turn to Jeremiah 32. Now you must put on your spiritual eyeglasses, for what we are about to get into now may require some good spiritual discernment. Reading from Jeremiah 32... Before I start reading I need to tell you this: Jeremiah here is a type of Christ, and he is going to be involved in a land deal. Before we read this, perhaps it would be good for us to look at the law of land transfer or land redemption. Hold your hand in Jeremiah 32 and let's turn over to Leviticus 25, and verses 23 through 25. “The land shall not be sold for ever: for the land is mine [Yah is speaking here now]; for ye are strangers and sojourners with me. And in all the land of your possession ye shall grant a redemption for the land. If thy brother be waxen poor, and hath sold away some of his possession, and if any of his kin [or close relatives] come to redeem it, then shall he redeem that which his brother sold.”

Did not Adam, through his sin, sell the property? Did not Adam lose title to his inheritance in the earth through sin? He was weakened by sin, and lost that, or sold it. And who was his close relative that purchased it back? Christ Himself. The second Adam purchased the land, redeemed the land, for Adam before his offspring. The promise was given to Abraham, and we'll be seeing it here shortly.

I want to read to you from *Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary*, 1986, pages 628 and 629 under the topic, “Land.” I want to read this to you because I think they put it in a very clear form that's easy to understand. They say,

“The Old Testament ideal was that every Hebrew family was to own a portion of land where every person could sit under his own vine and fig tree. (1Kings 4:25, Micah 4:4) The land of Canaan belonged to Yah [they say “the Lord”], and He had given it to His people. (Joshua 24:11-13) They were His tenants. (Leviticus 25:23) After the conquest of the land under Joshua, the whole country was divided among the individual tribes and families. (Joshua 13 through 22) Boundary stones were not to be removed. (Deuteronomy 19:4) Naboth's refusal to sell family land, even to the king (1Kings 21) illustrates the ideal, that land should become a permanent family heritage. Although land could be sold in difficult times, a near relative had the right to buy this

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land back so that it did not pass permanently from a family's hands. Land was eventually supposed to revert back to the original family at the year of Jubilee, every 50th year. (Leviticus 25:23-28) Inheritance laws also sought to ensure that property remained within the family or the tribe. (Numbers 27:7-11)"

Now we begin to see a picture developing. Adam and his family were to permanently inherit the earth. But through hard times, through the fall of Adam, he sold out and lost the inheritance to Satan, the prince of the power of the air, the god of this world. But the second Adam came, who was a near relative and redeemed the land – and took the title to it, that it might stay in the family. Now we don't see the full fulfillment of this until the New Earth, you see. Let's go forward in Jeremiah 32, and we'll see a type of Christ here:

"The word that came to Jeremiah from Yah in the tenth year of Zedekiah king of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadrezzar." Now remember, Nebuchadrezzar is the king of Babylon. "For then the king of Babylon's army besieged Jerusalem: and Jeremiah the prophet was shut up in the court of the prison, which was in the king of Judah's house. For Zedekiah king of Judah had shut him up, saying, 'Wherefore dost thou prophesy, and say, Thus saith Yah, Behold, I will give this city into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall take it?'" You see the king, the wicked king, is angry with Jeremiah the prophet, because Jeremiah the prophet is prophesying doom on Jerusalem, saying: "And Zedekiah king of Judah shall not escape out of the hand of the Chaldeans, but shall surely be delivered into the hand of the king of Babylon, and shall speak with him mouth to mouth, and his eyes shall behold his eyes; And he shall lead Zedekiah to Babylon, and there shall he be until I visit him, saith Yah: though ye fight with the Chaldeans, ye shall not prosper."

So Jeremiah was put in prison. "And Jeremiah said, 'The word of Yah came unto me, saying, Behold, Hanameel the son of Shallum thine uncle shall come unto thee, saying, Buy thee my field that is in Anathoth: for the right of redemption is thine to buy it.'" They were in hard times, they were being besieged by the Babylonians, and here Hanameel is supposed to ask Jeremiah to redeem the land. Let's look at it in verse 8: "So Hanameel mine uncle's son came to me in the court of the prison according to the word of Yah, and said unto me, 'Buy my field, I pray thee, that is in Anathoth, which is in the country of Benjamin: for the right of inheritance is thine, and the redemption is thine; buy it for thyself.' Then I knew that this was the word of Yah."

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“And I bought the field of Hanameel my uncle’s son, that was in Anathoth, and weighed him the money, even seventeen shekels of silver. And I subscribed the evidence [which is the deed], and sealed it, and took witnesses...” now emphasize that right there, “...took witnesses and weighed him the money in the balances. So I took the

evidence [deed] of the purchase, both that which was sealed according to the law and custom [that which had the terms and conditions of the deed], and that which was open: And I gave the evidence [deed] of the purchase unto Baruch the son of Neriah, the son of Maaseiah, in the sight of Hanameel mine uncle’s son, and in the presence of the witnesses that subscribed the book of the purchase, before all the Jews that sat in the court of the prison.” {In the Hebrew, “evidence” is literally *sefer*, which is a “book,” or “legal document,” and is used here to mean “deed of purchase.”}

What is the court of the prison today? Planet earth has become the “pits.” It is the pit of sin. You’ve heard of hell on earth? This is a sinful world, this is not the planet that our Father in Heaven - it’s not the place He created for His family to inherit. This world has been taken captive by Babylon. This world has been taken captive by Lucifer, who is known as Satan, the red Dragon, that old Dragon the devil. But he has no inheritance here. He took it by craft, and the court of the prison is a spiritual parallel to this world in which we live, where people are imprisoned in sin. And he had witnesses sign {subscribe} this deed before all the Jews, that is, before all the people of God, before all the people of Yah.

And verse 13: “And I charged Baruch before them, saying, ‘Thus saith Yah of hosts, the Almighty of Israel; ‘Take these evidences [deeds], this evidence of the purchase, both which is sealed, and this evidence [deed] which is open; and put them in an earthen vessel...” what does that make you think of? “...put them in an earthen vessel that they may continue many days [or last for a long time].” Last for a long time... let’s stop right here a minute. In verse 10 it said he signed and sealed the deed, and called in witnesses to sign. In verse 11 it gives the terms and conditions of the deed.

Let’s look at the terms and conditions of the land deal here that we’re involved in. Deuteronomy 6:17,18: “Ye shall diligently keep the commandments of Yah your Almighty One, and His testimonies, and His statutes, which He hath commanded thee. And thou shalt do that which is right and good in the sight of Yah: that it may be well with thee, and that thou mayest go in and possess the good land which Yah sware unto thy fathers.” What is the land we’re looking forward to? Are we not looking forward to the heavenly Canaan? Are we not looking forward to our inheritance in the New Earth? Yah has promised. So, the terms and conditions of the deed to planet earth is that we diligently hearken to keep His commandments: to do that which is good in His sight, to please Him.

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And in Revelation 12:17, we have read there before, turning back there, the conditions are that they keep the commandments of Yah, and have the testimony of Yahshua the Messiah. And in Revelation 14:12 it echoes these words, “Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of Yah, and the faith of Yahshua.” And in Jeremiah 32, verse 14: put these deeds in earthen vessels, or “in an earthen vessel,” that they last a long time.

Let’s look at 2 Corinthians 4:7. We’re covering a lot of material, and I realize you don’t have much time to think about this. Perhaps you can get a tape or listen to it on the internet and absorb it again. 2Corinthians 4:7 says this: “But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of Yah, and not of us.” The deeds are to be secured in earthen vessels. We are those earthen vessels, dearly beloved. Turn also to 2Corinthians 1:22... start at verse 20: “For all the promises of Yah in Him [that is, in Christ] are ‘yea,’ and in Him ‘Amen,’ unto the glory of Yah by us. Now He which stablisheth [strengthens] us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is Yah.”

Let me go over that one more time. We’re in 2Corinthians 1:20, reading it again – “For all the promises of Yah in Him are ‘yea,’ and in Him ‘Amen,’ unto the glory of Yah by us. Now He which stablisheth [strengthens] us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is Yah. Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest [or part payment, or deposit] of the Spirit in our hearts.” Here’s the earnest-money, the Holy Spirit is the earnest for the land. And the deeds are secured in earthen vessels. Secured by the Holy Spirit. Are you following me? Now let’s go back to Jeremiah 32, and jump over to verses 37 through 44. Actually, we can start with verse 36, that’s where the paragraph begins.

“And now therefore thus saith Yah, the Almighty One of Israel, concerning this city, whereof ye say, ‘It shall be delivered into the hand of the king of Babylon by the sword, and by the famine, and by the pestilence;’ ‘Behold, I will gather them out of all countries, whither I have driven them in mine anger, and in my fury, and in great wrath; and I will bring them again unto this place, and I will cause them to dwell safely: And they shall be my people, and I will be their Almighty One: And I will give them one heart, and one way, that they may fear me for ever, for the good of them, and of their children after them: And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; but I will put my fear in their hearts, that they shall not depart from me.”

“Yea,” verse 21, “Yes, I will rejoice over them to do them good, and I will plant them in this land assuredly with my whole heart and with my whole soul.” Yah is talking here, now. Do you see the promise of placing Israel in the New Earth? And who have we said is Israel now? We are Israel; we are spiritual Israel now, and this is a promise to us, brothers and sisters, that we will be placed in the land of our inheritance.

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“For thus saith Yah; ‘Like as I have brought all this great evil upon this people, so will I bring upon them all the good that I have promised them.’” Have you had some evil befall you? Have you had some trials? Have you had battles with Satan? Don’t fear, beloved. He who has promised is faithful. Verse 43: “‘And fields shall be bought in this land, whereof ye say, It is desolate without man or beast; it is given into the hand of the Chaldeans.’” Verse 44: “‘Men shall buy fields for money, and subscribe evidences [or deeds], and seal them, and take witnesses in the land of Benjamin, and in the places about Jerusalem, and in the cities of Judah, and in the cities of the mountains, and in the cities of the valley, and in the cities of the south: for I will cause their captivity to return,’ saith Yah.”

Let’s go through Ephesians 1:10 through 14: “That in the dispensation [or plan] of the fulness of times He {the Father} might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in Him: In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of Him who worketh all things after the counsel of His own will: That we should be to the praise of His glory, who first trusted in Christ. In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed [or confirmed] with that holy Spirit of promise, Which is the earnest [or pledge] of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of His glory.”

Christ purchased the field, which is planet earth. Christ purchased this field, which would eventually be desolate. In Jeremiah he was talking about the land, which is desolate - without man or beast - given into the hand of the Babylonians, or Chaldeans. This land, which Christ purchased, will be desolate. Look at Jeremiah 4:23-27. “I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light. I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of Yah, and by His fierce anger. For thus hath Yah said, ‘The whole land shall be desolate; yet will I not make a full end.’”

Do you see the parallel to Jeremiah chapter 32, where Jeremiah has bought this field, and Israel is going into exile in Babylon, and there will be no man or beast on the property, yet it’s been purchased? It’s been redeemed? And then Yah prophesies that there will come a day when His people will be restored to that land? And it will bring forth fruit. It is a parallel to the redemption of planet earth by Yahshua Himself. During the 1000 years mentioned in the book of Revelation {Chapter 20:1-6}, planet earth will be desolate. Yet a day is coming, when Matthew 5:5 is fulfilled. Matthew 5:5 says the meek shall inherit the earth.

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Look at Isaiah 65, and verses 17, and 21 through 23. “For, behold, I create New Heavens and a New Earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind,” Which is cross-referenced to Revelation 21:1. And then skip down to verse 21: “And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the blessed of Yah, and their offspring with them.” Hallelu-Yah. A day is coming when this will be fulfilled.

Now let’s review. Jeremiah 32:44. Yah says, “Men shall buy fields for money, and subscribe evidences [or make out deeds of purchase], and seal them, and take witnesses...” or call witnesses. {The Hebrew word there, ‘*uwd*, means “to cause someone to witness.” In English, to either “take” or “call” as a witness is an appropriate translation of the verb.} I’ve listed out some things here on the board. I have:

No. 1 – Buy field.

No. 2 – For money, or precious value.

No. 3 – Sign deed for title.

No. 4 – Seal the deed for title.

No. 5 – Take (or call) witnesses.

What would we put for “No. 1 - Buy field?” Well, that corresponds to the earth made new. Let’s read Leviticus 20:24 – “But I have said unto you, ‘Ye shall inherit their land, and I will give it unto you to possess it, a land that floweth with milk and honey:’ I am Yah your Almighty One, which have separated you from other people.” All saints will be separated from sinners, and it will be the righteous that inherit the New Earth.

Okay, “No. 2 - For money.” The precious blood of Christ purchased the inheritance. 1Corinthians 6:19 and 20: “What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of Yah, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify Yah in your body, and in your spirit, which are Yah’s.” Did not Yah say the land was His? We are His – by creation, and redemption. Acts 20:28: “Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the Church of Yah, which He hath purchased with His own blood.” 1Peter 1:18 and 19: “Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation [or empty manner of life] received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb

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without blemish and without spot.” Yes, it cost Yah to purchase the inheritance back for us.

Okay, what about “No. 3 - Sign deed for title?” Let’s look at Matthew 27:37; it’s speaking of the crucifixion of Yahshua. Let’s start with verse 34: “They gave Him vinegar to drink mingled with gall: and when He had tasted thereof, He would not drink. And they crucified Him, and parted His garments, casting lots: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, ‘They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots.’ And sitting down they watched Him there; And set up over His head His accusation written, THIS IS YAHSHUA THE KING OF THE JEWS.”

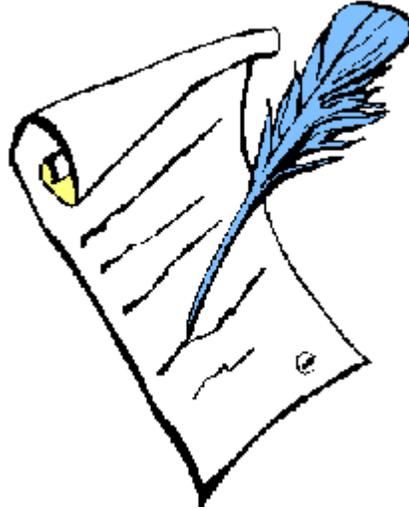
That was His title. At the crucifixion, Yahshua received title to the inheritance. This is Yahshua: Yah-is-our-Savior, Yah-is-our-Redeemer, Yah-is-our-Deliverer. King of the Jews. He signed it with His name, right there.

He sealed it with His blood as well. This corresponds to “No. 4 - Seal the deed for title.” Look at Galatians 3:15: “Brethren, I speak after the manner of men; Though it be but a man’s covenant [or agreement], yet if it be confirmed [or ratified], no man disannulleth, or addeth thereto.” The deed to planet earth cannot be annulled. It’s confirmed by the blood of Christ; it is sealed. 2Corinthians 1:22, we go back there: “Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest [or partial payment, or deposit] of the [Holy] Spirit in our hearts.” We have received the Holy Spirit as a partial payment, or earnest, of the purchase. And as we mentioned before, these deeds have been placed in earthen vessels. The Holy Spirit has been placed in earthen vessels.

Now there’s one part that’s left here. A part down here, No. 5, which says, “Call witnesses.” And verse 44, Jeremiah 32:44, says, after sealing the deeds it says he called “witnesses in the land of Benjamin.” And we get back now to the firstfruits, or the witnesses, of this land deal. The witnesses must sign the deeds of purchase, according to Jeremiah 32:12. The witnesses “subscribed,” or signed, the deeds. And let’s look at Hebrews 9:15: “And for this cause He [Yahshua] is the mediator of the New Testament [agreement], that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first Testament [agreement], they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.”

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Get this; we are intimately involved in this land deal! We are the recipients of the eternal inheritance. We receive the earnest, we receive the deeds, and we must sign the deeds. We are called to witness the deeds. Should we not sign, or seal, the deeds of purchase if we are called to be His witnesses, that He is the Almighty One that has redeemed us?



Romans 8:16-22: “The Spirit Itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of Yah: And if children, then heirs; heirs of Yah, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with Him, that we may be also glorified together. For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of Yah. For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of Him who hath subjected the same in hope, Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of Yah. For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.”

The whole creation desires to be delivered! And we are those witnesses that must sign the deed, and finish the work. We must seal our names in the family of Yah. All creation looks forward to redemption, and if we are joined heirs with Christ... let's look at Numbers 26:53-55: “Unto these the land shall be divided for an inheritance according to the number of names. To many thou shalt give the more inheritance, and to few thou shalt give the less inheritance: to every one shall his inheritance be given according to those that were numbered of him. Notwithstanding the land shall be divided by lot: according to the names of the tribes of their fathers they shall inherit.”

Turn over with me, please, to Revelation 7. Oh, this is so wonderful, that we now know why there are 12,000 in each tribe. Revelation 7, verse 4, speaking of the 144,000: “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. Of the tribe of Juda were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Reuben were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Gad were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Aser were sealed twelve thousand.” Etc. etc. etc. Twelve tribes, all receiving numbers of twelve thousand. The land, the inheritance, is given according to the number of each tribe. They get an equal inheritance! And the number 12 represents completeness; they are completely satisfied with their inheritance. There is no tribe that gets more than another. Joint heirs with Christ.

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But we must seal our names to the deed, or we have no inheritance. We must be numbered by name, or we have no inheritance. Church Membership is important. You must be numbered among your tribe, or congregation.

Joshua 11:23. I'm going to have to go over an hour today, I'm sorry... I'm just not going to make it in an hour, but please be patient with me... Joshua 11:23: "So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that Yah said unto Moses; and Joshua gave it for an inheritance unto Israel according to their divisions by their tribes. And the land rested from war." The war will be over! When Yahshua gives us our inheritance, which He purchased with His precious blood, there will be no more war. The war in Heaven, and the war in Earth, will have been finished. The battle is won, and Yahshua secured it there upon the Cross when He won title to the land. Yahshua, the King of the Jews, the King of Israel.

And the 144,000 are the witnesses that He's called to sign the deed. Time is almost over. Time is short.

Let's turn to Psalm 37:29. We could have ended there; that would have been a good place to end this study, but let's continue, because we have a lot for next week! Psalm 37:29: "The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein for ever." It's the righteous that shall inherit the earth. It's the righteous that shall go into the goodly land, the heavenly land of Canaan and populate the New Earth. They are they that obey the commandments of Yah, and have the testimony of Yahshua the Messiah. They shall dwell therein forever. Oh, what a wonderful promise!

What was the promise to Abraham and his seed? Let's go to Genesis 17, and let's read verses 1 through 8. "And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, Yah appeared to Abram, and said unto him, 'I am *El Shaddai*, the Almighty One;" What did we read a while ago? "Ye are my witnesses that I am Yah, the Almighty One." We are witnesses of that fact, and we are to represent Him in such a way that others will know it's true. Well he says to Abram, "I am the Almighty One; walk before me, and be thou [what? What is the word in the King James here?] perfect. And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly.'" That references to Galatians 3:17, for those that are taking notes.

"And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying, 'As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations [or many families]. Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many [families] have I made thee.'" He changes his name before he ever saw the many families. He gave us the earnest of the Holy Spirit before He saw the victory in us. He gave us His Son, while we were yet on probation. While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Verse 6: "'And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee. And I will establish

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my covenant between me and thee and thy seed [very important here] after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be an Almighty One unto thee, and to thy seed after thee. And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their Almighty One.”

Who is the Seed? Galatians 3:16: “Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He saith not, ‘And to seeds,’ as of many; but as of one, ‘And to thy Seed,’ which is Christ.” Christ is that Seed to which the promise was made. Skip over to verse 29: “And if ye be Christ’s, then are ye Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.” We are joint heirs with Christ, who is the Seed. Now, look at this. Nothing we could ever have done would have gained us the inheritance. As sinners, we were out of the inheritance altogether. We could have never been a part of the seed – except by redemption. Except by a Kinsman Redeemer, that would redeem the inheritance. And our only inheritance is through Christ; we are joint heirs with Christ – He shares with us.

We, who were sinners; He, who was perfect, who left the glory of Heaven, made Himself a reproach. He was made sin, that we might be made the righteousness of Yah in Him: joint heirs with Christ, of the earth made new, and everlasting life. Would you not put your signature to the deed? Would you not be willing to even write it in blood if necessary? Revelation 12:7 says, “they loved not their lives unto the death.” The Scriptures testify that Christ was faithful, even to the death of the cross.

Christ was the promised Seed. 1Peter 1:23, let’s go there. One thing this lesson should teach you is that there’s no way any of us could ever merit everlasting life. None of us could ever have, or ever in any way, been able to merit the eternal inheritance. 1Peter 1, verse 23: “Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of Yah, which liveth and abideth for ever.” You see, we must be born again. We cannot be of the family of Lucifer. We cannot be of the devil, the father of sinners. We must be born again of incorruptible seed, into the family – adopted into the family of Yah, grafted in (as it were) to Israel. And now, spiritual Israel. We must become a part of that family by the new birth; and by the new birth we have the name of our Father written in our foreheads, and then we are made a part of whatever family Yah brings us to. That is the family of the congregation – your tribe.

1John 3:9, one of my favorite Bible verses, says, “Whosoever is born of Yah doth not commit sin; for His Seed [now that’s Christ] remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of Yah.” The Seed remains in Him; you see, that’s the only way that we can inherit the land. Because if the Seed does not remain in us, we are not of the family. If we are born of Yah, the Seed remains. It liveth and abideth forever. And when the Seed remains, we have power to witness for Yah. What did Christ say in Acts 1:8? He says, “Ye shall be witnesses unto me,” “unto all the uttermost parts

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of the earth.” When? “After that the Holy Spirit is come upon you.” After the pledge, after the partial payment for the land, has come upon you, then you have the power to be my witnesses.

Now we’re in the last part of time, we’re in the last generation, we’re in the remnant Church. And it’s time to divvy up the inheritance. It’s time for the deed to be brought forward. Where are the witnesses? The witnesses have been called. Where are their signatures? We, our lives, really, are signatures. The lives we live, the character we live, is our signature – that’s the spirit of it. But the letter of it is in the Church membership roll. That’s where you sign the deed to the New Earth. {There are *two* Deeds, and we will discuss them in the next part of the study.}

The 144,000 witnesses are firstfruits unto Yah and to the Lamb. Read again Revelation 14:4 and 5: “These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth.” That’s why they can be witnesses, they go whithersoever the Lamb goeth. They have an experience with the Lamb. “These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto Yah and to the Lamb. And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God.” Firstfruits are a perfect representation of the intended harvest from the seed. Every seed brings forth a harvest after its own kind. Did you not know that?



Every seed brings forth a harvest after its own kind. Christ’s seed brings forth the harvest of the 144,000 witnesses. They are the true “Jehovah’s Witnesses.” These are perfect or, shall we say, perfected, witnesses to the power of Yah. These witnesses have experienced the power of the Holy Spirit in their lives. They have experienced deliverance from sin; they know what they’re talking about. And they have the testimony of Yahshua their elder brother, their Kinsman Redeemer. And they say, with Him, “We do always those things that please our Father.” {see John 8:29}

Look at little closer at these witnesses. Revelation 17:14; and yes, there’s more in part 5. This was a two-part study that has become expanded greatly. I hope it never ends! I’ve enjoyed this study. Revelation 17:14, speaking of the wicked ones of Babylon: “These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for He is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with Him are *called*, and *chosen*, and *faithful*.” Who are they that are with Him? Who are they that go whithersoever He goes? The 144,000. They are called, they are chosen, and they are faithful.

Let’s break these things down, and look at some Scriptures. Let’s look at “Called.” Jeremiah 32:10, we’re back over there in that chapter. “And I subscribed the evidence, and sealed it, and took [called] witnesses, and

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weighed him the money in the balances.” The witnesses are called, made to witness. Matthew 4:21, 22: “And going on from thence, He [Yahshua] saw other two brethren, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in a ship with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and He called them. And they immediately left the ship and their father, and followed Him.” Those who are called will follow.

Colossians 3:15: “And let the peace of Yah rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.” You’re not called to many bodies, you’re called to one body – the body of the Messiah. You’re called to our elder Brother, you’re called to the Seed of Israel, the promised Seed. You’re called to the family of Yahshua, to join your tribe. 1Thessalonians 2:12: “That ye would walk worthy of Yah, who hath called you unto His kingdom and glory.” Yahshua told us that the Kingdom is within us. He has called us to that Kingdom of grace, to His glory.

“Chosen,” Number 2. Let’s look at Acts 10:41. These witnesses are chosen: “Not to all the people, but unto witnesses chosen before of Yah, even to us, who did eat and drink with Him after He rose from the dead.” And we have been eating and drinking of His body and His blood through the word of Yah.

Every New Moon festival we come together as the family of Yahshua, and we come to the table (in symbol) eating of His flesh, and drinking of His blood. We are chosen to be in the family, to be witnesses of Yahshua. Deuteronomy 14:2: “For thou art an holy people unto Yah thy Almighty One, and Yah hath chosen thee to be a peculiar people unto Himself, above all the nations [families] that are upon the earth.” A holy people, the chosen possession of Yah. John 15:16: “Ye have not chosen me, [Yahshua’s talking] but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, He may give it you.” What a promise!

1Peter 2:9: “But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation [family], a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of Him who hath *called* you out of darkness into His marvellous light.”

And point 3, these witnesses are “Faithful.” We’re still looking at Revelation 17:14, the three points there: Called and Chosen and Faithful. Proverbs 14:5: “A faithful witness will not lie: but a false witness will utter lies.” What did it say in Revelation 14? Revelation 14:5, it says: “And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God.” That means they tell no lies, they are faithful witnesses. Revelation 1:5 – here’s the Seed that brings forth the harvest. Revelation 1:5 says, “And from Yahshua the Christ, who is the faithful Witness...” Yahshua is the faithful Witness, He’s the Seed. His offspring, His joint-heirs, bring forth a faithful witness after His kind. Isaiah 8:2... starting in verse 1: “Moreover Yah said unto me, ‘Take thee a great roll, and write in it with a

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man's pen concerning Maher-shalal-hashbaz.' [that's the longest word in the Bible] And I took unto me faithful witnesses to record," and so forth.

2Timothy 2:2: "And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also." We should be able to teach others, did you know that? We should be faithful men and women and children, and we should be faithful witnesses, and be able to teach others the truth as it is in Yahshua. Hallelu-Yah.

These witnesses are awaiting an eternal inheritance. They are signing their names on Church rolls all over the world, among their various tribes, or congregations, as they witness, by their signature, to the almighty power of Yah, which has redeemed them from the land of bondage, and made them joint heirs of a better land: that Heavenly Canaan, and the earth made new. We invite you, wherever you are, all over the world, to join the family of Yah. The Creation Seventh Day Adventist family has been raised up, by Yah Himself, to call the 144,000 witnesses. Will ye not sign the deed, and be united with the family in Heaven that we may claim our inheritance by the number of our name?

Let us pray.

Our Father which art in Heaven, we thank you so much for shedding this light upon us. We thank you that you have given us the earnest of your Holy Spirit. You give us power to be witnesses in Jerusalem, in Judea, in Samaria, and to the uttermost parts of the earth, as we are now doing. We are witnessing to the great delivering power, the saving power, of Yahshua. We are witnessing to that perfect, spotless life of your only begotten Son. We are witnessing to the victory that we have, moment-by-moment, as we walk in the Spirit of Yah.

Dismiss us with your love, we pray, and may your hand be upon us as our lives continue to witness until the end of all things. For Yahshua's sake, in His name we pray. Amen.

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### A SURE COVENANT Chapter 5: The Two Deeds

Date: April 6th 2001

elcome, and here we are at the Feast of Unleavened Bread 2001, sponsored by the Creation Seventh Day Adventist Church. It is the 7th day Sabbath, April 6th, 2001. Our Feast theme is “Holiness to Yah.” Today we have with us a guest, brother David Aguilar from Belize, currently residing in the Tampa, Florida area; and he will be assisting me as we go through this study on Church Membership part 5.

We have been noticing something in this series from week to week, since we started with part 1. I thought it was going to be one part, and then we said, “Well, we’ll have to have two parts.” This thing has gone this way each week: “We’re going to have to have another part.” Well, I’m pleased to announce that part 5 will not be sufficient, we’ll have to have part 6, and I would not be surprised to have part 7... and who knows how many more?

Church membership turns out to be a most important subject – much more important than I ever guessed. And I am pleased that Yah has been very, very gracious to bless us with the light that we need to have from His Word. Let’s review just a little bit about last week’s study. Here are some high points that I remember (I went over my notes a little bit to see if there was something that would be valuable to you): We first looked at Jeremiah’s buying of a relative’s field, and its application of him being a type of Christ, who bought back planet earth with His precious blood.

You’ll recall we read that the witnesses were called to sign the deed of purchase, and that these deeds were stored in earthen vessels. Actually those two deeds – there was a Sealed Deed and an Open Deed – they were stored in an earthen vessel so that those deeds may last a long time. Well, that’s a parallel to the eternal possession, or the eternal inheritance, of planet earth.

And then thirdly, we paralleled all of this with the Christian who receives the Holy Spirit as an earnest, or a down payment, on the eternal inheritance. By receiving the Holy Spirit we are given power to become witnesses for Yah, witnesses that He IS the Almighty One. You see, on planet earth there is a question: “Who is the Almighty One?” Lucifer is vying for first place, and he has won first place in the hearts of most people. But we are to be Yah’s witnesses, having the power to testify that Yah is the Almighty One.

Fourthly, the conclusion of the matter was that the 144,000 sign the property deed for planet earth as witnesses to the sealing of the deeds by Yahshua Himself at the Cross. What are we called to sign? We are to sign two deeds, and this week we shall continue in this quest for truth.

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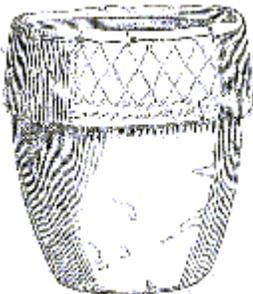
We also re-emphasized that Christ is the promised Seed of Abraham, and rightful Heir to the promised inheritance, all Israel being joint heirs with Christ. And then we also discussed further the fact that the 144,000 are the firstfruits to Yah and to the Lamb, and they are the faithful witnesses. I think also, Brother David, you were not with us last week – but you gleaned something {from the audio recording} that you wanted to share from that.

David: Well, yes. We were talking about the tribes receiving the inheritance by their number. And so, well we're all familiar with Isaiah 53, the "Suffering Servant" passage, and in the last verse of that chapter, it says, speaking of Christ (and we see it fulfilled in the New Testament): "Therefore will I divide Him a portion with the great, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong; because He hath poured out His soul unto death: and He was numbered with the transgressors; and He bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors." (Isa 53:12) So we see that Christ was "numbered with the transgressors," and therefore He received their inheritance. One who was not supposed to die... died, because He received the "inheritance" of the earth.

And then in Mark 15:28, "And the scripture was fulfilled, which saith, 'And He was numbered with the transgressors.'" This was done both literally, because He was put between the two thieves who were also crucified with Him, and also figuratively, that He died the sinner's death that we might live forever.

Pastor "Chick": So, all who receive an inheritance are numbered, and numbered by name. You noticed, in the reading we just had in Sabbath school, that the word "Yahshua" was very powerful; you see... it's the Word of Yah. Yahshua is the Word of Yah, and you remember we read the inscription, or title over the head of the crucified One: Yahshua, the King of the Jews.

Now, this week we're going to study several things. First of all we want to ask the question, "What is the deed to which we must witness?" And No. 2, "Why are there two deeds in Jeremiah 32:11 and 14? What *are* these two deeds in Jeremiah 32:11 and 14?"



Let's turn there to Jeremiah 32 to refresh our memories. Jeremiah 32, verse 11 first. This is the King James Version: "So I took the evidence of the purchase," that's the deed of purchase, but I like the King James wording: evidence of the purchase. "...both that which was sealed according to the law and custom," and we said according to the law and custom means *terms and conditions*, "...and that which was open." Jump over to verse 14: "Thus saith Yah of hosts, the Almighty

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One of Israel; ‘Take these evidences, this evidence of the purchase, both which is sealed, and this evidence which is open; and put them in an earthen vessel, that they may continue many days.’”

Okay, on the board you will see that I have written the heading Deeds of Purchase or Evidence of Purchase. Under this heading I have written: No. 1 – “Sealed Deed,” or “Sealed Evidence,” then No. 2 – “Open Deed,” or “Open Evidence.” Now this is very thrilling to me, because the other night Yah woke me up about 3 in the morning and said, “Study,” because I didn’t know what these deeds were; and when I picked brother David up from the bus station we had a little conversation about this, and he said, “You know, I wondered why you didn’t mention what those deeds were.” And I said, “Well that’s simple – I didn’t know!”

Well, I needed to know, and you needed to know, and we all need to know. And Yah finally told me. It’s very easy, and it’s very beautiful. The word “Seal” in the original language means, “Make an end.” Make an end. The word “Open” means “lay bare or naked.” Lay bare or naked. Now this is very significant. Let’s look at what the Scripture says about “make an end.” Turn to Daniel 9:24. “Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.”

What a powerful prophecy. The 70 weeks of Daniel. What is this talking about? What is it obviously talking about? It’s a prophecy of the coming of Messiah. It’s a prophecy of the coming of Christ, for He was the One that would finish the transgression, make an end of sins – make a reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness. Now look at this: “seal up the vision and prophecy.” Yahshua Himself, His Word – “Yahshua” – is the Sealed Deed. Yah-Is-Salvation. The Sealed Deed, the Word of Yah.

Okay, that’s very simple, we need not even look up any more Scriptures for the Sealed Evidence. But let’s look at the Open Evidence. The Sealed Evidence is final. What did He say on the Cross? “It is finished.” Sealed – the inheritance has been purchased. Now it must be put in earthen vessels, but there’s also an open deed, an open evidence, that must be placed in earthen vessels. Jeremiah... well first, now... first Leviticus. Leviticus 18:6. This is related to laying bare or naked. Laying bare or naked has to do with the Open Deed.

Now you’re going to have to put on your spiritual eyeglasses, and you’re going to have to open up your brain, and use a little of that gray matter Yah gave you as a gift. Leviticus 18:6, let’s turn there: “None of you shall approach to any that is near of kin to him, to uncover their nakedness: I am Yah.” Now this is a prohibition against, in the letter of this law is the

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prohibition against literally uncovering the nakedness of a near relative. Could we say the law against incest? But put on your spiritual eyeglasses, now.

This applies to us not only in letter, but also in spirit. And in spirit it has to do with opening up a brother or sister in such a way that the shame of their nakedness would show to others – it's similar to, let's say if a man had his pants inadvertently left open, unzipped. It's an embarrassing thing, isn't it? We would not yell out, "Hey, zip up your pants!" No, we would go to that brother and we would whisper, you know, "Uh... you need to zip up." We don't want to bring the notice of someone's embarrassment to light to the whole congregation needlessly. So, if a person is guilty of some inadvertent sin, we don't try to bring that sin out in the open to embarrass them.

Now Yahshua suffered that, and as brother David shared with us, He suffered that right there at the cross – the humiliation of the sin and embarrassment of every sinner. That need not be done again, He did it for us. So we try to guard our brethren from humiliation and embarrassment, and that's precisely why the Savior gave us the steps of Gospel order. {see Matthew 18:15-18} He said, if you have a matter with your brother go to him privately and share with him the thing you have on your mind. Now if he will not hear you, He says, take two or three witnesses; take some witnesses, that every fact might be established. And then you take those witnesses, and you share with him again. Now, you don't get biased witnesses. You don't go and say, "Hey, be on my side, and let's go whip up on this fellow." That's not the idea at all. The idea is just to have some witnesses there; so you take some witnesses that they may establish the facts and help mediate the situation.

And then, if you go the second step of Gospel order and it still doesn't work, then you bring it before the whole congregation, so that the thing will be known – there will be a Church court to settle the matter. And of course, at that point there will be some humiliation suffered, because the rebellion will be displayed before all to see, as we saw in the War in Heaven {1}. We don't want the thing to come before the whole congregation, because that's when war occurs. We want it settled before it has to come before the congregation.

Let's move on now, we're going to eventually get to what that evidence of purchase is that is open. By the way, let me say, and it may come further in this study, we do want to be open one with another. We don't want to be covered; we want to be open with each other. But we don't want to display a man's faults, or a woman's faults, or even a young person's faults, needlessly. Okay, let's go forward. The next Scripture is Jeremiah 49.

Jeremiah 49:10. Yah is talking here, He said, "But I have made Esau bare, I have uncovered his secret places, and he shall not be able to hide himself: his seed is spoiled [or ruined], and his brethren, and his neighbours, and he

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is not.” Who is it that can lay us bare? Who is it that can lay us open and know all about us? Are we willing to be naked before Yah? Are we willing to be open before Yah? That’s the question; it’s needless for us to hide, for all things are open in His mind, He sees it.

Let’s go to Hebrews 4:12-15: “For the word of Yah is quick [that is, living], and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder [or the division] of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner [or able judge] of the thoughts and intents of the heart.” The Word of Yah, Yahshua, is that powerful. “Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in His sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do. Seeing then that we have a great High Priest, that is passed into the heavens, Yahshua the Son of Yah, let us hold fast [or firmly] our profession.” Now this profession is very important – we may be coming back to that. “For we have not an High Priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.”

“Let us therefore come boldly [verse 16] unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.” Further unfolding this, this idea of being laid bare and naked, or being opened, let’s go to Genesis 2:25. We’re going to go back to Creation. We’re Creation Seventh Day Adventists, and we must go back to Creation and reference things there. Genesis 2:25, speaking of the couple, Adam and Eve, it says: “And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.”

Now if somebody came strutting in here naked today, somebody would be ashamed. Now, there may be some that could strut in here and not be ashamed themselves, but I think all of us would be ashamed. *Somebody* would be ashamed. But Adam and Eve were created in such an innocent, sinless manner, a state – a sinless state, they were not ashamed to be naked. They were veiled in a garment of light; and that garment of light was the righteousness of Christ. The righteousness of Christ. They were clothed in the wedding garment. They were married by Yah and Yahshua personally, right there. And they put on the wedding garment, and had no need to hide anything. They were open. Open to each other and open to the Father and the Son, and all the heavenly universe.

Open, nothing to hide. This is very significant. This was the sinless state of Adam and Eve. And do you know that the 144,000 faithful witnesses will be returned to that state as firstfruits? This is proof that Yah is the Almighty One. He can take earthen vessels... He can take sinners, and make them into saints. He can make them naked, and they won’t be ashamed. Genesis 3:7. It says of the two now, it says: “And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons [coverings].” They made



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themselves coverings. Did Yah instruct them to do that? Yah did not instruct them to do that; they did it on their own.

They would have never needed those coverings had they obeyed the instruction. Had they remained faithful to Yah, they would have remained naked and never been ashamed. But because they transgressed, they went against the instruction of Yah, they saw themselves as being naked, and they had something to hide. They had to go into darkness; they could not stay in the light. Have you ever heard this expression, “Let’s bring it to light?” That means, let’s bring it open, let’s bring it out into the open. The children of Yah do not keep things in darkness. There’s a Scripture that says somewhere that they bring them to light.

Nothing is done in secret; it’s all done in the light. We have no secrets.

Now husbands and wives do not reveal to the congregation their private encounters, just as the Father and Son went into council and none of the angels were allowed there. There is an appropriate place for privacy, because the husband and wife symbolize the relationship of the Father and Son in authority and purpose. But it says here that Adam and Eve, now sinners, had a need to cover themselves, and they took it upon themselves to do this. Let me tell you this, don’t you cover yourself. If you are tempted to cover yourself...

Let’s say you do something that might be wrong inadvertently. We don’t do willful wrong; we are converted, we are born again. But if you should do something inadvertently that’s wrong, don’t go hide, and don’t start covering yourself, making excuses. That’s fig leaves. As my brother has so aptly said, it is taking something that represents life, but is really dead, and making it into an unsuitable covering. A false garment. A false righteousness – a *self*-righteousness. It is self-righteousness. Justifying self, that’s self-righteousness. So if we do inadvertently do something wrong, what shall we do? Bring it to light – because the light burns it away!

Bring it to the fire of Yah. The Father will just burn it up, and it’ll be gone, you see. That’s how we learn, that’s how we grow. That’s one of the ways that we grow.

The two that were covering themselves were avoiding judgment. They were avoiding examination. We’re in the antitypical Day of Atonement. We’re in the day when we need to be examining ourselves. We need to be opening up so that others might be able to help us notice if there’s any dirt on our faces. We certainly don’t want to go into the throne room with dirt on our faces. Yah warns us that we must always have the garment of salvation. The garment of salvation is being naked before Yah. The righteousness of Christ is always being naked, or open to correction and instruction in righteousness.

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Now, if someone comes to you to oppress you, if someone comes to control your mind, you will have spiritual discernment on how to take care of that. You don't have to be oppressed. They wanted to kill Yahshua way before the crucifixion, you remember? They plotted to kill Him, and they would have killed Him in private if they could have. But He didn't stand for it. He disappeared out of their sight. It wasn't His time, and if someone is trying to lord it over you, it's not your time. We have our time coming when we will be persecuted before the whole world. And we will be laid bare and laid naked, and they will try to humiliate us. But you know, by that time we will be so used to being naked and open that we will sing hymns of praise. Just like in the days of the Reformers when they were being burned at the stake, they sung hymns of praise. Hallelu-Yah.

Let's turn to Job 1:21. Job said, "Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: Yah gave, and Yah hath taken away; blessed be the name of Yah." You know why Job succeeded in his trial? Job understood the principle of nakedness. He was absolutely naked before Yah, and he saw that he was naked when he came into the world, and he would be naked when he goes out of the world, and there's no sense in trying to do anything else in between. They kept the Sabbath at creation, they keep the Sabbath in the New Earth; there's no sense in keeping any other day. Continuity, consistency. See, the Sabbath will even illustrate it to us.

Ecclesiastes 5:13-15: "There is a sore evil which I have seen under the sun, namely, riches kept for the owners thereof to their hurt. But those riches perish by evil travail: and he begetteth a son, and there is nothing in his hand. As he came forth of his mother's womb, naked shall he return to go as he came, and shall take nothing of his labour, which he may carry away in his hand."

Are you naked with your financial treasures? Are they open to Yah? What are you saving it for? What are you protecting it for? Are you afraid you're going to have a dark, rainy day, when you need these treasures? Naked you came into the world; naked you go out of the world; whether you go by the grave or whether you go by translation. You're going to go naked. Why would you take dollar bills and make a covering with them, to protect yourself with gold and silver? You were not purchased with gold and silver, but by the precious blood of the Lamb. Now why would you not be willing to return your treasure to the Son of Yah? Vanity. Vanity in protecting yourself with silver and gold; a sore evil, a futile work. {see also Malachi 3:8-12 & Haggai 1:1-10}

Let's go to 2Corinthians 4. We're going to start at verse 18 and go through chapter 5 and verse 5: "... we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal [or temporary]; but the things which are not seen are eternal." Are you looking at the things that are eternal? Are you looking at the things that are not

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seen? If you're looking at eternal things, you're looking at Yahshua. Chapter 5 verse 1: "For we know that if our earthly house [that's that earthen vessel] of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of Yah, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven: If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked. For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life. Now He that hath wrought [or prepared] us for the selfsame thing is Yah, who also hath given unto us the earnest [or down payment] of the Spirit."

Christ secured the eternal inheritance. He secured that heavenly house. He secured the property. He, His Word, is the Sealed Deed. What is the Open Deed? What is the Open Evidence? We have the earnest of the Spirit; we have the Sealed Deed in these earthen vessels. What are we missing? You know, here's the good news of the Gospel: everybody that's born into this world has the Sealed Deed in his or her vessel. Yahshua's already died for every man. {see Hebrews 2:9} The only thing they're missing is the Open Evidence. The only thing they're missing is the Open Deed. We need it. They need it. *What is it?*

Let's go to Revelation 3:18. As Seventh Day Adventists we are very familiar with this Scripture. It is the cure for the Laodicean condition of being lukewarm. In Revelation 3:18 Yahshua says, "I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, [remember that, gold tried in the fire] that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment [or clothing], that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear;" You know, I understand this in a way that I never understood it before. It's okay to be naked, it's good to be naked. When you're clothed with white raiment, you're really naked to Yah.

Don't let the shame of your nakedness appear – in other words don't try to hide something. The General Conference Seventh-day Adventist church, for example, is claiming to be clothed in the righteousness of Christ. They do all of these abominations they do, and try to hide the persecutions they are performing under the guise of the righteousness of Christ. The shame of their nakedness is appearing, and we are called to strip off those leaves that they've sewn together to cover themselves so that the shame of their nakedness will appear, and perhaps they will desire to be clothed. Now, we are not to strip off the clothing of our brothers and sisters in the faith; but those that are following after demons may have to be unclothed so that they can see their shame. {From another angle, Leviticus 18:6 says we are not to strip off true clothing, but fig leaves are a false garment.} We do this in a gentle fashion. We ask them, "What are you doing with those fig leaves on you? I see fig leaves on you. What are you doing? What have you done? Are you naked? Are you ashamed?"

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Yahshua says we can be clothed in white raiment, in the righteous wedding garment, and then our nakedness will not be shame. We can be open, and not be ashamed, when we have nothing to hide. And then He says, concluding Revelation 3:18, “anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.” We see the discernment of the Holy Spirit. Now, there are two

eyes in the body of Christ. He is the Head and there are two eyes in the Body. They are called the “two witnesses.” Have you ever heard of prophets being called “seers?” {1Samuel 9:9} They “see” for you, they’re your eyes. In the Body of Christ you will have seers. In the last movement, there are two eyes that see what’s coming, and will help to warn you through the way. {Revelation 11:3} The discernment of the Holy Spirit, the gift of prophecy, must be alive in the Body of Christ, or it is a counterfeit body.

Buy these things, Yahshua says. Don’t waste your efforts, time, talents, money, whatever it is, on anything else. You will be disappointed if you do. Let’s go further now. Let’s go to Revelation 16:15 – time is just getting away from us here, I may have to speed it up a little bit. “Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.” What does it mean to keep your garments? Keep the faith; do not step outside of the light. Stay in the light; keep your wedding garment on. If you do something wrong, don’t run and hide. Keep your garments. “There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in the Messiah,” Romans 8:1. If somebody criticizes you, don’t be condemned. If somebody says something cruel to you, like, “Oh, you’re lousy at this,” or, “I don’t like the way you do that,” don’t worry about it. It bounces off of Yah. It has to come through Yahshua to get to you in the first place. Don’t be condemned; keep your garment on, and they won’t see the shame of your nakedness.

Be strong and of good courage, for Yahshua is the King of the Jews. Oh, what a promise! When you’re in a trial, when you’re in a struggle, scream it: “Yahshua is the King of the Jews!” The victory will settle upon your shoulders, and you will see yourself like a little lamb, held and borne upon the High Priest in the Heavenly Sanctuary. What courage, what *encouragement*, we have.

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Now let's turn to Exodus 32, and we have quite a long read here, the whole chapter. I'm going to have to go through this fairly quickly. We're coming upon an hour, and we have about 30 minutes to go. I notice nobody's sleeping today. In Exodus 32, Moses is the type of Christ; and there is a parallel to the S.D.A. church here, and really, any church that has followed in the path of the Papacy. There will be an application here to Church Membership.

“And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down out of the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him, ‘Up, make us gods, which shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him.’ And Aaron said unto them, ‘Break off the golden earrings, which are in the ears of your wives, of your sons, and of your daughters, and bring them unto me.’ And all the people brake off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them unto Aaron. And he received them at their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool, [graving tool, here's a TradeMark about to happen] after he had made it a molten calf [molten calf is a church/state union like the General Conference Corporation]: and they said, ‘These be thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.’” Oh, fame and fortune. Fame and glory, great riches. Seeking after these things has been the downfall of many a church. They lose their connection to Yah, and in return they may be accepted by every government of the earth. “‘These be thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.’ And when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation, and said, ‘To morrow is a feast to Yah.’”

There's the “Sabbath.” There's the perverted Sabbath, the Sabbath of man – proclaimed, not by the Almighty, but by human authority. It may be Sunday, or it may be that which is now kept by the General Conference Seventh-day Adventist church: a feast to Ba'al. There is no Sabbath rest for those who persecute the saints of Yah; there is no rest for those who do not keep the commandments of Yah. {see Hebrews 4:9,10 & Psalm 112:1}

“And they rose up early on the morrow, and offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to play.” And we could go into all the abominations that worldly churches are doing. “And Yah said unto Moses, ‘Go, get thee down; for thy people, which thou broughtest out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves.’” First of all we have to understand that these are *our people* that have corrupted themselves. “‘They have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them: they have made them a molten calf, [or union with the world] and have worshipped it, [given it all the power] and have sacrificed thereunto [given it all their land, tithes, offerings, talents, efforts], and said, These be thy gods, O Israel, which have brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.’ And Yah said unto Moses, ‘I have seen this people, and, behold, it is a stiff-necked people: Now therefore let me alone,

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that my wrath may wax [become] hot against them, and that I may consume them: and I will make of thee a great nation.”

“And Moses besought Yah his Almighty One, and said, ‘Yah, why doth thy wrath wax hot against thy people, which thou hast brought forth out of the land of Egypt with great power, and with a mighty hand?’” Oh, the Reformation movement was mighty, and the Seventh-day Adventist church was a mighty fortress, as it came from the hand of Yah out of the land of Egypt. “‘Wherefore should the Egyptians speak, and say, For mischief did he bring them out, to slay them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth? Turn from thy fierce wrath, and repent of this evil against thy people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, thy servants, to whom thou swarest by thine own self, and saidst unto them, I will multiply your seed as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have spoken of will I give unto your seed, [the Seed is Christ] and they shall inherit it for ever.’” There’s the promise of the land.

“And Yah repented of the evil which He thought to do unto his people. And Moses turned, and went down from the mount, and the two tables of the testimony were in his hand: the tables were written on both their sides; on the one side and on the other were they written. And the tables were the work of Yah, and the writing was the writing of Yah, graven upon the tables [there’s His seal]. And when Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said unto Moses, ‘There is a noise of war in the camp.’ And he said, ‘It is not the voice of them that shout for mastery, neither is it the voice of them that cry for being overcome: but the noise of them that sing do I hear.’”

Singing. The denominations are singing a song; they’re singing a song of, “True Church, we’re the true Church; we’re the Israel of God!” And those who reject both false denominationalism *and* the Biblical concept of a true, organized Church Body (falling into the ditch on the other side of the road: nondenominationalism, which says that everybody’s got a *valid* set of beliefs, but nobody is *right*), they’re singing a song that is just as confused. Babylon. They’re singing a song, but remember the 144,000 sing a *new* song; they sing a new and different song. They are the deliverers of Israel.

Verse 19: “And it came to pass, as soon as he came nigh unto the camp, that he saw the calf, and the dancing: [there’s the celebration movement, the charismatic movement] and Moses’ anger waxed hot, and he cast the tables out of his hands, and brake them beneath the mount.” Symbol of a broken covenant. Churches that reject the Ten Commandments have broken the covenant. Churches that have ceased to reform have broken the covenant. Churches that enter into unions with worldly governments (e.g., the General Conference Seventh-day Adventist church, the ancient Jewish church, the Roman Catholic church) have broken the covenant; they are no longer Church members. *They did not put the Open Deed in the earthen vessel*, that it may last a long time. And we’ll look at that in more detail near the end.

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“And [Moses] took the calf which they had made, and burnt it in the fire...” Remember in Revelation 3:17 where Yahshua said, “Buy of me gold tried in the fire?” Listen: and he took the calf “and burnt it in the fire, and ground it to powder, and strawed it upon the water, and made the children of Israel drink of it.” He made the children of Israel drink it.

Revelation 14:8 through 10. Turn (hold your finger where we are in Exodus) and go over to Revelation 14:8-20, “And there followed another angel, saying, ‘Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations [families] drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication [immorality with the golden calf, with Ba’al].’ And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, ‘If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of the Almighty One, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of His indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb.’” They will have to drink the dust mixed with water, of their Corporation, of their church/state union, of their rebellion for the things of this world, when it’s ground up into powder.

Going back to Exodus 32:21 – “And Moses said unto Aaron, ‘What did this people unto thee, that thou hast brought so great a sin upon them?’ And Aaron said, ‘Let not the anger of my lord wax hot: thou knowest the people, that they are set on mischief. For they said unto me, Make us gods, which shall go before us: for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him.’” Has Yahshua not tarried? Hasn’t the coming of Yahshua been delayed? Did the churches not say, “Oh, He delayeth His coming. I guess He’s not coming, so we may just as well build a big building. We might just as well make an empire, and dance and party and have a good time, because He’s not coming down from the mountain. He’s not coming down from Heaven to take us home yet. We don’t know what happened to Him, so maybe He’s not as powerful as we thought. We have to make other gods to help us through.” They lost the victory. They lost the Gospel. Instead of Christ being their master, they made this world their master. Moses is a type of Christ here.

Verse 24: ““And I said unto them, Whosoever hath any gold, let them break it off. [if you have any faith, you better take care of it] So they gave it me: then I cast it into the fire, and there came out this calf.”” The calf was their gold tried in the fire. It’s a false faith. It’s a false evidence. It’s a false deed to planet earth.

In Adventism, the trademarked name “Seventh-day Adventist®” is a false seal that they’re trying to put upon the Open Deed. But do you know the name that will be put upon the Open Deed when it is sealed? “Creation Seventh Day Adventist.” That will be the name that is placed upon the Open Deed when it is sealed at the close of probation. Verse 25: “And when Moses saw that the people were naked; (for Aaron had made them naked

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unto their shame among their enemies: ) Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, ‘Who is on Yah’s side? Let him come unto me.’” That’s our message, brothers and sisters: “Who is on Yah’s side, let them come unto me.” “And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him.”

“And he said unto them, ‘Thus saith Yah the Almighty One of Israel, Put every man his sword by his side, and go in and out from gate to gate throughout the camp, and slay every man his brother, and every man his companion, and every man his neighbour.’” There’s Ezekiel 9 being described. “And the children of Levi did according to the word of Moses: and there fell of the people that day about three thousand men.” Did you ever hear that phrase “three thousand” before? We heard it at the day of Pentecost, when there was added to the Church three thousand. {Acts 2:41} At the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, at the Latter Rain, there is to be added to the Church three thousand. Continuing in Exodus 32, verse 29: “For Moses had said, ‘Consecrate yourselves to day to Yah, even every man upon his son, and upon his brother; that he may bestow upon you a blessing this day.’ And it came to pass on the morrow, that Moses said unto the people, ‘Ye have sinned a great sin: and now I will go up unto Yah; peradventure [perhaps] I shall make an atonement for your sin.’”

Yahshua is saying to the members of the fallen churches, “I will renew the covenant with you. I will renew the covenant with you by the Holy Spirit, through the Seal – through the Creation Seventh Day Adventist name. I will bring you a chance to make the covenant right.”

“And Moses returned unto Yah, and said, ‘Oh, this people have sinned a great sin, and have made them gods of gold. Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin--; and if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written.’ And Yah said unto Moses, ‘Whosoever hath sinned against me, him will I blot out of my book. Therefore now go, lead the people unto the place of which I have spoken unto thee: behold, mine Angel shall go before thee...’” Spiritually speaking, which angel is that? The 4th angel of Revelation 18. The mighty angel of Revelation 18 is to go before us to prepare the way of the renewed covenant. “...nevertheless in the day when I visit I will visit their sin upon them.’ And Yah plagued the people, because they made the calf, which Aaron made.”

If they don’t repent, their sin will be visited on them. Do you not love our people enough to show them? They must come out of the fallen bodies, join with Yah’s people, and sign the Open Deed of Church Membership. They must seal the covenant with their commitment to Yah and to His Son, to the commandments of Yah and the faith of Yahshua. They must renew the covenant. They must be rebaptized and reconverted, so that the commandments may be written on them, and they will be sealed and fitted for translation.

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And now we turn over to Matthew 21: 43 and 44. Yahshua's talking: "Therefore say I unto you, 'The kingdom of Yah shall be taken from you, and given to a nation [family] bringing forth the fruits thereof. And whosoever shall fall on this Stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder.'"

Remember, the golden calf was ground to powder. The Stone, representing Christ, our Rock, the stone was cut out of... let's look at it in Daniel 2:44 – "And in the days of these kings..." talking about the image, the large image with ten toes, toes mixed with iron and clay. "And in the days of



these kings shall the Almighty One of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed [it's going to last for a long time. Secured in earthen vessels it's going to last for a long time]: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people [this time], but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever."

The eternal inheritance will finally be placed upon the rightful heirs. Verse 45: "Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands..." Remember, Moses was up on the mount, and he brought the Ten Commandments written in stone. Well here's a stone cut out of mount Zion by the very hands of Yah, and that law is written in stone – these are people that are sealed, and ready for Heaven. They are the 144,000. That's who the stone is. "Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great Almighty One hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure."

Organizations that are not faithful to the Gospel will be destroyed when the Stone sets up the everlasting kingdom. Church/state unions such as the General Conference Corporation are types of the New World Order, and all of these will be ground to powder by the 144,000, that Stone coming out of mount Zion. Hallelu-Yah. Deuteronomy 28:24: "Yah shall make the rain of thy land powder and dust: from heaven shall it come down upon thee, until thou be destroyed." The General Conference Seventh-day Adventist® church is looking for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, but it will be nothing but dust raining upon them, a dry and barren land. Most churches are not even *looking* for this outpouring. But Yahshua says, "You that are thirsty, come and drink freely. There is victory before you. Accept the rain that's coming from Heaven; accept the Latter Rain." Brothers and sisters, we are in the Latter Rain – we are receiving the Latter Rain, the power from

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Heaven. The great, mighty angel of Revelation 18 is upon us. Let us not deflect that refreshing.

There will be no outpouring of the Latter Rain on the various denominations of this planet. Only Israel by its tribes – only the family of Yah – receives the Latter Rain. Isaiah 49:1 through 10:

“Listen, O isles, unto me; and hearken, ye people, from far; Yah hath called me from the womb...” Here’s our calling, now, here’s our calling. “Yah hath called me from the womb; from the bowels of my mother hath He made mention of my name.” Remember, we’re numbered by name. “And He hath made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of His hand hath He hid me, and made me a polished shaft; in His quiver hath He hid me; And said unto me, ‘Thou art my servant, O Israel, in whom I will be glorified.’ Then I said, ‘I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nought, and in vain: yet surely my judgment is with Yah, and my work with my Almighty One.’” Before we came to Yah we thought that our work was totally in vain, or we see that everything before that was in vain.

“‘And now,’ saith Yah that formed me from the womb to be His servant, to bring Jacob again to Him [to bring in those scattered family members], Though Israel be not gathered, yet shall I be glorious in the eyes of Yah, and my Almighty One shall be my strength. And He said, ‘It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore [or bring back] the preserved of Israel [to preserve them as Open Deeds]: I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth.’ [this is to go to the whole world] Thus saith Yah, the Redeemer of Israel, and his Holy One, ‘To Him whom man despiseth, to Him whom the nation abhorreth, to a servant of rulers, kings shall see and arise, princes also shall worship, because of Yah that is faithful, and the Holy One of Israel, and He shall choose thee.’”

“Thus saith Yah, ‘In an acceptable time have I heard thee, and in a day of salvation have I helped thee: and I will preserve thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, to establish the earth [or to preserve the earth], to cause to inherit the desolate heritages; That thou mayest say to the prisoners, *Go forth*; to them that are in darkness, *Shew yourselves*.’” Don’t try to cover yourselves. Show yourselves, open yourselves. “They shall feed in the ways, and their pastures shall be in all high places.” Where are the high places? In heaven; that’s where they shall feed – on heavenly things. “They shall not hunger nor thirst.” Even though the powder be falling all around, they will take part in the Latter Rain. “They shall not hunger nor thirst; neither shall the heat nor sun smite them: for He that hath mercy on them shall lead them, even by the springs of water shall He guide them.”

Oh, so much spiritual symbolism here, so much spiritual symbolism. Let’s finish this now. This is the calling of the 144,000, who shall gather Israel into their Tribes. Revelation 7. Before we go any further, let me reveal to

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you that the Open Deed, that the Open Evidence, is **the evidence of our faith**. Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the *evidence* of things not seen. Our word, *our testimony*, is the evidence. Yes, “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen.” (Hebrews 11:1) The Open Deed is not sealed yet, until the close of probation, because there will be those that could fall away. It’s open; it’s not sealed yet. Yahshua is sealed; we are still open until the sealing at the close of probation. So Yahshua’s word, and Yahshua, makes up the Sealed Deed. We, and our word of commitment by the earnest of the Spirit {Ephesians 4:30}, which is seen in our Church Membership roll, is the Open Deed, which cannot be closed until the close of probation.

Now, reading Revelation 7, chapter 7 to close:

“And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind [or winds of strife] should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living Almighty One: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, ‘Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our Almighty One in their foreheads.’” Until the sealing work is finished. Until all the Tribes have put their names on the Church roll. “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.”

Then it goes through the tribes, and names all the tribes. Twelve thousand from each tribe, and then in verse 9 – “After this...” Oh, by the way, remember, 12,000 in each tribe means each tribe gets equal inheritance. No tribe gets more than the other. Verse 9: “After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number [no man could number, but Yah could number], of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes [of righteousness], and palms [of victory] in their hands; And cried with a loud voice, saying, ‘Salvation to our Almighty One which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.’ And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, Saying, ‘Amen [or so be it]: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our Almighty One for ever and ever. Amen [so be it].’”

“And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, ‘What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they?’ And I said unto him, ‘Sir, thou knowest.’ And he said to me, ‘These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of the Almighty, and serve Him day and night in His temple: and He that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any

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more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and Yah shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.”

Hallelu-Yah, Yah-shua.

At the great White Throne judgment, those that have tried to shield themselves with the leaves of self-righteousness will be laid bare – at the great White Throne, you see. All their deeds will be laid open in front of the universe, because they would not allow them to be opened up to Yah to be burned up by His fire of love. If you hold on to sin, it will be consumed in the fire of destruction, after the great White Throne Judgment. You cannot hide from Yah – why not open up?

Sinner, if you’re hearing me, Yah loves you. He says, “Be open, come to me, I’m your Daddy. Run to me, I will give you a garment of salvation. I will put a wedding garment on you, so that your sin will not show to people, and you will not have to be ashamed. I will save you.” Yah is salvation, and the Church Membership is important. Our Baptismal vow records the Sealed Deed of Yahshua. Our Church Membership records the Open Deed of our commitment to the Father and Son, which is to be Sealed at the close of probation, and will be your tribe name as you go through the gates of the city.

Yes, this study will continue into part 6 at our next meeting. May Yah bless you as we pray.

Our Father, which art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Thank you, Father, that we have our daily bread from your Word. Thank you that the bread of Heaven came down and fed us. Thank you that the water of life gave us drink. Thank you that our bread and water are sure. Dismiss us with your love we pray, in Yahshua’s holy and precious name. Hallelu-Yah. Hallelu-Yahshua. Amen.

{ 1 } See Appendix B

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#### Chapter 6: The Genealogy of Spiritual Israel

Date: April 28th 2001

**T**oday we are going to continue our series on Church Membership. This will be part 6, and it may be the last part, although there may be one last part coming, if Yah so desires. Last time, we considered Church Membership (a couple of weeks ago, if I recall) it was part 5, and we want to review that before we go forward. In part 5 we answered – first we asked, then we answered – two questions. The first one is, “What are the Deeds to which we must be witnesses, there in Jeremiah 32?” and “Why are there two deeds listed in Jeremiah 32, verses 11 and 14?” We applied some spiritual eyesalve to these things, and we unraveled some real truth here.

There is the Sealed Deed, and there is the Open Deed mentioned. We saw that Christ’s Word, and His promises to us concerning the eternal inheritance, make up the Sealed Deed. We are witnesses to the Savior’s finished work of redemption, which is a sealed work. It cannot fail, it is sealed by divinity. By accepting Christ as our personal Savior, we effectively sign the Sealed Deed to our eternal inheritance. And yet, there is an Open Deed, which is not yet sealed, and it will not be sealed until the close of human probation. This Open Deed represents our commitment to love Yah supremely, and our neighbor as ourselves. Our witness to this work of sanctification is literally manifested by our individual signatures on the Church Membership covenant, which stands as an open evidence that we have not only taken Christ as our Savior, but also we have joined the family of Yah in perfect unity of Spirit.

When the Open Deed is sealed at the close of human probation, it will contain the witnesses’ names; all of those who have their names remaining in the Lamb’s Book of Life. In simple terms, the Sealed Deed, which is bound up in divinity, requires no further investigation. But the Open Deed, which is bound up in humanity, is closely examined to see who will join the cloud of witnesses, and which witnesses will remain faithful unto the end. For it is those who remain faithful unto the end that will be saved. {Matthew 24:13}

So today we begin with part 6 of Church Membership. Church Membership is the continuation of the family genealogy for spiritual Israel; that’s what we’re going to talk about today. Now, what is “genealogy?” Genealogy is concerned with tracing out the line of descent in any given family. Tracing out the line of descent in any given family. So we have a genealogy for spiritual Israel. We’re not concerned with earthly genealogies, now. Paul says not to be concerned with those things. {Titus 3:9} But there is a spiritual genealogy, and we will come to see that this is very important for us to understand. We see in Revelation chapter 7 that there are twelve tribes, 12 families, among the 144,000. Each family has a numbering of

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12,000 – representing the fact of an equal inheritance, just as we see in the parable of the laborers in the vineyard. Let's turn there, to Matthew 19.

Starting with verse 28, we're going to read through chapter 20, and verse 16. Matthew 19:28 – “And Yahshua said unto them, ‘Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration...’” and that word *regeneration* is very significant – it is the restoration of all things – the restoration. That's where we started this study on Church Membership; restoring those things pertaining to godliness. “That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration, when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life. But many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first.”

“For the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which went out early in the morning to hire labourers into his vineyard. And when he had agreed with the labourers for a penny a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And he went out about the third hour, and saw others standing idle in the marketplace, And said unto them; ‘Go ye also into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right I will give you.’ And they went their way. Again he went out about the sixth and ninth hour, and did likewise. And about the eleventh hour he went out, and found others standing idle, and saith unto them, ‘Why stand ye here all the day idle?’ They say unto him, ‘Because no man hath hired us.’ He saith unto them, ‘Go ye also into the vineyard; and whatsoever is right, that shall ye receive.’ So when even was come, the lord of the vineyard saith unto his steward, ‘Call the labourers, and give them their hire, beginning from the last unto the first.’”

“And when they came that were hired about the eleventh hour, they received every man a penny. But when the first came, they supposed that they should have received more; and they likewise received every man a penny. And when they had received it, they murmured against the goodman of the house, Saying, ‘These last have wrought but one hour, and thou hast made them equal unto us, which have borne the burden and heat of the day.’



But he answered one of them, and said, ‘Friend, I do thee no wrong: didst not thou agree with me for a penny? Take that thine is, and go thy way: I will give unto this last, even as unto thee. Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? Is thine eye evil, because I am good?’ So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen.”

Now we can break this parable down to a small prophecy. The Spirit of Prophecy tells us that the early morning workers were represented by the Jewish Church. {*Christ's Object Lessons*, page 400, paragraph 2} The

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Jewish Church fell, and the Gentiles were called, and the third hour workers became the Apostolic Church. But it turned into the Harlot, the Roman Catholic church system, and the sixth hour workers had to be called, which were the Reformation Churches. But the Reformation Churches did not become sanctified. They would not continue on in the Word of Yah, and so they became the Harlot Daughters. In the ninth hour, the Seventh-day Adventist Church was called into the vineyard. But the Seventh-day Adventist Church was found guilty of fraternizing with Babylon, and finally fell in 1988 without remedy. This leaves the 11th hour workers.

Who are the 11th, hour workers? It is the 144,000 church – the remnant or “last part,” and interestingly enough, the Remnant Church, the 144,000 Church, is the last to enter the vineyard. But they are called the “firstfruits” unto Yah. So literally, the last becomes first. Now, just as a priest must be able to show his descent from Aaron, and the Messiah must be in the lineage of David, every Jew must be able to show his descent from Abraham. Abraham is the father of faith, and all who enter the faith of Yahshua become the children of Abraham, the spiritual children of Abraham. Let’s turn to Hebrews 11:8-10.

“By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is Yah.” We are the spiritual children of Abraham. We are sojourners in the land of promise. We are yet aliens here, but there’s a day coming when we will receive our eternal inheritance. This land on which we walk today will be our promised land.

We look for the New Jerusalem. We, as Abraham, look for a city, which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is Yah. Let’s turn to 1Chronicles 9. Now you’re going to put on your spiritual eyeglasses again, and start to see some things if you desire to see them.

1Chronicles 9. You will remember that the children of Israel, children of Abraham actually, were taken into captivity by Babylon, and they were given freedom to go back to Jerusalem. And we’re going to be considering some of these things that were going on at that time. 1Chronicles 9:1 – “So all Israel were reckoned by genealogies; and, behold, they were written in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah, who were carried away to Babylon for their transgression.” All of Israel was reckoned by genealogies – today, all of spiritual Israel will be reckoned by genealogies. It says, “...so all Israel were reckoned by genealogies.” I looked up the word “genealogy” in the original language and it means, “to enroll by pedigree.”

To enroll by pedigree – do you know what a pedigree is? I looked up the definition of “pedigree,” and it says, “the reported purity of a breed, of an

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individual or strain.” So a genealogy is an enrollment, recording a pure breed. The faith of Yahshua is a pure faith, and all who take the faith of Yahshua to heart must be a pure breed. “They were written in the book of the kings.” Everyone who accepts Christ needs to be written in the Lamb’s Book of Life, in the Book of the King.

We have been captive ourselves, to mystical Babylon. And as we are called out of this mystical Babylon by the mighty angel of Revelation 18, we must be found by name, registered among the tribes of Spiritual Israel. Let’s look at Nehemiah 7, concerning this time of the restoration of the children of Israel to Jerusalem. Now, we are being restored to the New Jerusalem, not to the earthly Jerusalem. But looking at Nehemiah 7:4-6 we see something:

“Now the city was large and great: but the people were few therein, and the houses were not [yet] builded.” Did you know, the City is large? Have you ever done a study on the size of the New Jerusalem? It’s a big place. It “was large and great: but the people were few.” Did not Yahshua say that there would be few that enter in? Many are called, but few are chosen. “and the houses were not [yet] builded.” Do you know that our spiritual houses are being built? They’re not finished yet, they’re being built. They’re being built so that they can be placed in the City – in the Heavenly City. Verse 5: “And my Almighty One put into mine heart to gather together the nobles, and the rulers, and the people, that they might be reckoned by genealogy. And I found a register [or a record] of the genealogy of them which came up at the first, and found written therein, ‘These are the children of the province, that went up out of the captivity, of those that had been carried away, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away, and came again to Jerusalem and to Judah, every one unto his city.’”

We were carried away to mystical Babylon. We were into confusion – we were no longer keeping the laws of Yah’s love. We were paying attention to human devices; we weren’t following divine devices. Human logic, human tradition – worshipping in vain. But we came out of Babylon, and in order to come out of Babylon we must register our names, so that we will have a genealogy that will prove our lineage back to Christ. Some will say, ‘Oh, that is the Lamb’s Book of Life in heaven – that is the record to which this parable applies.’ Yes, there is a record in heaven, but remember the last study – there were *two* deeds! And let everything be done on earth as it is in heaven. {Matthew 6:10}

Nehemiah 7:61-64. We see there then, of course, the list of the exiles, and over at verse 61: “And these were they which went up also from Telmelah, Telharsa, Cherub, Addon, and Immer: but they could not shew their father’s house, nor their seed, whether they were of Israel.” See, they couldn’t prove they were children of Israel. Why? Because they weren’t in the genealogy. “The children of Delaiah, the children of Tobiah, the children of Nekoda, six hundred forty and two. And of the priests: the children of Habaiah, the children of Koz, the children of Barzillai, which

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took one of the daughters of Barzillai the Gileadite to wife, and was called after their name. These sought their register among those that were reckoned by genealogy, but it was not found: therefore were they, [treated] as polluted, [and] put from the priesthood.”

They could not be among the priests, because they could not prove their lineage. They were not on the genealogy. If you were arrested today for being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict you? Think about that question. The Church Membership role indicates your profession of faith, and gives a witness of your commitment to be in unity with Yah’s spiritual family of Overcomers. Let’s look at Exodus 19:6: “And ye shall be unto me...” Yah is speaking here. “And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation [or holy family]. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.”

And then in the New Testament we see in 1 Peter 2:5 and 9 a similar statement. Let’s look at it: “Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house...” I was just talking about that a few minutes ago, about our spiritual houses being built up; being fitted, and shaped, and formed, for the holy City, New Jerusalem. “Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to Yah by Yahshua the Messiah.” And verses 9 and 10: “But ye are a chosen generation.” That word “generation” there is the same as “genealogy;” they have the same root. {Gk: *genos*} “But ye are a chosen generation [genealogy], a royal priesthood, an holy nation [or family], a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvellous light. Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of Yah: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.”

We are to be a chosen genealogy. If your name is not recorded in the genealogy, you cannot be a priest. If you are not recorded among the families of the 144,000, if you’re not among one of those tribes, if your name is not Sealed there, in that enrolled pedigree, you will not walk through the gates of the City.

Let’s look at another part of this in Joshua 24. Turn to Joshua 24; we’re going to take it up about verse 14. “Now therefore fear Yah, and serve Him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye Yah. And if it seem evil unto you to serve Yah, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve Yah. And the people answered and said, ‘The Almighty forbid that we should forsake Yah, to serve other gods; For Yah our Almighty One, He it is that brought us up and our fathers out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, and which did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way wherein we went, and among all the

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people through whom we passed: And Yah drave out from before us all the people, even the Amorites which dwelt in the land: therefore will we also serve Yah; for He is our Almighty One.”

“And Joshua said unto the people, ‘Ye cannot serve Yah: for He is an holy Almighty One; He is a jealous Almighty One. He will not forgive your transgressions nor your sins; if ye forsake Yah, and serve strange gods, then He will turn and do you hurt, and consume you, after that He hath done you good.’ And the people said unto Joshua, ‘Nay; but we will serve Yah.’ And Joshua said unto the people, ‘Ye are witnesses against yourselves that ye have chosen you Yah, to serve Him.’ And they said, ‘We are witnesses.’”

“‘Now therefore put away,’ said he, ‘the strange gods which are among you, and incline your heart unto Yah, the Almighty of Israel.’ And the people said unto Joshua, ‘Yah our Almighty One will we serve, and His voice will we obey.’ So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and set them a statute and an ordinance in Shechem.” Verse 26: “And Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law of Yah, and took a great stone, and set it up there under an oak, that was by the sanctuary of Yah. And Joshua said unto all the people, [now listen carefully, beloved] ‘Behold, this stone shall be a witness unto us; for it hath heard all the words of Yah which He spake unto us: it shall be therefore a witness unto you, lest ye deny your Almighty One.’ So Joshua let the people depart, every man unto his inheritance.”



The Church Membership covenant stands like that stone, a stone of remembrance, a record or witness to the fact that you have set your seal to the plan of Yah for His spiritual family. Luke 19:37-40: “And when He [Yahshua] was come nigh, even now at the descent of the mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise Yah with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen; Saying, ‘Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of Yah: peace in Heaven, and glory in the highest.’ And some of the Pharisees from among the multitude said unto him, ‘Master, rebuke thy disciples.’ And He [Yahshua] answered and said unto them, ‘I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out.’”

The stones would immediately cry out. In the same way, if we should be quiet, the stone of remembrance, our Church Membership covenant, would cry out in witness to Yah’s glory. Turning back over to Nehemiah chapter 9 – speaking about covenants – we need to read about what happened there in Nehemiah 9, when they were rebuilding the walls of the city, reestablishing righteousness in the land. Nehemiah 9:2: “And the seed of Israel separated themselves from all strangers, and stood and confessed their sins, and the

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iniquities of their fathers.” They had to repent. They had to come out of Babylon; they had to repent of all wickedness and give up all strange gods. And then the rest of that chapter we read quite a lamentation. And we come over to Nehemiah 9:38: “And because of all this we make **A Sure Covenant**, and write it; and our princes, Levites, and priests, seal unto it [in other words, sign it].” And then Chapter 10, verse 1: “Now those that sealed [or signed] were, Nehemiah, the Tirshatha [or governor], the son of Hachaliah, and Zidkijah,” and then it goes right down the list there of everyone that sealed this sure covenant, or signed it.

And then we finally come over on the next page, to verse 28. I don’t want to read through all those names, if you will release me from that. Verse 28: “And the rest of the people, the priests, the Levites, the porters [or the keepers], the singers, the Nethinims, and all they that had separated themselves from the people of the lands unto the law of the Almighty, their wives, their sons, and their daughters, every one having knowledge, and having understanding; They clave to their brethren...” You see the unity there? They joined with their brethren; verse 29: “their nobles, and entered into a curse, and into an oath, to walk in The Almighty’s law, which was given by Moses the servant of the Almighty One, and to observe and do all the commandments of Yah our Master, and His judgments and His statutes.”

Let me read to you a parallel to that, a sure covenant:

In the letter and the spirit of unity with Yah’s Church in Heaven, we the undersigned, who have sealed our names here, we hereby associate ourselves together as members of the Body of Messiah being identified as St. Joseph Creation Seventh Day Adventist Church, covenanting to keep the commandments of Yah and the faith of His Son Yahshua, and accepting His character as our heritage: Yah is our righteousness. (Jer 23:6 and 33:16)

And then there are names, numbered and sealed, below.

Just as the children of Israel in the Old Testament, when coming out of Babylon, came out by – or were numbered and named by – genealogy, they made a sure covenant and sealed their names to that covenant. Spiritual Israel is doing the same thing today. Is this not a sure covenant? Yes it is.

There are two great commandments, and we read of them in Matthew 22:36-40: “‘Master, which is the great commandment in the law?’ Yahshua said unto him, ‘Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.’”

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Turning to John 13:34,35, Yahshua says this, “A new commandment I give unto you...” Now this is nothing new, this is repeated from the Old Testament. {Leviticus 19:18} That word “new” can be translated, “renewed.” I renew a commandment to you, I give unto you this renewed commandment: “That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.”

Your Church Membership covenant shows your willingness to love your brethren; to covenant together in perfect unity and harmony, to love one another. It is a test of discipleship. So, the Baptismal vow substantiates our commitment to Yah. The Church Membership covenant witnesses to our connection with Yah’s human family, thus fulfilling the letter of these two great commandments in a sealed, or “signed” form. The spirit of this law of love is borne out in our daily lives, moment by moment. In effect, these two documents, our Baptismal vow and the Church Membership covenant, represent (or stand) as two genealogies, just as Christ Himself had two genealogies recorded in Scripture. Did you know that? Christ had two genealogies recorded in Scripture. One is in Matthew 1:1-16. The other is in Luke 3:23-38. We won’t take time to read them today, but in Matthew 1:1-16, this genealogy serves as Christ’s legal lineage through adoption.

The Baptismal vow shows our legal lineage by adoption as well, being born by the Spirit of Yah, {Galatians 4:5} who is not our “natural” Father. In Luke 3:23-38, we see there recorded Christ’s natural descent through actual parentage. The Church Membership roll records our actual, spiritual lineage, by way of the spiritual family on earth, declaring our family name, which will remain forever. Let’s read about it in Isaiah 66.

Isaiah 66:22: “For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith Yah, so shall your seed [or children] and your name remain.” So shall your seed and your name remain. Your personal, individual name, will remain in the Lamb’s Book of Life, and it will also remain in the Family Lineage, from which you were born again. So there are two genealogies here. And I want to take time here to share this chart with you. This is a more detailed description of what I just said.

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Chart of The Genealogy Structure for The New Jerusalem			
	<b>The Head</b>		
<i>Name &amp; Identity</i>	<i>Legal Family by Original Nature</i>	<i>Legal Family by Adoption</i>	<i>Legal Family by Spiritual Parentage</i>
<p style="color: red; font-size: small;">Joel 3:13,14</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">Yahshua The Messiah</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">'The Seed'</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Divinity Partaking of Humanity Phi 2:6-8 Heb 2:9,11,14,17</p>	<p style="font-size: small;">Had Heavenly Father</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Yah's only begotten Son</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Born of the Spirit</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Eph 1:3 John 3:16</p>	<p style="font-size: small;">Had Earthly Father</p> <p style="font-size: small;">'Joseph'</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Genealogy Chart: Matthew 1:1-16</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: small;">Rev 14:17,18</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Had Earthly Mother</p> <p style="font-size: small;">'Mary'</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Genealogy Chart: Luke 3:23 - 38</p>
<p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">The 144,000</p> <p style="font-size: small;">'Firstfruits'</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Humanity Partaking of Divinity Rev 14:1 2Pet 1:4</p>	<p style="font-size: small;">Have Earthly Father (&amp; Mother)</p> <p style="font-size: small;">'Sons of Men'</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Birth Certificate Issued by Men upon Physical Birth Psa 33:13 Eph 3:4,5</p>	<p style="font-size: small;">Have Heavenly Father</p> <p style="font-size: small;">'YAH'</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Birth Certificate (Baptismal Vow) Issued by men upon spiritual baptism by water &amp; the Spirit John 5:18, Rom 8:15 Gal 4:6, Eph 1:4,5</p>	<p style="font-size: small;">Have Earthly Mother</p> <p style="font-size: small;">'The Church'</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Family Lineage Recorded by Signing (Sealing) the 'Church Membership' covenant Rev 12:1,2,17 Gal 4:26</p>

Christ is the Head. We are the Body of Christ. Christ is the Seed; Christ is divinity partaking of humanity. The 144,000, His last remnant Church, is the firstfruits. We are not the Seed, we are the firstfruits. We are humanity partaking of divinity. Let's look at Philippians 2:6-8: This is speaking of Yahshua the Christ, "Who, being in the form of Yah thought it not robbery to be equal with Yah: But made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." Divinity partaking of humanity.

And then we turn over to Hebrews 2:9-11: "But we see Yahshua, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that He by the grace of Yah should taste death for every man. For it became Him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the Captain of their salvation perfect [or complete] through sufferings. For both He that sanctifieth [or sets apart] and they who are sanctified [or are set apart] are all of one: for which cause He is not ashamed to call them brethren." He calls us His brothers. Humanity partaking of Divinity. 2Peter 1:4 bears that out more clearly, "Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these [promises] ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust."

So Yahshua is the Seed; the 144,00 are the firstfruits. Yahshua: divinity partaking of humanity; the 144,000 firstfruits: humanity partaking of divinity, Christ regarding us as His brothers and sisters. Now, concerning

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the genealogies, we have “Original Family” – we have a column for original family, or “Legal Family by Original Nature.” Christ’s original family – He came straight from Heaven, He came from Yah; He was Yah’s only begotten Son, and He came straight from Heaven. Our original family – we are sons of men. We are sons of men on earth; we are certified as earthlings. You know, when we get our birth certificate? We are certified as human beings. That’s our original family.

Now we have an “Adopted Family;” this is where our Scriptural genealogy comes in. Christ’s adopted family is found in Matthew 1:1-16, and His earthly father Joseph. Now, we have an adopted family as well, and that is through Yah our Heavenly Father. 1John 5:18, let’s look at it: “We know that whosoever is born of Yah sinneth not; but He that is begotten of Yah keepeth [or guards] himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.” In John 3:6, the Gospel of John 3:6 – “That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.” Our Baptismal vow bears out our adopted family genealogy. But we have a natural family genealogy, which is also Scriptural. And Yahshua had one; it’s found in Luke 3:23-38. And it follows the line of His earthly mother Mary. We too have a natural family on earth – a natural spiritual family. We are brought forth by our mother, the woman which is seen in Revelation 12:1,2. “And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a Woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under Her feet, and upon Her head a crown of twelve stars [or twelve stones]: And She being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered.”

You see, this Woman represents that pure Church from which we are birthed into our Family, into our spiritual family on earth. Galatians 4:26 says it even more distinctly. Galatians 4:6: “And because ye are sons, Yah hath sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying, ‘Abba, Father.’” And then verse 26: “But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the Mother of us all.” The Jerusalem which is above, the New Jerusalem, is free, which is the Mother of us all. The Church Membership covenant represents our genealogy of “natural family” in the spiritual family. So just as Yahshua our spiritual brother had two genealogies, we do as well. We have the Baptismal vow, and we have the Church Membership roll. Both of those make up the genealogy for the New Jerusalem membership. If you don’t have your name on these membership rolls, you will not enter the gates of the City.

Turn to Acts 10, we must hurry right along now, as we run close on time. Acts 10:34-36: “Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, ‘Of a truth I perceive that Yah is no respecter of persons: But in every nation [family] he that feareth Him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with Him. The word which Yah sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Yahshua the Messiah: (He is Lord of all).’” In other words, the Gentiles are accepted; the children are accepted of Yah. And in Acts 10:47,48: “‘Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?’ [speaking of the Gentiles] And he

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commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord [Yahshua]. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.” And carrying on to chapter 11, verses 1 through 4: “And the apostles and brethren that were in Judaea heard that the Gentiles had also received the word of Yah. And when Peter was come up to Jerusalem, they that were of the circumcision [or the Jews] contended with him, Saying, ‘Thou wentest in to men uncircumcised [the Gentiles], and didst eat with them.’ But Peter rehearsed the matter from the beginning, and expounded it by order unto them, saying...” and he tells the whole story.



And it comes over to verse 17: “Forasmuch then as Yah gave them the like gift as He did unto us, who believed on the Lord Yahshua the Messiah; what was I, that I could withstand Yah?” When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified Yah, saying, ‘Then hath

Yah also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life.” The children were accepted by the family. The children are accepted first by Yah, and then they’re accepted by the family. Have you ever heard of “giving the right hand of fellowship?” Have you ever been in a Church in which they’ve said, “We must exchange the right hand of fellowship?” That’s the approval of the Body. First they’re approved by Yah, for He’s no respecter of persons (and all who come to Him shall be saved), then they are approved by the Church.

Acts 2:46,47: “And they, continuing daily with one accord [they were in perfect unity] in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their [food] with gladness and singleness of heart, Praising Yah, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the Church daily such as should be saved.” The Lord added to the Church; when the Lord approves, when Yah approves a person for salvation, He adds them to His Church. In these last days, the 144,000 will signify, or “seal” to that by their enrollment on the Church Membership covenant. We see in Acts 9, in the conversion of Saul who became Paul... We see that he had to come into conformity with the Church. Acts 9:17,18: “And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, ‘Brother Saul, the Lord, even Yahshua, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.’ And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.” Even Saul, who became Paul, needed to come into Church membership. {see Acts 9:26-28}

In closing we go to Hebrews 12:18-25, “For ye are not come unto the mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire, nor unto blackness, and darkness, and tempest, And the sound of a trumpet, and the voice of words;

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which voice they that heard intreated that the word should not be spoken to them any more: (For they could not endure that which was commanded, And if so much as a beast touch the mountain, it shall be stoned, or thrust through with a dart: And so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, ‘I exceedingly fear and quake:’) But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, To the general assembly and Church of the Firstborn, which are written in Heaven, and to Yah the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, And to Yahshua the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel. See that ye refuse not Him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused Him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from Him that speaketh from Heaven.”

May Yah’s will be done on earth, through a registry of Yah’s family, as it is in Heaven by the Lamb’s Book of Life. The Spirit of Prophecy tells us clearly, “only those who receive the seal of the living God will have the passport through the gates of the holy City. But there are many who take upon themselves responsibilities in connection with the work of God who are not wholehearted believers. And while they remain thus, cannot receive the seal of the living God. They trust in their own righteousness, which the Lord accounts as foolishness.” {Ellen G. White, *Letter 164*, 1909} Dearly beloved, we are come to mount Zion; we are come to a holy mountain – the New Jerusalem. Will we, will you, come into full conformity to the will of Yah? Will you be found in the genealogy on the Judgment Day? I pray that you will.

Shall we pray?

Our Father in Heaven, we thank you that you have blessed us with great light for this generation. You have shown us the significance of these things that we have been doing in the various churches for many decades. You have shown us the Scriptural importance, you have shown us the Scriptural validity, of our Baptismal vows and our Church Membership covenant. You have tied these things to salvation in such a way that we must keep the letter of the law and the spirit of the law. We cannot neglect the Sabbath, nor can we neglect the genealogy that is to be written down for all to see, to witness the Deed to our eternal inheritance.

Bless us, Father, as we walk as Yahshua walked. Bless us as we are His brothers and sisters. Bless us as we are humanity partaking of divinity. And may our faith be the faith of Yahshua; overcoming as He overcame. For Christ’s sake we pray, in His precious name. Amen.

## A Sure Covenant

### A SURE COVENANT Chapter 7: The Second Eve

Date: June 16th 2001

**S**ome might consider this sermon to be Church Membership part 7. We will be considering the subject, “The Second Eve.” It’s not the eve, like the evening or morning, it’s Eve the woman.

On the board I have: “The First Adam,” “The First Eve,” “The Second Adam,” and “The Second Eve.” We want to first turn to Genesis 2 and read from there, starting from verse 7: “And Yah the Almighty One formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life [or the spirit of life]; and man became a living soul.” And skipping on over to verse 15, reading through verse 24: “And Yah the Almighty One took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. And Yah the Almighty One commanded the man, saying, ‘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.’ And Yah the Almighty One said, ‘It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him [or, I will make him a companion suitable for him].’ And out of the ground Yah the Almighty One formed every beast of the field,” etc. And Adam named them and so forth.

And then we go to verse 21: “And Yah the Almighty One caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; And the rib, which Yah the Almighty One 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 [or wife], because she was taken out of Man.’ Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife [or his woman]: and they shall be one flesh.”

There is no room here for multiple husbands and wives. The design at Creation was one husband, one wife: two becoming one flesh. That was marriage from the beginning. Christ talks about it in Matthew 19:4-6. Let’s turn there: “And He [Yahshua] answered and said unto them, ‘Have ye not read, that He which made them at the beginning made them male and female, And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh?’ Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore Yah hath joined together, let not man put asunder.”

And then in 1Corinthians 15:45: “And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; [that’s from Genesis 2:7] the last Adam was made a quickening [or life-giving] spirit.” So we have a first Adam, and we have a last Adam, also referred to as the second Adam, which is Christ. The first

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Adam was a living soul; the second Adam was a living Spirit, a life-giving Spirit. Adam and Eve were married by Yah Himself, and now we want to look at the first Eve a little bit.

Look at 1Corinthians 11:12: “For as the woman is of the man, even so is the man also by the woman; but all things [come from Yah].” The woman came from man. And then, the man came from woman. In the Bible, when you read the word “Woman,” it’s really the same word as “Wife,” {Heb: *’ishah*, Gk: *gune*} pretty much throughout the Bible. Wife and Woman are interchangeable throughout the Bible.

Genesis 3:20 says this; let’s turn there, concerning the first woman. “And Adam called his wife’s [or woman’s] name Eve; because she was the mother of all living.” Actually, “Eve” means “Life.” So, the first Eve is the mother of all the living – human beings, that is. Now let’s look at something in Paul’s writings. 1Timothy 2:14: “And Adam was not deceived...” well, look at verse 13 first. “For Adam was first formed, then Eve.” And you remember that when Yah gave instructions about what to eat and not to eat, Adam was alive at that time, and Yah was talking to Adam. Eve had not yet been created, so the instruction about what was good to eat and what was not good to eat was given to Adam before Eve’s being created. It says, “Adam was first formed, then Eve. Verse 14: “And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.”

So the first Eve was deceived, and she did not trust her husband. Adam had given her instruction concerning what to eat and what not to eat, and Eve doubted her husband, questioned her husband, did not entrust – did not trust the instruction of the man. Now in the Old Testament we have some rules concerning marriage, and they were to apply throughout time. Let’s look at Exodus 34:10-17.

“And He said, Behold, I make a covenant: before all thy people I will do marvels, such as have not been done in all the earth, nor in any nation: and all the people among which thou art shall see the work of Yah: for it is a terrible thing that I will do with thee.” “Terrible” means impressive. It is an impressive thing that Yah will do with His people. “Observe thou that which I command thee this day: behold, I drive out before thee the Amorite, and the Canaanite, and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, and the Hivite, and the Jebusite. Take heed to thyself, lest thou make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land whither thou goest, lest it be for a snare in the midst of thee: But ye shall destroy their altars, break their images, and cut down their groves: For thou shalt worship no other god: for Yah, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God: Lest thou make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land, and they go a whoring after their gods, and do sacrifice unto their gods, and one call thee, and thou eat of his sacrifice; And thou take of their daughters unto thy sons, and their daughters go a whoring after their gods, and make thy sons go a whoring after their gods. Thou shalt make thee no molten gods.”

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And then in Deuteronomy 7:1-7: “When Yah thy Almighty shall bring thee into the land whither thou goest to possess it, and hath cast out many nations before thee, the Hittites, and the Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than thou; And when Yah thy Almighty shall deliver them before thee; thou shalt smite them, and utterly destroy them; thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor shew mercy unto them: Neither shalt thou make marriages with them; thy daughter thou shalt not give unto his son, nor his daughter shalt thou take unto thy son. For they will turn away thy son from following me, that they may serve other gods: so will the anger of Yah be kindled against you, and destroy thee suddenly. But thus shall ye deal with them; ye shall destroy their altars, and break down their images, and cut down their groves, and burn their graven images with fire.” The rules for marriage were: you must marry within your own people. You must not marry outside of the Family of Yah. And this was the law that applied to the family, the human family from the beginning.

Now we’re going to take a little look at the second Adam. Before we go any further with that I want to explain something. Yah Himself said it was not good that man should live alone, so He provided man a compatible helper, that he might have a wife. Yahshua, the only begotten Son of the Father, was sent to earth and became a human being. He went back to heaven as a human being, and He remains a human being. He partook of the flesh of the woman – He was conceived of a virgin and came forth in human flesh. The first woman, the first Eve, came from the flesh of man. The second Adam came from the flesh of woman; and Yahshua was to go back to Heaven as a human being – but *it is not good that man should live alone*. Do you hear me, Church?

Yahshua was not to live in heaven without a Wife. But He had to pay a dear price for that Wife! And throughout the Scriptures you see of men paying prices for their women. Yahshua spilt His own blood, His precious, pure blood; gave His very life, for the Church. {Ephesians 5:25} That was His Wife to be. And one of these days He will take the second Eve home to His Father’s house to live forever. But Yahshua was not to live alone, as a human being, forever. He’s to have a compatible Helper throughout eternity, just as the first Adam did, or was to have.

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Now, let us look at a few Scriptures. We've already seen that in 1Corinthians 15:45 it says that the last Adam was a life giving Spirit. Let's look at 1Corinthians 11:12 again, "For as the woman is of the man, even so is the man also by the woman..." So the second Adam came from woman. Revelation 12:13 supports that. Let's look at it: "And when the Dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the Woman which brought forth the man child." It's that Woman in

Revelation 12:1 – "And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a Woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered." That's the second Eve, having the man-child; giving birth.

It's an interesting thought; there might be some deep symbolism here. Actually, the second Eve gives birth to her Husband-to-be. We may need to meditate on that for a little while. So we're talking about the second Adam, Christ, who is called the Bridegroom. Let's look at John 3:29. Actually, it's not – what I said a moment ago about that symbolism – it's not altogether surprising, since the first Adam basically gave birth to his wife. It's not surprising that the second Eve would give birth to her husband. In the spiritual things, sometimes they're reversed. In the Spiritual, to go to heaven you must go down. In the physical, you are to get up, you must climb up. But in the Spiritual in order to go up you must go down; you must humble yourself. So there are some ironic differences, some very significant differences. John 3:28 says this, "He that hath the Bride is the Bridegroom: but the friend of the Bridegroom, which standeth and heareth Him, rejoiceth greatly because of the Bridegroom's voice: this my joy therefore is fulfilled."

This is John the Baptist testifying that Yahshua is the Bridegroom. John the Baptist is as the "best man," or the friend of the Bridegroom. Yahshua Himself describes Himself as the Bridegroom in Matthew 9:15. Matthew 9:15 says this: "Can the children of the bridechamber mourn, as long as the Bridegroom is with them? But the days will come, when the Bridegroom shall be taken from them, and then shall they fast." So the second Adam is the Bridegroom. We could look at a couple of other Scriptures in the Old Testament. Isaiah 62:5, referring to this marriage scenario. Isaiah 62:5: "For as a young man marrieth a virgin, so shall thy sons marry thee: and as the bridegroom rejoiceth over the bride, so shall thy Almighty [Yah] rejoice

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over thee.” Do you think Yah would choose a harlot for His only begotten Son?

You know it was tradition that the parents would choose a woman for their son among the children of Israel. The Father in heaven is choosing, has chosen, a Wife for His Son. Would He choose a harlot? And let me ask you the second question – would He choose more than one woman? No. He has chosen a pure virgin; a chaste virgin, and He has chosen only one Woman. She is pure, She is united, Her members are united. {1Corinthians 1:10, Ephesians 4:5, 1Corinthians 12:21} And the Church which teaches the Gospel: Victory over sin, and has remained free from unlawful union with the kings of the earth, this Woman is She.

What Yah has joined together let not man put asunder. It’s only what *Yah* has joined together that no man can put asunder.

Yah has chosen a suitable Bride for His only begotten Son, and It’s the second Eve, the Church – the true Church. Today there is a visible Bride. Now, She has not fully shown Herself yet. Let’s read on, in Hosea 2:19, 20: “And I will betroth thee unto me,” Yah is talking here: “I will betroth thee unto me for ever; yea, I will betroth thee unto me in righteousness, and in judgment, and in lovingkindness, and in mercies. I will even betroth thee unto me in faithfulness: and thou shalt know Yah.” Now the word “betroth,” in our time, has taken on the meaning of “engagement.” In our day an engagement is watered down. In the Hebrew tradition, betrothal was binding like a marriage. The consummation of the marriage had not yet come; the two had not yet become one flesh through the act of intercourse, but they were considered the same as man and wife, so to speak. The commitment was one which required a letter of divorcement if it were to be disannulled. You remember Joseph, already considered her *husband*, {Matthew 1:19} was thinking about “putting Mary away” secretly, because he thought she was no longer a virgin. That phrase, “to put away,” is used of an official act of divorcement. But the angel instructed him that she was to bear the Son of Yah, the Messiah.

In the Old Testament, in Deuteronomy 24, it gave provision for putting away an unclean woman. Yah has always designed that His children, His sons, take virgin women. If they found them not to be virgins, they could legally put them away. Yah has chosen a virgin Woman for His Son. And what is a virgin woman? A virgin woman is one that has not been penetrated by the flesh. You hear some Christians talking about “sins of the flesh.” “Oh, that’s only a sin of the flesh.” Or you hear others talking about, “Carnal Christians,” that means “fleshly” Christians. Carnal Christians/Fleshly Christians, that’s the same thing. But the Bride of Christ, the Wife of the Lamb, is a virgin. She has not been penetrated by the flesh. That means She is not guilty of any of the sins of the flesh, or the lusts of the flesh. She is not guilty of adultery, or fornication, with the world.

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Well, let's look at the second Eve a little more closely. She, like the first Eve, is a mother of the living. When you are born again – the Scripture says you must be born again – when you're born again you are born through the second Eve. You say, "Preacher, how is that now?" Well, you're born of the Spirit, and the Spirit came upon the woman, and conceived the Child, the man Child Yahshua. When we take the seed of Yahshua, we're taking the seed of the Woman – the second Eve. We read about her in Revelation 12:17. She is that pure Woman, who is with the man Child. She is the Mother of the living, as the first Eve was called the mother of all the living.

Ephesians 5 really gives us a beautiful picture. Let's look at that. Ephesians 5 – I'm going to start at verse 22: "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto Yahshua. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the Church: and He is the Saviour of the Body. Therefore as the Church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the Church, and gave Himself for It." That's the price He paid for that wife. "That He might sanctify and cleanse It with the washing of water by the Word, That He might present it to Himself a glorious Church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that It should be holy and without blemish." Now, these words here are talking about the blemish that would come by the penetration of the flesh, sin. If you read the Old Testament and see how they tested to see if a woman was a virgin you'll understand more of this. {Deu 22:13-21} You can tell by the blood.

Yahshua intends to present to Himself a Woman, a Church, a Wife, a Virgin – proven to be without blemish, unpenetrated by the flesh. Continuing with Ephesians 5, and verse 28: "So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord [Yahshua] the Church: For we are members of His Body, of His flesh, and of His bones. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the Church."

1Corinthians 12:27 – we need to rush right along here: "Now ye are the Body of Christ, and members in particular." Ye are the second Eve; ye are the Body of Christ. The Two, the God-Man and the god-Woman, become one Spirit together. 1Corinthians 12:13,14: "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one Body, [there's a marriage right there] whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. [One Body, one Spirit] For the Body is not one member, but many." Yes, there are many members, but one Body, one Spirit. Matthew 24:24 gives us a comparison between the second Eve and the first Eve: "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." But it's not possible. The Scripture says the first Eve was deceived and fell into transgression, but the second Eve will not be deceived.

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Revelation 14:4 gives us a little bit more concerning the second Eve. Revelation 14:4 says, “These are they which were not defiled with women [they were not defiled by becoming wives like the Harlot and the Harlot-daughters]; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto Yah and to the Lamb.” They are virgins, and you know there is a law concerning virgins that we will get to here. Let’s look at some of the marriage law here in the New Testament. Romans 7 – very briefly we will look at that.

Romans 7:1-4: “Know ye not, brethren, (for I speak to them that know the law,) how that the law hath dominion over a man as long as he liveth? For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband. So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man. Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to Him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto Yah.”

When the old man is dead, when the old man of self and selfishness is dead and buried, we are free to marry another. We are free to marry Christ, and our baptism shows that marriage covenant. And when we sign our Baptismal Vow and our Church Covenant, we set our seal to that marriage. In fact, that’s the marriage



certificate. Where did the tradition come from of the woman taking the husband’s name? Mary, you took the name of your husband. Sister Dot, you took the name of your husband. All of the women here took the name of the husband. Where did that come from? That was the tradition of Hebrew marriage – you take the name of your husband. {Isaiah 4:1} It was commonly understood that the wife would come to the husband’s house – many times it would be to the house of the husband’s father – and the woman was to become a part of their family, taking on their family name.

The second Eve has to take on the Husband’s name. The Church must have a name, and it must be a name that Yah has given Her. The name of His people. There’s only one Eve, now. Don’t mistake it, there’s only one Eve. There’s not the Eve that’s called “Baptist,” and the Eve that’s called “Methodist,” and the Eve that’s called “Presbyterian,” and the Eve that’s called “Historic Seventh-day Adventist,” or the Eve that’s called “Founded in 1992 by Seventh-day Adventist Believers.” There’s one Eve, there’s one body, there’s one Spirit. And Yah has given His Bride a name, and that

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name is “Creation Seventh Day Adventist,” the Woman that Yah chose for His Son.

I speak under the authority of Heaven; I do not speak foolishly on this matter. She is to be a virgin; She is to be pure, without spot and without blemish. She is to be unpenetrated by the flesh, and there are Creation Seventh Day Adventists all around the world today that are awaiting the marriage. They are awaiting the time to set their seal on the marriage certificate, for they are virgins. Many are called, but few are chosen. The Bridegroom is breaking ready – the Bride is making Herself ready.

Look at 1Corinthians 6:15-17: “Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the members of an harlot? Yah forbid. What? Know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? ‘For two,’ saith He, ‘shall be one flesh.’ But he that is joined unto [Yahshua] is one spirit.” Brothers and sisters, internet audience, all who hear these tapes and these sermons, I tell you by the authority of Yah in Heaven, in this generation you cannot be rightly married to Yahshua without following the angel’s instruction in Revelation 18 – “Come out of her my people.” Come out of her, my people – and join the Bride. Join the virgins, the wise virgins of Matthew 25. Enter into the marriage; be sealed among your tribes. The time is come for the sealing to be consummated.

2Corinthians 6:14: “Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness?” Come out from among them and be ye separate, says Yah. In fact He says it right here in the following Scriptures. He says, “And what concord hath Christ with Belial? Or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of Yah with idols? For ye are the temple of the living Almighty One; as Yah hath said, ‘I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their Almighty One, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate,’ saith Yah, ‘and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters,’ saith Yah the Almighty.”

“Having therefore these promises,” chapter 7, verse 1 in 2Corinthians, “Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of Yah.” Oh, there’s much more to be said on these subjects. There is a mother of Revelation 17:5-7. We read about it – turn there for a moment. “And upon her forehead was a name written...” Every woman, every wife, has a name that they take according to their husband. And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Yahshua: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration

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{Gk: *thauma* – wonder}. And the angel said unto me, ‘Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns.’”

Do you know that it’s an abomination to lie with a beast? Exodus 22:19 says that if you lie with a beast, you are worthy of death. Look at Leviticus 18:23: “Neither shalt thou lie with any beast to defile thyself therewith: neither shall any woman stand before a beast to lie down thereto: it is confusion.” It is Babylon, confusion. This woman is riding a beast, not only standing in front of it to lie down. She’s riding the thing, full of confusion. Full of the abominations of the earth. Who is the Mother of Harlots? The Roman Catholic church system represents the mother of Harlots. She has lain with – entered into a covenant with – a beast, or an earthly kingdom. {Daniel 7:17,23} The Second Eve is the mother of the living. Who are the Harlot Daughters? The Harlot Daughters are all of the Sunday keeping churches, and those Protestant churches that have not continued to press forward into the light. It doesn’t matter how much Gospel they claim to have, they have broken the covenant. They are harlot daughters, and it is abomination. They cannot be part of the virgin wife.



You must come out of those daughters; you must come out of that harlot. And there is one other. The Sister Harlot. Who is the Sister Harlot? It is the General Conference Seventh-day Adventist church and its daughters{1}. Now, concerning the Historic Seventh-day Adventists, who are founded in such-and-such a year, by such-and-such believers, they are the Sister Harlot’s daughters, and you must come out of them as well. Come out of that confusion. Don’t lie down for that beast – that two horned beast that seeks to force you, to force your conscience in matters of religion, it’s an abomination. Historic Adventists have let the beast tell them what to do regarding their name, and their religion; they have bowed down, as if to worship, that two-horned beast being ridden by the General Conference Seventh-day Adventist church. But you are to be a virgin, free from the influence of the beast, free from the influence of the flesh. You are to trust in the Father and the Son, and prepare for the consummation of the wedding.

Matthew 19:8,9 – “He saith unto them, ‘Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so.’ And I say unto you, ‘Whosoever shall put away his wife, *except it be for fornication*, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery.’” Christ is not going to marry a harlot, and He’s not going to marry a divorced woman. He’s going to marry a virgin, one who is not defiled like the other women. He’s not going to marry the Mother of Harlots, He’s not going to marry the Daughter Harlots, He’s not going to marry the Sister Harlot, and He’s not going to marry the daughters of the Sister Harlot. He’s going to marry –

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Yahshua's Wife is going to be – the second Eve, the Body of Messiah, those that do the will of the Father.

Revelation 19:6-9: “And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, ‘Hallelu-Yah: for Yah the Almighty omnipotent reigneth! Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to Him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and His Wife hath made Herself ready! And to Her was granted that She should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.’ And he saith unto me, ‘Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb.’ And he saith unto me, ‘These are the true sayings of Yah.’ And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, ‘See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Yahshua: worship Yah: for the testimony of Yahshua is the spirit of prophecy.’”

And Revelation 22:17 to close: “And the Spirit and the Bride say, ‘Come.’” Come out of her, my people. “And let him that heareth say, ‘Come.’ And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.” Come, dearly beloved. Come to the Spring from which flows everlasting life, so that you might drink and never thirst again. Join the Bride that is preparing for Her Husband.



Shall we pray?

Father in Heaven we thank you so much for showing us the way home. Thank you for showing us the symbolism of marriage, and the sacred elements therein. Thank you that you have selected a pure Virgin, a Wife for your Son; and He will soon come to Her house and escort Her back home to the Father's house, for in His father's house are many mansions, and He said He would go to prepare a place. And He said if He would go to prepare a place, He would come again to receive Her unto Himself.

Thank you, Father, that you're not going to choose a Harlot or a Harlot Daughter, a Sister Harlot or the daughters of that Sister Harlot. No, you've chosen a pure virgin Woman, One who has the testimony of Yahshua: “We do always those things that please our Father.” And we thank you, Father, for hearing us, and blessing us with this Sabbath blessing. Dismiss us from this place with your love, and may all of your children come out of Babylon and join the Bride. In Yahshua's holy and precious name we pray. Amen.

{ 1 } See *Manuscript Releases, Volume Twenty-one*, by Ellen G. White, page 380, and Appendix C and the end of this book.

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### **A SURE COVENANT (Church Membership: Is It Important? Is It Biblical?)**

#### **Appendices: Internet Resources**

#### **Appendix A: The Things That Have Been Restored**

##### **Appendix A1: The Godhead**

The Sacred Names: <http://creationsda.org/binary/essays/ename.html>

The Trinity Doctrine: Studies on the Creation Seventh Day Adventist understanding of the Godhead from both the Scriptures and the early pioneers of Adventism may be found here:

<http://creationsda.org/binary/essays/etrinity.html>

and here:

<http://creationsda.org/binary/essays/ePioneer.html>

##### **Appendix A2: Tongues**

A Biblical study: <http://creationsda.org/binary/essays/etongues.html>

A historical study: <http://creationsda.org/binary/essays/etongues2.html>

##### **Appendix A3: The New Moon**

A study on the New Moon doctrine may be read here:

<http://creationsda.org/binary/essays/emoon.html>

##### **Appendix A4: The Victory**

Studies on the Gospel, the victory over sin, may be found here:

The Victory: <http://creationsda.org/binary/essays/evictory.html>

Ruth: <http://creationsda.org/binary/essays/eruth.html>

Creation vs. Evolution: <http://creationsda.org/binary/essays/ekrevevo.html>

The Two Pauls: <http://creationsda.org/binary/essays/erom.html>

Whirlwind and Scepter: <http://creationsda.org/binary/essays/ewhirl.html>

#### **Appendix B: The Books of War**

A continuing record of the Great Controversy:

The Emyrean War: <http://creationsda.org/binary/books/Gate1/Ewar.html>

The Antidiluvian War:

<http://creationsda.org/binary/books/Gate2/Awar.html>

The Shinaric War: <http://creationsda.org/binary/books/Gate3/Swar.html>

## **A Sure Covenant**

### **Appendix C: The Identity of The Sister Harlot**

The following studies provide information regarding the Sister Harlot:

The Mark and The Seal:

<http://www.creationsda.org/binary/essays/emark.html>

The 8th Note: <http://www.creationsda.org/binary/essays/enote.html>

The Five Towers: <http://www.creationsda.org/binary/essays/eTowers.html>

The Fate of Aholibah: <http://www.creationsda.org/binary/essays/efate.html>

Appearing To Fall:

<http://www.creationsda.org/binary/essays/eChurchfall.html>

### **Contact Information**

The Creation Seventh Day Adventist Church

1162 Old Highway 45 South

Guys, Tennessee 38339

Church Office: 1-888-284-2487

Website: <http://creationsda.org/>

Email: [admin@creation-7th-day-adventist-church.org](mailto:admin@creation-7th-day-adventist-church.org)