The Lesson of Passover & Unleavened Bread

Fred R. Coulter-March 29, 2025

I want to mention this booklet: *Prophecies of Jesus Christ in the Old Testament*. There are **356** *prophecies of Christ in the Old Testament!* That's amazing! And every one of those gives a proof that Jesus was the Christ. The whole thing concerning the Passover is this:

- What did Christ do for us?
- What do we do for Christ?

Now, everyone loves John 3:16! All the *pagan Christians* read this and they recite it and they give a lovely little prayer, and then you're ready to go to heaven. The one thing they forgot, they don't tell them how to get wings.

The other day, I was going through my library and I got a lot of books. I have so many that part of my library is in some shopping bags. So, I pulled out this book printed in 2010 by Viola and Barna.

Barna is the one who does statistics on Christians and the title of the book was *Pagan Christianity*. He's got a lot of things in there. However, when it comes to really doing what God wants. He's still pagan! That's amazing!

John 3:16: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, so that everyone who believes in Him **may** not perish, but **may** have everlasting life."

Now, the *King James* uses the word *shall*, which makes it more definite; but that is not the case, <u>may</u> is the proper translation because there are conditions to it.

Let's look at the very first condition that we find in Matt. 4. You know exactly where I'm going. You know exactly what I'm going to read. We will look at it and see what God wants us to do.

Now, the thing to understand is this: Jesus Christ was not just an ordinary man, *He was God manifested in the flesh!* He had to divest Himself of everything but just a small speck of what it means to be God. He could be *called the Son of God*, but He's also called *the Son of man!*

Now then, the greatest problem of all human beings from the Garden of Eden down to the end of time is Satan the devil! So, God, in showing His love, *He chose before the ages of time to have this plan that He would come as a human being,* born of the virgin Mary.

Job said, naked I came into the world, naked I'm going to go! How did Jesus come? Naked! A baby! Now, Mary had to be quite a woman in order to be selected for this purpose.

Jesus had to live a life like all of us and go through everything that we go through. Look at all of the pagan religions that there are:

- none of their gods came down to take on human nature
- none of them took on to defeat Satan the devil

They came and joined Satan!

To give you one great example: The great Temple of Angkor Wat that you've heard of that's in Cambodia. The biggest temple in the world. Highest towers of any religious temple on earth.

- they had quite a civilization
- they had lots of people
- they have rock carvings of everything that they do; all of the sexual promiscuity that they commit and so forth

However, God destroyed it, because they were worshipping Satan! Then he let the jungle of Cambodia and Laos cover it up with trees. It wasn't rediscovered until the 1860s. So, now they've cleaned it all out and:

- look at what they had
- look at what the Mayans had
- look at what the Egyptians had

And we can still look at the things that:

- the Greeks had
- the Romans had

Then you can go to China and look at the most satanic nation on earth, and look at what they had!

But not one of them did what the true God did for humanity, <u>because none of them understand the reason why we're here!</u>

Very few really take it to heart that we are made in the image and likeness of God. So, when Christ came, He grew up, and even at 12-years-old, when he stayed back at the temple, He was questioning the religious leaders and giving them answers. They were utterly amazed at His answers and His questions. Now why?

Isaiah 50:4: "...He awakens *Me* morning by morning, He awakens My ear to hear as one being taught."

So God the Father personally taught Jesus Christ every day, wakening Him up, teaching Him!

Verse 5: "The Lord GOD has opened My ear, and I was not rebellious..." He did everything!

Then all of a sudden in the next verse, it goes from his being an infant to where it says:

Verse 6: "I gave My back to the smiters, and My cheeks to them that plucked off the hair..."—
right to His crucifixion!

That's an amazing thing! So, let's come here to Matt. 4, because we're all confronted with the devil. We all have various degrees of being involved in him. Today with all of the media and all of the smart-phones and videos and everything like that. They even advertise on Hulu that they have 10,000 movies! *All fiction!* Maybe there's some depictions of true historical things, *but it's all fiction!* Look at the latest one by Walt Disney. *Nothing but Sodom and Gomorrah!* That's the new name of the Democrat Party: *Sodom and Gomorrah*:

- our god is the father of lies: Satan the devil
- we believe in perverting every child in public school, so that all of the perverts can have fresh flesh when they graduate

The most diabolical thing that has been since Sodom and Gomorrah!

This is the world that has been from the beginning of time. Yet, God has a plan to save and redeem it!

But He had to be confronted by Satan the devil. Job had his run-in with Satan, but not like Christ. We will see that Christ told us right from the beginning:

- What is it that God wants?
- What is it that God wants us to do?

Well, we demand the love of God to us, and that's what the pagan Christianity desires. *BUT*: Have you ever heard a real sermon given by a Protestant?

- How do we love God back?
- Is not love a two-way street?
- How is a marriage where you have the husband loves the wife, but the wife hates the husband, or vice-versa?

Well, that's exactly the relationship between pagan Christianity and God. They say:

- God, love us, but we hate Your Law
- God, we want you to intervene to bless us, but we're not willing to obey You
- God, we want Your love, but we're not going to love You back

Matthew 4:2: "And when He had fasted *for* forty days and forty nights, afterwards He was famished. And when the tempter came to Him..." (vs 2-3).

Remember this: Satan always comes with a benefit, and a benefit will look like a blessing, but it's not! If it looks good at first, you have to ask: What is it at its end? Because that's entirely different!

So the devil [the tempter] came and said: "...'If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread" (v 3).

We know this; we've read it many times. Jesus could have done that. Did Jesus take a few fish and a few loaves of bread and feed 5,000 and feed 7,000 and have leftovers? *Yes, He did!*

What would happen if He would have done that? *Because He could have!* He *could have* said,

Well, I'll show you, Satan, I'm not going to make just a couple loaves of bread. I'm going to make a wagon full of bread. How's that? *Just to show you Who I am!*

Now, that would be the carnal response, would it not? Yes, it would! Here is Jesus answer. "...It is written..." (v 4). Now, every pagan Christian, listen up!

- Do you think you can do away with the words of God?
- Do you think you can take what God has inspired and say:

We don't have to do it? That God of the Old Testament is a harsh God?

Well, that shows you never read the book of Deuteronomy! Read chapter 5 thru 10 and circle the number of times that God says, 'I love you and you love Me, and then it will go well with you.' <u>That's what God wants!</u> So, here in the New Testament, it is written, and now we have the New Testament.

Why did God give the Bible with so many words? *Today, no one likes details!* 'Give me my smart-phone and my summary. I know everything in the world.'

I'm afraid for the Churches of God and the people of God that the time is going to come *that these summaries*, you're going to learn, *are shallow!* They're true, but they're shallow. <u>So therefore</u>, you will be required to give your life to show that you mean it! That's where we are. Here's what He said.

"...<u>Man shall not live by bread alone</u>..." (v 4).

Everyone wants good food, nourishing food. We even have in the government a MAHA department: Make America Healthy Again. President Trump better quit drinking diet coke or his kidneys are going to go out on him.

But here's what Jesus said: "...<u>but by every</u> word that proceeds out of the mouth of God" (v 4).

Every word [in the Bible] that has been written down came out of the mouth of God!

You know, like the Jesus Seminar and other religious leaders in pagan Christianity say:

Well, the New Testament wasn't written until 200-300 years later and is all handed down *by tradition*. Therefore, we have the right to change and make anything we want to!

Wrong! It was written down!

Did Paul pass his letters on by verbal messenger? NO! He sent epistles written by him, at the time he was alive. Not fabrications of the minds of corrupt men 200-300 years later!

"...'It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God" (v 4).

Verse 5: "Then the devil took Him to the Holy city and set Him upon the edge of the temple, and said to Him, 'If You are the Son of God, cast Yourself down; **for it is written**, "He shall give His angels..."" (vs 5-6).

Satan loves to quote Scripture, but he won't quote all of it!

- Does Satan quote the Scripture that condemns him?
- Does Satan quote the Scripture that says he's going to be dwelling in the blackest darkness forever?

NO! He quotes it out of context to make you believe that what he is saying is true!

If God protects you from something, that's fine. How much did God protect Job? {as Eduardo brought out in his message *A Requirement to Hate in the Bible #1*} *Not very much!*

Because just like this right here, right here, every one of us have to come to a point that it's between you and God! Everyone's going to come to a point in their life, which is the real point of beginning conversion. Not that you weren't converted before, but of the kind of conversion that is necessary, that is pictured by the Feast of Passover and Unleavened Bread. That you come to the point that there is nothing but you and God! The only

words you can say are: 'O God, save my soul!' That's what it's all about!

Then the next benefit that Jesus was given is the opportunity to worship Satan with a promise of the whole world. *A benefit!*

Now we don't know what else was going on there, but it says this in:

Verse 10: "Then Jesus said to him, 'Be gone, Satan! For it is written..."

How powerful is the Word of God? It is powerful, it is living, it is spiritual, and the words that Christ spoke on the Passover are those Words of Life of the New Covenant that we will read every single word of that on the Passover night.

Jesus says this; here's the command: "You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him alone shall you serve" (v 10).

- no one else
- no other doctrine
- no other teaching
 - we'll look at what Jesus has done
 - we will look at what He wants of us
 - we will look at what we need to do

Jesus overcame Satan. He came back. We find in Luke 4 that Jesus knew exactly what He was to do. Now this also happened to be on a Day of Pentecost, the day of weeks.

Luke 4:14: "Then Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee; and word about Him went out into the entire country around. And He taught in their synagogues, *and* was glorified by all. And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and according to His custom, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath Day..." (vs 14-16).

Special note there shows it was the Day of the Weeks or Pentecost!

"...and [He] stood up to read" (v 16).

This tells us the whole purpose of Christ right here prophesied back in Isa. 60!

Verse 17: "And there was given Him *the* book of the prophet Isaiah; and when He had unrolled the scroll, He found the place where it was written, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me..." (vs 17-18). That has to be the Holy Spirit of God!

God does not give his Holy Spirit unless there is repentance and baptism. And we'll look at that in a little bit.

"...for this reason, <u>He has anointed Me</u>... [He's emphasizing 'ME' in the synagogue] ...to *the* poor; <u>He has sent Me</u> to heal those who are brokenhearted, to proclaim pardon to *the* captives and recovery of sight to *the* blind..." (v 18).

That includes not only those who may be in prison, but all of those captured by Satan the devil, all of those blinded by him!

Sidebar on blinding:

- there's the blinding that we automatically do when we reject the Word of God
- there's the blinding that takes place *because* of what people are taught
- there's the blinding that God brings upon them for rejecting his Word
- there's the blinding that Satan brings upon them *because they follow him*

So, there are varying degrees of blindness

"...to send forth in deliverance those who have been crushed, to proclaim *the* acceptable year of *the* Lord" (vs 18-19).

Now where is all of this going to go? Now let's come Matt. 5 and let's see that Jesus gave us the starting point and the finishing point and everything else in between is everything in the Bible that we need to do.

You can read about how Jesus expanded the keeping of the Laws of God into a spiritual way, a spiritual realm. So he says this:

Matthew 5:48: "Therefore, you shall be perfect..."

That's the whole object of what God is doing with every human being. The whole object of what happened to Job as Eduardo pointed out. *To be spiritually perfect!* This is a process, *and this process requires*:

- learning
- teaching
- overcoming
- repentance
- keeping the Laws of God
- living God's way
- thinking on His Word
- being guided by His Word
- having His Holy Spirit

All of those things are combined in the New Testament. It's not just one little part and now you're home free on the way to heaven.

Verse 48: "Therefore, you shall be perfect, even as your Father Who is in heaven is perfect."

That can only come when we actually are raised from the dead through the power of the

resurrection to become the sons and daughters of God.

Now then, let's see what Christ requires of us. We will see what God required of Him. But let's begin with what God required of Jesus.

Now let's look at just a couple of prophecies concerning the suffering of Christ.

When Christ came, He gave up being God. He gave up His glory. He took upon Him the likeness of human flesh, actually human flesh. And He took upon Him *the law of sin and death*, because He had to overcome sin.

Now remember this booklet: *Prophecies of Jesus Christ in the Old Testament!* All the Jews and Protestants who think that they know everything and Catholics just ought to admit they're pagans from day one. There's absolutely nothing Christian in a Catholic Church except a few 'do good' and 'be nice' things. *That's it!*

Isaiah 53:1: "Who has believed our report?...."

- How many people believe the Bible today?
- Believe it to live by it?

Not just accept a paragraph or a phrase out of it.

"...And to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed? For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground; He has no form nor comeliness that we should look upon Him, nor beauty that we should desire Him" (vs 1-2). He didn't come as:

- the greatest
- the strongest
- the most handsome
- the smartest

Verse 3: "He is despised..."

You read all through the Gospel, All the religious leaders who were supposed to know about God, all the religious leaders who had all the prophecies about the coming of the Messiah, they hated Him! Because He did not politically join them, they sought from day one to kill Him!

Verse 3: "He is despised and rejected of men; a Man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and we hid as it were our faces from Him..."

Oh no, He suffered so much and He was so disfigured more than the beatings of other men who are scourged. Now scourged is really quite a thing to go through.

"He was despised, and we esteemed Him not" (v 3).

Now look at it. Even on Fox News, all of this about the saints and all of that, that's pure Catholicism. They may have something there. What man could possibly portray Christ? I say, <u>no one!</u> So, they bring people to a point and they leave them there. God wants you to go all the way. It's not from the start to the middle. *It's from the start to the end!*

Why did He go through all that He went through?

Verse 4: "Surely He has borne our infirmities, and carried our sorrows; yet, we esteemed Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted."

That's what they did when He was hanging on the cross! Didn't the crowd come around there and the scribes and Pharisees and priests tell Him, 'If You be the Son of God, come down off here *and then* we will believe You!

Verse 5: "But He *was* wounded for our transgressions..." He had to take:

- every stripe
- every beating
- every hitting
- everything against him
- nails in His hand
- nails in His feet
- spear in His side

So that He would take our sins! Since He was God manifested in the flesh! His taking that on Himself would be the sacrifice for the sin of the whole world. But He couldn't sin, not once!

Verse 5: "But He was wounded for our transgressions; *He was* crushed for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we ourselves are healed."

- we have a *physical* healing
- we have a *mental* healing
- we have an *emotional* healing
- we have a *spiritual* healing

We have a new book on that—Healing From God: Physical, Mental, Emotional, Spiritual—and if you want it, you write for it. We'll send it to you.

Verse 6: "All we like sheep have gone astray..."

Remember that the next time you see sheep, they go in a herd. Do you know what they do to lead the sheep? They take a goat and put a bell around his neck.

Verse 6: "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned each one to his own way; and

the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all."

His sacrifice, which came on the Passover Day, and as I pointed out last week, that's for the sin of the whole world! That's why that day is an unleavened bread day, not counted with the seven days of Unleavened Bread, because that day is God's part!

Now you can read that in that one day, there were 28 prophecies fulfilled *in that one day!* You can read that in:

- A Harmony of the Gospels
- The Christian Passover
- The Day That Jesus the Christ Died

That's the sins of the whole world—past, present and future!

Verse 7: "He was oppressed, and He was afflicted; yet, He opened not His mouth. He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter; and as a sheep before its shearers is dumb, so He opened not His mouth."

- He didn't try to defend Himself
- He didn't curse His enemy

Verse 8: "By oppression and judgment He was taken away..."

Now, think of this. Look at the characters involved in the crucifixion day:

- 1. Judas Iscariot, Satan the devil, the betrayer
- 2. the religious leaders, which represented all the religions of the world
- 3. the Romans and Pilate represented the governments of all of this world
- 4. the soldiers represented all of the armament of men

That's why His sacrifice is for all!

"...and with His generation who did consider that He was cut off out of the land of the living; for the transgression of My people He was stricken" (v 8).

Now you talk about a completely one-sided, unfair judgment, conviction, and execution of Christ.

Verse 9: "And He made His grave with the wicked, and with the rich in His death; although He had done no violence, nor *was any* deceit in His mouth. Yet, the LORD willed..." (vs 9-10).

Now remember, every one of the prophecies about His crucifixion, Jesus—Who was the Lord God of the Old Testament—inspired it to be written! God wants it written down, because He doesn't want the fairy tales of men with their traditions and their lies and Satan's interference

with the Word of God. That happens because people don't believe.

Verse 10: "Yet, the LORD willed to crush Him and He has put Him to grief: You shall make His life an offering for sin. He shall see His seed; He shall prolong His days, and that the purpose of the LORD might prosper in His hand."

That is everything to fulfill the Plan of God. That's tremendous to understand. So, when we think:

- Why does God ask me to do this?
- Why does God ask me to do that?

Well, look at what He asked of Himself to do:

- to save you
- to intervene
- to give you His spirit
- to help you understand His Word

All of this is wrapped up in the Passover Day. The whole Bible, coming up to that Passover Day and going away from that Passover Day, comes right to that one day.

- then three days and three nights in the grave
- then the resurrection
- then the ascension to heaven as the First of the Firstfruits to be accepted by God so that <u>we</u> could be called and receive the Holy Spirit

That's an amazing thing!

Verse 11: "He shall see of the travail of His soul. He shall be fully satisfied. By His knowledge shall My righteous Servant justify many; and He shall bear their iniquities."

Right standing with God only comes through the sacrifice of Christ. And you cannot come living in sin because the hearers of the Law are not justified before God, but the doers of the Law!

So there must be the repentance and the doing of it. That's what God wants. That way then it breaks down all the carnality that you have and breaks down the barriers that are there because of Satan the devil:

- so you can have access to God
- so that God can love you
- so that you can love God

That's the whole thing; *God wants us to love Him!* That's it! We can't claim the love of God and then turn around and do as we please. It won't work.

Verse 12: "Therefore, I... [the Father] ...will divide to Him *a portion* with the great, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong... [those who are resurrected] ...because He has poured out

His soul to death; and He was counted among the transgressors; and He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for transgressors.

What was the first thing that Jesus said after He was nailed to the cross and lifted up? And He looked down and saw all of them staring up at Him; the soldier and the centurion were looking at Him.

There were the religious leaders out there that hated Him, that were happy to see Him crucified! They worked their whole last three years to get Him arrested and crucified to get rid of Him.

What did He say? *Father, forgive them, for they know not what they are doing!*

That's how important a Passover Day is. When we come to God and we ask for forgiveness:

- we understand what *He* did
- we understand the sacrifice that <u>He</u> brought
- we understand what we did

that He has carried our sins already!

Psa. 22 is quite a psalm. I don't know how David was able to give this Psa., but these are actually the words that Christ would speak while He was on the cross. Not all the words, but the majority of them. It starts out with what every human being wants to know.

- God, where are you?
- Why am I here all alone?

It's amazing!

Psalm 22:1: "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me, and why are You so far from helping Me, and from the words of My groaning?"

- think of all the pain
- think of all the agony
- think of all the shed blood
- think of everything that He went through

and He was there without anything on!

Verse 6: "But I am a worm, and no man..."

Isn't that something! We come to realize that what we are, though the potential is there to be the sons and daughters of God! We're no different than a worm, and it's gone!

"...a reproach of men and despised by the people. 'All who see Me mock Me; they shoot out the lip; they shake the head, saying, "He trusted on the LORD; let Him deliver Him; let Him rescue Him, since He delights in Him!"" (vs 6-8).

- Isn't that what they do?
- Isn't that what they did?
- Yes!

Verse 9: "For You are He who took Me out of the womb, causing Me to trust while on My mother's breasts. I was cast upon You from birth; You are My God from My mother's womb. **Be not far from Me; for trouble is near, for there is none to help**" (vs 9-11).

Think about that! Do you think your life is lonely? Well, Jesus' life was really lonely. Just between Him and God most of the time, and the disciples. Even when they said, 'Lord, we believe.' Jesus said to them, 'Do you really believe?' It's an amazing thing! This Passover Day is everything that we need; the whole world needs it!

Verse 12: "Many bulls have encircled around Me..."

Now think about this: This Passover Day there were the angels of God to make sure everything was done the way that it should have been done:

- there was from sundown to sundown
- there was Satan the devil cheering on the people
- there were the demons circling around the cross saying, 'We got Him! We got Him!'

They didn't believe that He could be resurrected! Can you imagine that? That's what was going on there!

Everything on that Passover Day was known by Christ, orchestrated by the angels, conflicted with the demons and Satan the devil, and all of those who were against Christ. *All in one great day for the sacrifice of God for the sins of the world!*

Verse 13: "They opened wide their mouths at Me, like a ravening and a roaring lion. I am poured out like water..." (vs 13-14). He had to shed all of his blood!

For everyone out there who's a Catholic, and every Catholic priest out there, all you pedophile men and homosexuals, when you go and you have that Sacrifice of the Mass and you claim that you have the power to cause the wine to turn into the blood of Christ and to bread into His flesh, *you are satanic liars of the greatest degree!*

No man has the power to command God! Furthermore, Christ is a resurrected spirit being, He has no more blood, no more flesh. You are offering to Satan the devil, and everyone who partakes of the Eucharist is eating the flesh of Satan the devil!

Verse 14: "I am poured out like water, and all My bones are out of joint; My heart is like wax; it is melted in the midst of My bowels. My strength is

dried up like a potsherd, and My tongue clings to My jaws; dogs have surrounded Me; a band of evildoers have encircled Me; they have pierced My hands and My feet; and You have brought Me into the dust of death" (vs 14-16).

Verse 17: "I can count all My bones; they look and gloat over Me. They divide My garments among them and cast lots upon My vesture. But You, O LORD, be not far from Me; O My strength, hasten to help Me! Deliver My soul from the sword, My precious *life* from the power of the dog. Save Me from the lion's mouth..." (vs 17-21).

And who's the lion going around trying to devour? *None other than Satan the devil!*

"...yea, and from the wild ox's horns. You have answered Me.... [then it goes right into when He was resurrected] ... I will declare Your name to My brethren; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You" (vs 21-22).

Just a couple of prophecies of what the crucifixion was like.

We need to understand that so when we come to trials, and we come to difficulties, and we come to things where we are down to the very last nubbins, we turn to God:

- God will help us!
- God will hear us!
- God will answer us!

Because He wants us to accomplish what He desires!

Psa. 57—let's see what this is going to be. This is an amazing Psa. This answers a lot of things concerning our lives and our relationship to God.

Psalm 57:1: "Be gracious unto me, O God..."

That's the whole lesson of Job. Job came because 'he so good'! We come because we need mercy and forgiveness!

Verse 1: "Be gracious unto me, O God, be gracious unto me; for my soul trusts in You; yea, in the shadow of Your wings I will make my refuge until these great troubles pass by." *Every trial you have will come to an end!*

Verse 2: "I will cry to God Most High, to God Who fulfills His purpose for me."

Remember this: <u>Every day God is fulfilling</u> <u>His purpose for you!</u>

- that's why we study and go over the Scriptures again and again
- that's why we have the Sabbath

 that's why we have the Passover and the Holy Days

Because God wants us to be His children! That's what God wants. He hasn't called the mighty; He hasn't called the educated. No! Wherever the people of God are, look at us. We're the weak! And now most of us, a lot of us, are old. I don't know what it is in Pennsylvania, but we've got more in their 90s in the Church in Pennsylvania than any place else. And there's one man down in Florida, Peter Fairbanks. I think he's 97 or 98. I ask him to quit growing old. I need to catch up with him.

He will fulfill His purpose for you! God called you with a specific purpose in mind. He will do it. Living in this world, we're going to have trouble. That's just the way that it is, because it's Satan's world! Once in a while, it gets really nice. But Satan comes around and tips it upside down:

- evil becomes good and good becomes evil
- hate becomes love and love becomes hate

And that's where we are!

Verse 3: "He shall send from heaven and save me..."

How do you think you're going to be resurrected from the dead? *God will do it!*.

"...He rebukes him who would swallow me up. Selah. God shall send forth His mercy and His Truth" (v 3).

That's what is to be conveyed every Sabbath, every study, everything that we do:

- His mercy
- His truth
- His love
- His righteousness
- His goodness

Verse 4: "My soul is among lions; I lie among those who breathe out fire, the sons of men whose teeth are spears and arrows, and their tongue a sharp sword." *Another one of the prophecies of Christ!*

Verse 5: "Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let Your glory be above all the earth."

That's going to be something, isn't it? What's it going to be like to be resurrected and on the Sea of Glass and all that's going to be there? We'll talk about that as we go out from the days of Unleavened Bread. It's going to be a mighty and a tremendous thing!

Verse 7—here's the key. Here's what it is. Here is what God wants and why we have baptism and why we have the sacrifice of Christ.

Verse 7: My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed..."

Now, He says that in two other places, as well.

- How's your heart?
- Is it fixed for God?

Here's our attitude toward Christ, toward God. This is what God loves:

Psalm 42:1: "As the hart pants after the water brooks, so my soul pants after You, O God" With God's Spirit, you're constantly being filled, constantly receiving!

Verse 2: "My soul thirsts for God, for the living God; when shall I come and appear before God?" At the resurrection!

Let's see what God has done with the sacrifice of Christ and what it is with us. Because when we have the Passover, we also renew the New Covenant, and we renew our baptism. Not that we need to be baptized again, but we reaffirm our dedication of the baptism through the sacrifice of Christ, because we are to eat His bread and drink His blood.

Rom 6—we've gone over this, but let's look at it again, because this is so important.

Romans 6:1: "What then shall we say? Shall we continue in sin so that grace may abound? MAY IT NEVER BE! We who died to sin..." (vs 1-2).

<u>That's it!</u> When you are baptized, <u>it's a symbolic death</u>, but we have to overcome, so we are raised from out of the water there.

"...We who died to sin, how shall we live any longer therein? Or are you ignorant that we, as many as were baptized into Christ Jesus, were baptized into His death?" (vs 2-3).

All that we read and all of the other things pertaining to what happened on that Passover Day are all involved of us being baptized *into*, becoming a part of His death.

Verse 4: "Therefore, we were buried with Him through the baptism into **the death...** [Christ's death] ...so that, just as Christ was raised from *the* dead by the glory of the Father, in the same way, we also should walk in newness of life." *That newness of life is*:

- the love of God
- the Truth of God

• the Commandments of God

everything of God, newness of life!

Verse 5: "For if we have been **conjoined** together in the likeness of His death..."—conjoined!

I look at it this way, spiritually speaking, *God places us right on the body of Christ!* Think of it that way. *Conjoined to his death!*

"...so also shall we be in the likeness of His resurrection. Knowing this, that our old man was co-crucified with Him..." (vs 4-5).

His death represented the death of everyone who repents and accepts the sacrifice of Christ—
<u>conjoined!</u> Think of it! <u>How close should we be to</u>
God?

"...in order that the body of sin might be destroyed... [that's a lifelong process of overcoming] ...so that we might no longer be enslaved to sin; because the one who has died *to sin* has been justified from sin. Now, if we died together with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him" (vs 6-8)—raised from the dead!

Let's see what God wants us to do; how God wants us to live our lives in this world! Always have the promise of God right here in front of us.

Now, when you read the 1st & 2nd-Corinthians, I remember one minister said one time:

I don't understand why we have the books of 1st & 2nd-Corinthians, because we're not doing any of those things.

But what happened? We ended up doing every one of them! So you can't trust on your righteousness in any minute that it's going to be good.

2-Corinthians 6:11: "O *you* Corinthians! Our mouths have been opened to you, and our hearts have been enlarged *toward you*. You are not suppressed by us, **but you are restricted in your own hearts**" (vs 11-12). *Perfect description of Job!*

What does that mean? You're not loving God with all your heart, mind, soul, and strength!

Verse 13: "Now in return for our ministry to you (I am speaking to you as to children), you should also enlarge your hearts toward us."

Then Paul tells them what to do, what to avoid, both!

Verse 14: "Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and lawlessness *have* in common? And what fellowship *does* light *have* with darkness?"

Now, that's the problem with pagan Christianity, is it not? On the 20th of April, the Protestants, the Catholics and the Orthodox—Russian and Greek—are all going to celebrate Easter! **Darkness!**

Verse 15: "What union does Christ have with Belial? What part does the believer have with an unbeliever? And what agreement is there between a Temple of God and idols? For you are a Temple of the living God, exactly as God said: 'I will dwell in them..." (vs 15-16).

That's what God wants. That's the whole purpose of it. We'll go through that when we go through the Passover.

"...'I will dwell in them and walk in *them*; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people" (v 16). *How do we have it that God walks in us?*

1 John 2—This will tell us that is what God wants. How many times have we read these verses? But you know, every time we learn more out of it, and we get more feeling of it as we do.

1-John 2:3: "And by this *standard* we know that we know Him: IF we keep His Commandments. The one who says, 'I know Him' and does not keep His Commandments, is a liar, and the Truth is not in him" (vs 3-4).

So, all Protestants and all Catholics read those two verses, and this describes the difference between true Christians and you! You have nothing to do with Christ!

Verse 5: "On the other hand... [here's how Christ and God are in us to carry out what they want]: ... IF anyone **is keeping** His Word... [present tense, active] ... truly in this one the love of God is being perfected"

That goes right back to what we covered there in:

Matthew 5:48: "Therefore, you shall be perfect, even as your Father Who *is* in heaven is perfect." *Of course, that will be finalized at the resurrection!*

1-John 2:5: "...By this *means* we know that we are in Him.... [He really puts the emphasis on it here]: ...Anyone who claims to dwell in Him is obligating himself... [you have taken that obligation upon you] ...also to walk... [in the way of God] ...Even as He Himself walked" (vs 5-6).

You walk as Christ walked! That's what it means right here, that [we are] the Temple of God and God is living in us.

2-Corinthians 6:16: "..." will dwell in

them and walk in *them*; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.... [that's what it's all about] ... Therefore, come out from the midst of them and be separate,' says *the* Lord, 'and touch not *the* unclean, and I will receive you; and <u>I shall be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters</u>,' says *the* Lord Almighty" (vs 16-18) *That's what God wants!*

2-Corinthians 7:1: "Now then, beloved, since we have these promises, we should purge ourselves from every defilement of the flesh and the spirit, perfecting Holiness in the fear of God."

That's the whole lesson of the Passover and Days of Unleavened Bread!

Scriptural References:

- 1) John 3:16
- 2) Isaiah 50:4-6
- 3) Matthew 4:2-6, 10
- 4) Luke 4:14-19
- 5) Matthew 5:48
- 6) Isaiah 53:1-12
- 7) Psalm 22:1, 6-22
- 8) Psalm 57:1-5, 7
- 9) Psalm 42:1-2
- 9) FSaiiii 42.1-2
- 10) Romans 6:1-8
- 11) 2-Corinthians 6:11-16
- 12) 1-John 2:3-5
- 13) Matthew 5:48
- 14) 1-John 2:5-6
- 15) 2-Corinthians 6:16-18
- 16) 2-Corinthians 7:1

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Deuteronomy 5:10
- Isaiah 60

Also referenced:

Booklets: {truthofGod.org}

- Prophecies of Jesus Christ in the Old Testament
- Healing From God: Physical, Mental, Emotional and Spiritual

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- A Harmony of the Gospels
- The Christian Passover
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