

(Note: The following e-mail study-commentary by C J McKnight on the subject of **THE SON OF MAN** covers the time it was begun about the first part of September 8, 2008 to November 29, 2008.)

## THE SON OF MAN. 1

WHO IS THIS SON OF MAN? Jesus standing in the midst of a crowd which seemed to be questioning the validity of His claims in relationship to the one who would be the Christ of God. It is interesting to note that the crowd spoke up. They were unified in their approach to Him. John 12:34 Jesus had given them a word of prophecy and glimpse into the future by indicating the kind of death He would die. John 12:32-33

Jesus was the only one to use this title of Himself. It was a title which connected Him with mankind. He is quoted as using the title some 32 times in the Gospel of Matthew. Mark gives 14. Luke 25 and John 12. Mistakenly, the people of that day anticipated Christ coming and establishing an earthly kingdom. The same mistake is being made by some today. Jesus said; "My kingdom is not of this world." John 18:36 Now this man who called Himself the Son of Man, had come saying that He was the Christ but would be crucified. They well understood His words and their intent when He said that He would be lifted up. They had not been taught that Christ would die for the people. In declaring their expectation of the Messiah they proclaimed that the Law taught that He would live forever. John 12:34 And indeed He would, and is alive forever more. Rev. 1:18

He is Deity. As Deity, He is God. He is first the Son of His Father and then He is the Son of Man. Conceived of the Lord, His Father, through the act of the Holy Spirit, conceived and birthed by a virgin named Mary. The prophecy given to Mary was that she would be covered by a shadow made by the Spirit of the Lord. The same Greek word is used in relationship to the bright, scintillating, glowing cloud of glory manifest at the time of transfiguration of the Lord Jesus. Mt. 17:5 The same shekinah glory which was manifest between the cherubim and the mercy seat was seen in the Lord Jesus and was that which came upon Mary.

The Word declares that God appeared in flesh. 1 Tim. 3:16 While the Father and the Son are not the same individual, the affinity is so intimate that it is called a mystery. Because of the liaison in the Godhead, God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself. 2 Cor. 5:19 Jesus had the right

and privilege to declare His position with His Father when He said that He and the Father were one, unified in every possible manner. (See) John 10:30 to illustrate that unity.

## SON OF MAN. 2

John, the beloved spoke of the Lord Jesus as being in the bosom of the Father. John 1:18 The emphasis must be on the fact that He was in, not reclining on, (as was John - John 13:23) the bosom or the chest area. That would place Him in the very heart, the center of the affection of the Father which in all reality is exactly where He was. The affinity, the kinship existing between the Father and the Son can only be understood by placing Jesus in the heart of the Father. It was complete, absolute, the fullness of that agape love which is love as only the Lord can love. The Amplified Version is as follows; "But the only one, Himself God, the nearest to the Father's heart, has made Him known." John 1:18 Thus, the existence of the Father and the Son as individuals is emphasized. Yet, the position of the Lord Jesus is shown as being God and the closest to the Father's heart. In other words, in The Father's bosom. An integral part of all that constitutes the true and living God.

Thomas, the doubter will always be remembered for His attitude and the total human reaction which he demonstrated. But, when he saw Jesus, he immediately acknowledged Him as his Lord and his God. John 20:28 This leaves no doubt in our minds but what the early church fully recognized the Lord Jesus as God. And why not? Jesus had taught them well. When He said; "I and the Father are one," they accepted and unequivocally believed it. John 10:30 Jesus was not saying that He was both the Father and the Son, but He was emphasizing the fact of the complete, the all inclusive unity which exists in the Godhead. Regardless of whom we speak, the Father, the Son or the Spirit the essence is the same. They are one in nature, in being, in works and in all intents and purposes. There never has been nor will there ever be a split decision made by them. Absolute harmony is the very heart and core of their existence.

The scriptures very adeptly reveal to us the Godhood of the Lord Jesus. He is acknowledged as being God. They do the same for the Father. Paul wrote of but one God, the Father. All things originating from Him (as the

Father), and by virtue of new birth we are likewise in His bosom. We are to be made one with Him. Also one Lord Jesus Christ by whom all things have their creation and existence and we are in the Father by Him 1 Cor. 8:6

The unifying factor which brings human kind into a relationship with either the Father or the Son is the Spirit of God. Inasmuch as He is the Spirit of God, He too then must be God, and He is. He is also called the Spirit of Christ. Rom. 8:9

### SON OF MAN. 3

When researching the Godhead we are dealing with what Paul called a mystery. 1 Tim. 3:16 A mystery creates a challenge. It calls for a solution. The resolving of the mystery of godliness, that which is holy and eternal is to be solved through the scriptures. In this case, godliness is made to be a person. The one of whom it is stated as His being "God in the flesh," or in human form. Furthermore he declared that "God was in Christ." The Lord Jesus is the Christ, the anointed one. His work is that of reconciling the world unto the Lord. 2 Cor. 5:19 His is the only physical body of God.

Jesus was entitled to bear the privilege to be designated as God, for He is indeed. Jesus, having been conceived by the Father would naturally bear the likeness and image of His Father. Thus we see Him, "in the form of God." That is, bearing the exact likeness of His Father in every aspect. The nature, the character, the being of the Father being revealed to the world through Him. He removes nothing from the Father as the Son of Man, but rather adds to our comprehension of the true God. For He is proclaimed to be equal with His Father. Phil. 2:6

The prophet Isaiah made known the coming of one who would be born of a virgin and be named Immanuel, which means God is with us. Isa.7:14 As a matter of fact, when John the Baptist, baptized Him in Jordan, the voice of an extremely proud Father has heard announcing that this person is His beloved Son, in whom He is well pleased. Mt. 3:17 The Father, in order to affirm His strong emotions toward His Son appeared in a cloud on the mount of transfiguration and once again stated that this was His son in whom He was well pleased. Then added an admonition that is still in effect today, "hear Him." Mark 9:7

The Lord in the beginning, in the creation of man, made a tripartite being. One man named Adam, whom He created in the image and likeness of the Lord Himself. When He voiced His purpose, He used the personal pronouns, let US, make man in OUR image and in OUR likeness. Gen. 1:26 The product of His creation is a tri-unity. That is, man who is body, soul and spirit. Remove any one of the rudimental elements which compose a human being and they no longer exist as a person. So, having been created in the image and likeness of the Lord, we are the closest type of the Triune God who is so beautifully and wonderfully revealed in the Word of the Lord.

#### **No. 4 missing**

#### THE SON OF MAN. 5

“I and my Father are one.” John 10:30 A bold statement of truth which Jesus knew would bring a strong reaction from those who opposed Him. It is an expression of Divine unity. The difference between the Father and the Son is expressed in the personal pronoun “I” in contrast to the Father. Perhaps if we would remember that God is a Spirit, and not a physical, natural being such as we are, the being of God could be better understood. John 4:24 This does not place Him in a category where He is a mere spirit, and is not an entity, He is very definitely, of essential nature. The heavenly or the spiritual is that which is reality, for it is eternal, everlasting. We are temporal, transitory and all die.

The Spirit of the Father, who is the Father, was very much present and alive in the Lord Jesus. Therefore He could say, I and my Father are one. He positively emphasized both the difference and the unity or harmony. His statement was, “The Father dwells in me.” John 14:10 A perfect, unadulterated accord and binding together. Such an affinity exists between the Father and the Son that the words and the works of the Son originated with the Father. The Lord Jesus, as the Son of Man, was in absolute submission to the Father. Always doing the will of the Father. Each entity maintaining their own identity, yet fully blending together in perfect concord. “I am in the Father and the Father is in me.” John 14:11

It was Philip who having heard from Jesus about the Father asked for Jesus to show them the Father. Jesus responded with a question. How can it be that I have been so long a time with you and you ask to see the Father. "He that hath seen me has seen the Father." John 14:9 He is not identifying Himself as the Father but is emphasizing the truth that He is the likeness, the image of the Father. For it is the Lord Jesus who is the precise likeness of the Father. He is the image, the likeness, the revelation of the invisible. Col. 1:15

As the perfect, the exact image of His father it is fitting that He be filled with the glory of His Father. The brightness, the shining forth, the effulgence of the one who is light. Jesus is the vessel, the receptacle in whom all the fullness of the Godhead is pleased to reside. The presence, the assurance of the existence of the Father and the Holy Spirit is to be found in Him. He is the visibility of the glory of the Lord which was resident in the most holy place. Over the mercy seat and between the cherubim. Heb. 1:3

## THE SON OF MAN. 6

The ark of the covenant and its accompanying cap, or mercy seat symbolize in a beautiful manner the Godhead. The Lord consistently made manifest His being in all that He accomplished. It was here that the glorious presence of the Lord would appear, between the cherubim and over the mercy seat, as the high priest would make atonement on the Day of Atonement. The Ark was a box made of Acacia wood. It is described as a gnarled, thorny, hardwood tree with a hard grain. Its description immediately makes one think of the sufferings of the Lord Jesus and His subsequent crucifixion. This wooden chest was then covered with gold, inside and outside. Immediately we see one box with three layers. The middle segment of wood typifying the crucified Christ. The inside gold, the unseen Father. The gold covering on the outside representing the Holy Spirit who is our means of contact with the Lord. Ex. 25:10-11 Three sections, yet but one Ark. The golden crown is indicative of the eternal King.

The Bible gives us various names in reference to the ark. As the Ark of the Covenant it represented the purpose of the Lord to fulfill His redemptive work among His people. It was the assurance of His presence among His

people. It led their way into the promised land by stopping the waters of Jordan so they could pass over. The Lord did not take them into the land during the dry season but waited until Jordan was flooding. Thus enhancing the miracle of the stopping of the waters. Josh. 3:6-17 Note also that the bottom of the river immediately became dry ground.

It is again called the Ark of the Covenant by the writer of the book of Hebrews. Heb. 9:3-5 The Ark was located in the third space of the tabernacle which consisted of, The outer court, the Holy place and the most Holy. Here we are confronted with another type of the Godhead. The tables of the Law, the golden pot of manna and Aarons miraculous budding rod. These were within the Ark, all in one place, yet three items. The tables of the Covenant signify the Father. The golden pot of manna, that One who is the Word made flesh, the Lord Jesus Christ. And Aaron's rod which blossomed, budded and bore fruit all in one night, the Holy Spirit, the fruitful one. All three of these articles are vastly different and were for various purposes, yet stored in one place, the ark. There they were accounted to be as a witness and testimony of who and what the Lord is to His people.

## THE SON OF MAN. 7

What must have been the most beautiful article to be found in the tabernacle was the mercy seat, if not in appearance, then most certainly in purpose. It was situated in the most Holy place and was a cap or covering for the Ark of the Covenant. Both of which were indicative of redemption by blood. Ex. 25:21 It covered the Ark and it's contents. Even as the sprinkling of blood on the mercy seat by the high priest on the Day of Atonement wrought atonement for all Israel, so the blood of Christ, who is our mercy seat covers and atones for our sins. Heb. 12:24

It was one solid piece of gold which was molded by the workman's tools into three items, yet remained one piece. Ex. 25:18 The fact that it was beaten into shape speaks to us of the sufferings of the Lord in providing a means of salvation, by blood, for mankind. The ultimate product featured a cherub on either end facing each other and looking down on the mercy seat. Their wings were to be spread out and over the mercy seat. Ex.25:18 While it was worked into three different objects it remained one piece. A perfect type of the Godhead. Father, Son the mercy seat and Holy Spirit.

Ruth found refuge and rest under the wings of the LORD God of Israel. By virtue of the covering, the abiding presence of the Lord symbolized by wings she entered into the redemption found in Israel. Ruth 2:12 To be cared for, hidden under the shadow of His wings was to be made secure in the might and glory of His presence. Ps. 17:8 In the immediate heart of His presence, that is between the cherubim and the mercy seat there is a place of absolute tranquility and peace. Therefore we learn to seek that holy and sacred covering of His Almighty presence.

This was the meeting place of the Lord with Moses and the high priest Aaron. Ex. 25:22 Access was not available at any time when it might meet their fancy. Lev. 16:2 They were limited to one day of the year which was the great Day of Atonement. Then they could only enter in having gone through a through process of cleansing beginning with the brazen altar and the brazen laver. This was a time of entering into the awesome presence of the living Lord and they must be thoroughly cleansed and sanctified. It was here that the glory of the Lord was revealed, above the mercy seat and between the Cherubim. To preserve the life of the high priest the Lord appeared in a cloud, veiled, lest the priest be slain by the glory of His presence.

## THE SON OF MAN. 8

The pre-existence of the Lord Jesus is revealed in the Word of the Lord. In His prayer, He looked forward to the time when He would once again be clothed, covered, enveloped with the glory of the Father. The majestic personality of His Father had been His for the eternity past. His anticipation is high as He looked beyond the cross and the grave into that moment of time when that glorious union would once again be complete. John 17:5 When He came into this world to become the savior of the world it was necessary that He assume an exceedingly inferior role. He humbled Himself and became obedient to the process of the life of mankind, born to die. Immortality was laid aside and He took upon Himself the nature of the mortal. He stepped out of life eternal into certain death. Phil. 2:8

An act of betrayal brought an introduction to the glory of the crucified Lamb of God. Our emphasis should always be on the one who was crucified and

not on the instrument of His crucifixion. The cross was but a tree and had no more value than its price as a source of wood for what ever purpose. The value of the One crucified cannot be evaluated, so tremendous is the price of His work of redemption. Judas stepped out into the night, into gross darkness, because of the plot he had made with the authorities of that day to deliver the Lord Jesus to them. John 13:30 But to Jesus, it was the beginning of the end of the plan of the Lord to redeem mankind. Jesus was about to be glorified by means of death, burial, resurrection and ascension to the throne of the Lord, where He would become the everlasting Mercy seat. In just a few days He would be exalted and glorified with the glory of His Father once again. John 13:31-32

The hour had come where the Lord Jesus was to complete His mission on earth. He is earnestly seeking to be glorified of the Father. In so doing, He reminded the Father that in the glorification of Christ, the Father would also be glorified. John 17:1 In His ministry Jesus revealed the Father to those who would hear. In this manner He had glorified the Father by proclamation. Also, He had demonstrated the good works of the Father by healing the sick and even raising from the dead. He had likewise exalted the Father through His obedience and complete submission to the will of the Father. John 17:4 He was the perfect Son, faultless in His life. Living in absolute victory over every act of disobedience and sin. He established a prime example for all who would serve the Lord and walk according to His will. It can be done and it will be accomplished by a perfect church. Eph. 5:27

## THE SON OF MAN. 9

The Lord Jesus Christ is the true mercy-seat. There is no other source of redemption prepared for the redemption of mankind. He is at one time the place where salvation is accomplished and the sacrifice which is offered. He is seen as the one in the midst, the center, the heart of the throne of the Lord. Everything in the heavenlies resolves around Him. The witness and testimony of His sacrifice and death will eternally be witnessed as a part of the throne or the mercy seat of the Lord. Rev. 5:6

The blood of God was that which flowed through the veins of the Lord Jesus. The blood of a child originates from the father. The LORD, the

Father is Spirit and as such does not have nor need blood for life. John 4:24 The life of the flesh is in the blood. Lev. 17:11 Blood is the only price which may be paid to redeem mankind from their sin. And the only blood acceptable to the Father is the blood of His only Son, the Lord Jesus. Under the law offerings were multitudinous. With Christ, it is a once for all, eternal offering. Heb. 10:12 His blood was unique in that it was uncontaminated by sin or sickness. The value of His blood cannot be reckoned. There is absolutely nothing of earthly worth which may be accumulated to even begin to equal the price paid for the redemption of mankind. Its preciousness is beyond the ability of mankind to comprehend.

He is our propitiation, the mercy-seat. He is the covering of the ark. He is the only offering which may meet the true standard of purity and righteousness demanded by God. Rom. 3:25 Those who firmly believe in the efficaciousness of His blood are the redeemed. All which is of faith has its beginnings, its roots through faith in the blood of Christ. Without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins. Heb. 9:22 Blood offerings made under the Law required constant repetition. The sinless blood of Jesus accomplished salvation for all, both those under Law and those under grace. All the offerings under the Law were but a shadow, a type of the one and only, the true sacrifice made by the Lord Jesus. They looked forward while we look back to Calvary. Heb. 10:14

The voice of the Lord was heard by those who ministered in the Most Holy Place. It was their place of communication. Ex. 25:22 Now through the blood of the new covenant we hear and know His voice. We may have constant and continuous communication with Him. Heb. 12:24 What a privileged people we are.

## SON OF MAN. 10

Moses, in his prayer, knowingly or unknowingly, proclaimed the eternal existence of the Son of Man, the Lord Jesus. The creator, eternal and everlasting, God. Ps. 90:2 All of that which exists today was spoken into existence and was brought forth by Him. From that which is heavenly to that which is ruling on the earth. All is the work of His hands. Col. 1:16 The more scientist do research into the origin of man and the universe, the more they prove the Word to be true. Lengthy DNA research has proven

that all races of human kind proceed from one woman. Of course, the one whom the Lord created, Eve. He created all things and aside from Him there was nothing created. John 1:3

The Lord Jesus is acknowledged as the Lamb of God and for all intents and purposes was slain as that sacrificial Lamb from the very beginning. Neither He nor His Father deviated one iota from their pre-creation plan of redemption by blood. Rev. 13:8 Inasmuch as He was the slain Lamb from the beginning, then He must have laid aside the glory of the Father at the same time. It was that which he prayed for and anticipated receiving once again from His Father. John 17:5 The tremendous sacrifices He made are staggering, their importance and value is beyond human comprehension.

He is the source of life eternal and natural. There is a vacuum in the spirit, the inner being of every man which cannot be satisfied outside of a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus. He has placed "eternity in their hearts." Eccl. 3:11 NKJV Paul stated that; "in Him we live move and have our being." Acts 17:28 Were it not for the Lord Jesus there would be a sum total of nothing living anywhere in the universe. While He worked with His Father and was in absolute submission to Him, Jesus at the same time, independently from the Father, made manifest the powers of the Father. He possessed authority over death and raised the dead with full and absolute freedom. John 5:21 As the Father was the source of all life so He had given to the Son to have that same life in Himself. John 5:25 As a seal to His possessing eternal life and then power of resurrection He declared that before Abraham came to life He already existed. This statement really disturbed the religious leaders of that day until they were ready to stone Him for blasphemy. John 8:58 In saying, I am. He confirmed His eternal existence. As the Word, He always has been, now, as the Word made flesh He always will be. Pre-existent, self-existent and most definitely one who will always exist. Jesus is eternal, everlasting, living for ever.

SON OF MAN. 11

The scriptures plainly show that behind the intricacies of all that has been created there has to be a Divine intelligence. In the beginning God. Gen. 1:1 From the macrocosm to the microcosm, everything has its order and continues to function as it was designed. If all that exists came from gases,

or a big bang, where did the gases come from or what went bang? Among the multitude of modern day conveniences from the airplane to the zipper, where is there something that just happened? All have been created by individuals who had an idea and followed through. The vessel, the channel through whom the creation of all things was wrought was the Lord Jesus, who at that time, in the Spirit, was the Word. John 1:1

Not only was the Word the companion of God, but He is God. John 1:1 Totally, completely, fully, absolutely God. Coequal with the Father and the Spirit. "Who, being in very nature God." Phil. 2:6 NIV That Spiritual being, who bore the name Word, became a man that through the Word the Lord God might be known to mankind. He was manifest to the world and at the same time was introducing them to the Father and promised to send them a very special Comforter, the Holy Spirit. John 15:26 He is the architect, the designer, the originator of all of creation. Nothing was brought into existence without His involvement. John 1:3

How deep is His involvement in creation? Paul said ALL things. That covers the heavens and the earth, both and all that is within them is because of Him. The seen and the unseen are the work of His hands. All political powers are in force, because they are going to do what He wants, that His ultimate goal might be achieved. Col. 1:17 He supersedes all and is before all things. Furthermore, the order of the universe, the way of life on earth are all maintained in their proper sequence by Him. He is that force, the power, which causes the universe to continue its trajectory. They consist or adhere together, each in its place and purpose. In the universe, in heaven and on earth all remain in their proper consistency through Him.

All things which form the universe and its contents, time and eternity proceeded from Him. He is the source of all that is material and Spiritual. He is the means, the way through whom and by whom all was brought forth into being. They all relate to Him and to His everlasting joy and pleasure. Eternal glory will be to the Lord Jesus because of His tremendous sacrifice in providing salvation for the whosoever will. Rom. 11:36

## SON OF MAN. 12

Who is this Son of man? John 12:34 In response to that question the scriptures reveal Him as being one who wears many crowns. Rev. 19:12 Isaiah, under the inspiration of the prophetic Spirit of the Lord declared Him to be the Prince of Peace, among other things. He is the Divine ruler. Jesus is the King of all kings. Isa. 9:6 Jesus is the source of all peace for those who place their trust in Him. He is our peace. Real peace is never known until Christ Jesus becomes the one who brings tranquility to the human heart. Eph. 2:14 He did not promise a life without trials and difficulties but He did promise peace regardless of the circumstances. John 16:33 It may take awhile to walk our way into His peace but the end is assured. He will guide us in the way of peace. Luke 1:79

A most intriguing character is to be found in one named Melchisedec. He is acclaimed to be the king of Salem or the king of peace, as well as the king of righteousness. Just that in itself should be thoroughly convincing that we are looking at a theophany of the Lord Jesus. The Lord appeared in human form to Abraham. His office was that of a King/Priest. Not just any king but the King of Peace. Not just any priest but one who worshipped and honored the Most High, the Supreme Lord of heaven and earth. Gen. 14:18 Jesus as the author of peace promised that He would leave peace, the type of peace which was His possession. John 14:27 Righteousness and peace are among the perfect conditions which are found in the kingdom of God. Rom. 14:17

This Melchizedek was of sufficient importance for His particular calling to be made into an order, or a rank which was to be continued. However, Jesus alone is recorded as having been chosen to continue the priestly duties of Melchizedek. He was appointed to maintain that all important ministry. Heb. 5:6 The resurrected Christ is the single person capable of representing mankind before the throne of the Lord. He alone is the intercessor for all who call upon His name. Heb. 7:25 Only Melchizedek and Christ are capable to meet the divine requirements, therefore they are one and the same. Jesus has entered into the Most Holy as the only High Priest who can fulfill the order of Melchizedek. Heb. 6:20 The man, Christ Jesus is the one and only mediator between the Lord and mankind. 1 Tim. 2:5 He alone, has entered in to the Most Holy place, with His own blood,

that is, into heaven itself which is the eternal kingdom of the Lord and the place of His throne. Heb. 9:12

### SON OF MAN. 13

In addressing the Great High Priest, the Father, who is LORD or Jehovah declared that the Lord, Adown or the Master, the one in control, had the right and privilege of being located at the right hand of the Father. Ps. 110:1 There to wait for the time when the process of overcoming all of His enemies should be completed. That Melchizedek was more than an angel is found in the words of the Hebrew scholar when he stated that no angel had ever heard such a command to take up the position at the right hand of the LORD. Heb. 1:13 Who else could Melchizedek possibly be but Deity, that is an appearance of the Word, the Logos, the eternal state and name of the One whom the Father by means of the angel of the Lord, named Jesus. Luke 1:31 Then to show His extreme pleasure at the work of redemption which He accomplished, the Father made this same Jesus, both Lord and Christ. Granting Him the honor of bearing the full name of God. Acts 2:36

The enormous measure of the importance of the priesthood of Melchizedek is revealed in His actions. When we consider His meeting with Abram and the fact that He brought out bread and wine for Abram, what is the first thing which comes to mind? The communion of course. As the high priest of the Most High God it was His responsibility to serve Abram in such a manner. Gen. 14:18 Abram was not under the Law. The Law came by Moses. Abram was a man of faith even as we today, through faith, partake of the body and the blood of the Lord Jesus in the Communion. It must also be considered that Melchizedek had the right and authority to pronounce the rich blessings of the Lord upon Abram. In a very positive way He invoked the blessings of the Most High upon Abram. Gen. 14:18-19

Another important feature of their meeting was the fact that Abram paid tithes to Melchizedek. It is most certain that he would not have done so were Melchizedek a priest of any god, other than the true God. Gen. 14:20 Let it be said here that tithing is of faith and not of the Law. The Lord blesses those who tithe! The paying of tithes manifested the greatness of this Priest of the Most High. Heb. 7:4 Unequivocally and with great

gladness of heart Abram spontaneously paid tithe of all that he had rescued from his enemies. The Levites, descendants from Abram were commissioned to receive the tithe of the people. Melchizedek whose descent was not reckoned among them received tithes and blessed Abram. It is an indisputable fact that Abram, the lesser of the two, was blessed of the far greater. Heb. 7:7

## THE SON OF MAN. 14

The prophetic utterance of Zechariah pertaining to the Messiah indicated a dual ministry. At one and the same time the Messiah was to be the priest of the Lord. Ministering in the redemptive act of salvation for all who will call upon His name. Also He was to be a King, high and exalted and ruling from His throne. His throne was a throne of glory where Divine leadership and full and complete salvation was to be found. Zech. 6:13 The Temple of the Lord will be the work of His hands. From the start, the planning stage to its dedication, He is the great builder of the church, of the eternal Temple, the bride of Christ, the new Jerusalem. The place of highest honor is given to Him that in all things He might have the preeminence, the high and exalted place. Col. 1:18 The complete glory of the Father's house will be manifest in Him.

The counsel, the source of peace available and possible because of His dual position as Priest and King. He is given the title by Isaiah of the Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6 The Prince in this case indicative of one who rules. Point of interest, Prince of Peace is the fifth title given Him by Isaiah. Five is the number of atonement. In company with the dual office He is also the atoning sacrifice. He is the only source of real peace. As the great high priest He carried the blood of His sacrifice before the throne of the Father where it is ever on display. Rev. 5:6 Having paid the full price to purchase peace through the blood of the cross, He now reigns and bestows peace from His throne upon all who come to Him. John 14:27 We find His status as the High Priest reordered in the book of Hebrews. Heb. 3:1 It is He who stand before the Father in Priestly action on behalf of those who seek Him. Heb. 4:14 Plainly, unequivocally he is stated as having the honor of being the Priest after the order of Melchizedek. There is none other in that order. He is the sole occupant of the high office. Heb. 6:20 There is only one

person in the universe or all of time who can stand before the Father as the true mediator. 1 Tim. 2:5

“The offspring and the posterity.” Isaiah 22:24 NKJV. A portion of the glory of the Father’s house is this very interesting statement and hint of things to come. Another of the titles given the Lord Jesus in Isaiah 9:6 is that of the everlasting Father. This in no way indicated that Jesus was to be His own Father. But it does speak to us of the Fatherhood of the Lord Jesus. The command to the first Adam and Eve was to be fruitful and multiply. Gen. 1:28 They were brought into existence to occupy the face of the earth.

## THE SON OF MAN. 15

“Who is wise? He will realize these things. Who is discerning? He will understand them. The ways of the LORD are right; the righteous walk in them but the rebellious stumble in them.” Hos. 14:9 NIV. The deep things of the Lord are openly hidden, revealed, yet not known. It is imperative that we have the mind of Christ in order to comprehend His righteous works among the children of men. The disciples of the Lord Jesus were puzzled because He spoke to the people in parables, but to them He spoke openly. His response was that the disciples were given the privilege of understanding the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but not the unbeliever. Mt. 13:10-11 The contrast between the thoughts of the Lord and the thoughts of mankind are diametrically opposed one to the other. The ways of the Lord are just as diverse. Isaiah was moved upon to prophecy that they are as extremely separated as the heavens are above the earth. Who knows the extent of the heavens and when will the two meet? Isa. 55:8-9 The LORD is righteous in all His ways, and holy in all His works. Ps. 145:17 We may not fully understand all that the Lord does nor why He works the way He does, but He is always right and works in absolute holiness and purity.

There is a natural man surrounded by a natural world. On the other hand there is a spiritual man who, while living on this earth, has discovered a spiritual world which exists in the Lord Jesus. The contrast is between soul and spirit. The first man Adam was made to be a living soul. 1 Cor 15:45 The life of the flesh is in the blood. Lev. 17:11 The last Adam was made a quickening spirit. An eternal life giving resource. These two individuals were

to be the progenitors of a family. The first Adam was told to propagate and occupy the face of the earth. Gen. 1:28

Beyond this world of distress and trouble we look forward to a new heaven and a new earth. The eternal dwelling place of the all righteous Lord and His people. 2 Peter 3:13 In that which is new we are introduced to a glorious city called the new Jerusalem. Rev. 21:2 Not a renovated or a rebuilt city but a new one. The thing that is most noteworthy about her in keeping with our subject is that she is wearing a wedding gown. She is a bride. Her Bridegroom is none other than the Lord Jesus. Their marriage is the greatest, the most glorious marriage of all time and eternity. As God the Father was married to Israel. Jer. 3:14 So the Lord Jesus will be married to His church. Eph. 5:32 A subject which is called a mystery.

## THE SON OF MAN. 16

The writer of the book of Hebrews listed five negatives which relate to the person of Melchizedek. Heb. 7:3 Without father, such a person would not have been born of the seed of any man. Neither Melchizedek nor the one who is stated to be the Word were born of the will or actions of a man. The Word was not the Son until He was born of the virgin Mary. Only as the Son of Man did He possess a Father and a Mother. Prior to that time, He was the Word, and was with God and was God. He cannot be divided from all that is called God. John 1:1

When Jesus, as the Son, proclaimed God to be His Father, the Jews readily understood that in so doing He was declaring Himself to be God. John 5:18 The Jews did not need a revelation for that one. The Lord Jesus, who was in the form, the image, the likeness, and having the character of God did not account it a violation of the Word to reckon Himself to be equal, in full agreement and being, with God. Phil. 2:6 Nor was there any objection voiced by the Almighty. Rather He said, this is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased, hear you Him. Mt. 17:5 Had the Lord Jesus not represented or spoken the truth He would not have been acknowledged in such a manner.

Without descent. Mind you, we do not find a mistake here by those who recorded the genealogy of Israel. Melchisedec was not overlooked, nor

was there a failure to register Him at His birth. He simply was not in the form of a man, He had not had a birth whereby as Melchizedek He was a man, He was in the form of God, prior to His appearance to Abraham. He did not divest Himself of His eternal nature to show Himself to Abraham but veiled Himself in a human form. After accomplishing His mission He continued in the form of one eternal.

Not having a beginning of days The only possibility to enjoy being eternal is to be God or being able to assimilate the very nature of the Lord. Aside from the Lord, there is nothing possessing such a quality. Everything in our life and those things which surround us have their beginning and their ending. It takes the help of the Word and the Spirit of the Lord to even begin to understand a Being who had no beginning. He is life. Eternal, everlasting, timeless life. It is impossible to find a beginning of that life, for there is none. It has always existed and will always be existent. John 1:4 John called Him, the Word of life and that eternal life. Life eternal is found in the Son. 1 John 1:1-2

## THE SON OF MAN. 17

Without ending of days. The source, the well spring of eternal life. He is life and gives life to those who believe on Him. John 17:2 The fact that Jesus is the author of life is well proven by His death, burial and resurrection. Had He not possessed the life of God, Calvary would have been the end of His life. Because He is life. His physical body was laid in the tomb but on the cross he said that He surrendered His spirit nature into the hands of the Father and as He did, He quoted Psalms 31:1. Luke 23:46 The spiritual entity, His essential eternal nature, that which made Him equal with His Father lived on, in the presence of the Lord, until the day of His resurrection. The power of an endless life is vested in Him. Heb. 7:16 In all reality John taught that He could be called or named "Eternal Life." That which was made apparent. That which had been seen and heard. It is of that One that we bear witness and testimony and show to you that life and light are to be found in Him. 1 John 1:2 Was the domicile of the Father in hell? Jesus said that He was going His way to the one who sent Him. John 16:5 Then He became a little more specific and declared that He was going to the Father. John 16:10

Made like, the same as the Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ. How many times must the similarity have to be declared before we come to the right conclusion that Melchizedek and Christ are one and the same. Such powerful proclamations as to their similarity and likeness express the truth that the two are one and the same. It is noted of Melchizedek that His office and calling before the Lord was that He was a priest of the most high God (Elyown El, the Almighty) Gen. 14:18 Most assuredly that would remove Him from being a heathen priest of some of the religious nations in the time of Abraham. Melchizedek is recognized as possessing an eternal perpetual ministry and priesthood, if he was not the Son of God, then he could not have a continuing priesthood. The Lord Jesus did not come to fulfill the office of another, He is the office. By His single act as an High Priest, in the offering of Himself, He elevated those who believe in Him to eternal life. Heb. 10:24

Melchizedek was of higher status than Abraham this was made apparent in the giving of the tithe by Abraham and the invocation of the blessing of the Most High upon him by Melchizedek. Heb. 7:7 Abraham having met the Son of Man in the person of Melchizedek rejoice when he looked down the corridors of time and saw the Lord Jesus as the Messiah. John 8:56

## THE SON OF MAN. 18

Daniel was another individual who was privileged to meet with this person who bears the resemblance to the Son of man, yet it is very obvious that He is a heavenly being. Dan. 7:13 The fact that He was accompanied by clouds created an association with the Lord Jesus. For Jesus will come escorted by the clouds of heaven, not the clouds of the heavens, but those which are heavenly and eternal. For instance the cloud of witnesses. Heb. 12:1 The armies of heaven, transported by white steeds, dressed in white linen would certainly appear as a cloud from a distance. It is a cosmic cloud, of cosmic proportions. Rev. 19:14

Please consider carefully the truth that at His coming (parousia) the resurrected and the living will be caught up together into the same cloud of glory and so will ever be with Him. 1 Thess. 4:15-17 Clouds cannot be disassociated from the resurrection and the rapture. Jesus responded to the question of who He was by simply stating, I am. Then affirmed that they

would see the Lord Jesus on the throne of the Lord and also visably behold Him at His coming. EVERY eye will see His coming with the clouds of glory, even those who pierced Him. In other words the whole of humanity, which have been born into this world from Adam to the last one born prior to His coming will behold Him at the rapture. Rev. 1:7 EVERY eye shall see Him.

The cloud represented the veiled glory of the Lord. When the Lord visited Israel of old He came in the midst of the cloud and it would suddenly light up with the intense glory of the Lord. That cloud would glow, it would shine, radiate, scintillate, blaze and flame with the majestic presence of that Person who is light. Ex. 16:10 Don't be short changed into taking a casual approach to an understanding of this cloud of glory. It is not to be compared to the clouds of the sky which we see carried by the trade winds of the earth. This is a mighty cloud, and is filled with the might and power of the Lord. Ps. 68:34

The vision of Ezekiel was that of a great a cloud of noble proportions, a nimbus cloud, covering the sky. Eze. 1:4 A cloud carried and traveling by the means of a whirlwind (ruwach, may also be translated spirit) or a cyclone. Also visible was the fire of the Lord. A very active flame, blazing and creating its own fire storm. The whole was lightened with the brightness of the glory of the Lord. A brilliancy far beyond that which man has seen or can produce. A mighty demonstration of the power of the Lord, in His cloud.

## THE SON OF MAN. 19

Where is the house that you build me? And where is the place of My rest? This is a question of vital importance to the church of today. What exactly, is the building project which the Lord is working on now? Is His interest in a cathedral or a tent? A nation or a particular city? He already has an eternal land and country called heaven. It is the place of His throne, His dwelling place. The earth is but His footstool. His interest is not in the material things of this world, but in the people of the earth. His desire is to have them worship Him, the true and Living Lord of all. Paul. At Mars' hill delivered a foundational message which needs to be heeded today. It is of extreme importance that we understand the will of the Lord for us now, at this most critical time of the age. He called them to task for their religiosity. They had

gone so far as to erect an altar to THE UNKNOWN GOD. What a vain, empty religious mixture they were. Acts 15:23

Too often the vision of the church is on the things of this earth. Material possessions, all of which are destined to pass away. These things are all the work of His hands. What kind of a beautiful edifice can we build to house Him. The world and all of its elements, He has created and they are all His anyhow. He does not dwell in temples made with the hands of men. Acts 15:24 The emphasis of the Word and the Spirit is on the true temple of the Lord. Much time and expense is spent on making church buildings presentable, and hopefully attractive to the general public. That is all well and understandable but the real temple is far more important and demands full attention. The spiritual person, housed in a physical body is proclaimed to be the temple of the Holy Spirit. A gift from the Lord, which when received makes us to be His possession, His temple. We are now totally His and bear the responsibility of maintaining a life in the Spirit which is pleasing to Him. 1 Cor. 6:18-20

We should now be in a process of change, cleansing and the elimination of the works of the flesh. If we strive to maintain the natural, how much greater should our efforts be to advance that which is spiritual. Positively, factually, emphatically, Paul declared the believer to be the temple of the living God. A people who have a positive, definite personal relationship with Him of such depths that it may be said that He actually dwells in His temple, and walks with those in whom He dwells.

## THE SON OF MAN. 20

A shocking statement made by Paul in his letter to the Corinthians. Do you not know that you are the temple of God. 1 Cor. 3:26 Is it possible that an individual could be saved and still not know who and what they are in the Lord Jesus. Moreover, they were obviously Spirit filled. There would be no need of such a statement being made, if these to whom he wrote were not living in spiritual ignorance, or completely disregarding their call, their rights and privileges in the Lord Jesus. His message was applicable not only to them but more so today. Where the Spirit of the Lord dwells is His house. When we are filled with the Spirit, we become His house, the dwelling place of the Lord.

With the reception of the honor of having become His vessel, there is likewise a terrific responsibility. We are now called upon to maintain, to care for that dwelling place of the Most High. It must always be presentable and acceptable before the Lord. It must be kept worthy of His presence. That means continuing a life in the Spirit which is pleasing to the Lord. He has challenged us to be holy, for He is holiness personified. His powerful presence will produce holiness. 1 Peter 1:16 We can reach the goal which He has set before us. He will not demand more of His people than that which they can accomplish.

Because of His Holy presence the Temple is made to be holy. If in truth, the individual has really received the mighty presence of the Lord they will be held accountable for the manner in which that Temple is used. It must not be defiled. Those who disregard the Holy Presence of the Lord and pollute the temple in a moral or spiritual conduct will find that they themselves are cut off. 1 Cor. 3:17

The Apostle in his letter to the Romans, called upon them to present their bodies to the obedience of the will of the Lord as living sacrifices, which emulate the holiness of the Lord. The appeal is not beyond the scope of possibility. If it were, it would not have been presented to them. Rom. 12:1 This he termed to be a spiritual act of worship. It is proof of the fact that one really loves the Lord and is totally willing to serve Him with their whole heart. It is termed true worship and is conducted in spirit and in truth. John 4:23 The benefits and the gains received with such a consecration so far out weigh any (if any) loss that loss is not a consideration. There is nothing in this world which can even begin to compare with the revelation of His glory in His people.

## THE SON OF MAN. 21

The Son of man, the Lord Jesus, the lamb of God. John 1:29 The feast of Passover (to spring over or to spare, to be delivered from death) was one of three where all males in Israel were to be gathered in Jerusalem to celebrate the release of their forefathers from Egypt. It was declared to be the first month, the beginning of their Levitical year. It foreshadowed the beginning of a new life for those who would believe on the Lord Jesus. As

Israel of old found a new life so we today in Christ find that the old life is no longer satisfactory and we enjoy a new start, entering into a life that is eternal and abundant through Him. 2 Cor. 5:17

The tenth day of the month Abib (the new ear of barley) they were to separate from the flock a lamb and keep it hidden for four days. Ten, the number of the commandments representing the Law. In Christ, by the Spirit of life, we are set free from the Law. Rom. 8:2 Atonement is exclusively by the blood of the Lord Jesus. Rom. 5:9 The four days speak to us of the four thousand years from the first man Adam to the last Adam, the Lord Jesus. The lamb chosen was to be thoroughly inspected and must be without blemish of any kind. A beautiful type of the Son of Man, Jesus. Ex. 12:5 He is the Lamb who from the very beginning, in the will and purpose of the Lord, was destined to be the once for all sacrifice. Rev. 13:8

Where there was a threefold sprinkling of the blood of the sacrificial lamb on the door posts and the lintel of the house the death angel passed by. The door signifies Jesus the door. John 10:9 The threefold sprinkling of blood, the involvement of the Godhead in the Atonement. Every household, Jewish or Egyptian where there was no sign of the blood the firstborn of man and animal died. There is no deliverance from the power and guilt of sin but by the blood of Christ. Heb. 9:22 The lamb was specifically to be roasted and eaten in that night of the Passover. It was cooked by fire and in no other manner. In the communion table we partake of the body and the blood of the Lamb, thus the Passover is celebrated in partaking of Christ Jesus. He is the Passover feast of the church which He has purchased with His own blood. 1 Cor. 5:7 The Passover of Egypt was a type and symbol of that which is now completed in the Lord Jesus. Every individual who has been washed in the blood of Christ has entered into Passover. We have passed from death to life, in the Lord Jesus. 1 John 3:14

## THE SON OF MAN. 22

In association with and following the Passover, is the feast of unleavened bread. Lev. 23:6 It was celebrated for seven days, beginning with the fifteenth day of the month. The first and the last days were Sabbath days or holy convocations. Lev. 23:7-8 Leaven is a type of sin. A little leaven,

leavens the whole loaf. During this period of time there was to be no leaven found anywhere in their houses. It was a time of complete separation. Paul urged the Corinthians to purge out the old leaven and become a new loaf. He encouraged them to walk in the fullness of the new life, the consecrated life which is found in the Lord Jesus. He identified the old leaven as being manifest in mankind as malice and wickedness. To be free from the old leaven is to enjoy the new life in sincerity and truth. 1 Cor. 5:6-8 As certain as the Passover has its fulfillment in the redemption of those who become the body of Christ. So, the feast of unleavened bread will be seen in the life of the believer as a life of dedication and holiness.

Along with the moving of the Spirit of the Lord, there are not only physical manifestations but there is always a turning to righteousness and holiness. The people brought up out of Egypt by the Lord were far from being a spiritual nation. Nevertheless, in His promise of deliverance to them we find this divine requirement, "be holy, for I am holy." Lev. 11:45 Mind you, this was made to the people whom the Lord later on refused to take them into the promised land because of their unbelief. If the call to be holy went out to them, how much more so is that same voice heard with the same message. It is a call from eternity, before the foundation of the world, His purpose in calling a people unto Himself was that those who respond to His will would be holy and without blame in His sight. Eph. 1:4 So, we find that the same voice with the same message is to be heard in the church age as was well as to them. His purity, His righteousness, His holiness is the high calling of the Lord in Christ Jesus. It is notable that Peter was definitely connecting holiness to a manner of life. Something that is lived and seen by others who associate with those who truly desire to be like the Lord Jesus. He is our example. Therefore we are to fashion or conform our conduct according to His will and purpose. 1 Peter 1:14-16 We are living in the age where the prophecy of the Apostle Paul will be consummated. The Lord Jesus will have a perfect Bride. She will cleanse herself by the washing of the Word. No spot, no wrinkle or blemish will be found in her. Eph. 5:26-27 Impossible? Don't miss this glorious last day event. 'Tis a glorious church.

## THE SON OF MAN. 23

The sending of the promise of the Father. Jesus urged His disciples to settle down in Jerusalem until the promised Comforter would come. Luke

24:49 He came on the day established as the all important feast of Pentecost. In the fullness of the day the Holy Spirit descended on the waiting disciples and they were all filled with the Spirit. Acts 2:1-4 In this manner the baptism of the Spirit was introduced to the early church and continues to be the experience of those who hunger and thirst after the Lord. The Spirit of the Lord has never withdrawn His presence. The promise of the Word is that He is for those in that day, for their children, for ALL who are afar off and for AS MANY as the Lord will call to Himself. Acts 2:39 The promise of another Comforter, the Holy Spirit is one whose continued presence will abide forever. Thus we are assured of His everlasting presence. John 14:16

There remains then the one great feast to have it's counterpart, it's fulfillment in the church age. It was the last great feast of the Levitical year. It was the time of the general harvest and portrays revival and harvest time for the end of the age. For all the revivals that have taken place in the past century, we have yet to see the final work of the Spirit of the Lord. The heart and core of this feast was the great day of Atonement. That one day of the year when the high priest was permitted to enter into the most Holy Place making Atonement for himself and his family. The priesthood. The tabernacle and the temple and for all of Israel. It was a most sacred and Holy moment when he stood before the Ark of the Covenant and made Atonement by sprinkling blood on the Mercy Seat. Lev. 16:13-14 It was at this momentous event that the priest stood in the awesome and Holy presence of the Lord. Lev. 16:2 It was a matter of life or death. If the priest had followed faithfully the process of preparation for this ministry he would be accepted. An unqualified priest would have died in the mighty presence of the Lord which was manifest above the mercy seat and between the cherubim.

When this day dawns, the true church will find herself challenged to bear the likeness and image of the Lord Jesus. That is to come to "the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ." Eph. 4:13 A matter of spiritual growth until one reaches the same magnitude of Spirit and power as the Son of Man, the Lord Jesus. The same spiritual maturity and comprehension. Being made equal with Him. Never forget that He too was a man, totally human, tempted in all points even as we are. Nevertheless,

He lived the life of very God while in the flesh. Our challenge is to follow His example.

## THE SON OF MAN. 24

Inasmuch as the feast of Passover and the feast of Pentecost both were fulfilled in the church age. The remaining feast will take place exactly according to the day and time of its celebration by the Israelites. We then know that the feast of Tabernacles will have its fulfillment in the church on the day of the feast of Tabernacles. The priestly ministry of the church will be like to that entering in of the high priest before the mercy seat. It was a day of cleansing, of purification and of the awesome presence of the glory of the Lord. It is that which is to be found "within the veil." Heb.6:19 It is the secret place of the most High, where His shadow envelopes and overshadows. Ps. 91:1 It is the response to the prayer of the Lord Jesus that He might dwell in His fullness in His people. John 17:23 That is to be without measure, the finished work, and will have met all the Divine requirements.

The objective of the Son of Man was not only to seek and save that which was lost but in the plan of salvation, He has a grand purpose. A glorious final work of having reproduced Himself in the hearts and lives of a people who truly love Him and greatly desire to do His bidding. The Lord is faithful in continuing to work in His church, until that moment of time is reached where He will lead His people into the full status of the feast of Tabernacles. The responsibility of the fivefold ministry is tremendous for they are to lead His church into His goals which are specifically spelled out in Ephesians four. Many claim these offices today but where is the proof of their duties and the development and spiritual growth of the church? Paul said that the results of the fivefold ministry would be a people who are to reach the perfections, thoroughly furnished, as found in the Lord Jesus.

All are to have the same beliefs, or doctrine. They are to be in complete unanimity one with another. "Can two walk together except they be agreed." Amos 3:3 Among other things, Paul said that there is one body. Eph. 4:4 All the parts of that body must be in total agreement with every other member of the body or there will be an inability to function properly. Jesus promised a teacher, the very best, in the person of the Holy Spirit. If

we would listen to Him we would all speak the same thing. He will not teach doctrines of confusion but will speak the truth. John 16:13-14 The true church, the perfect church, the Bride of Christ will be a true, well functioning body of those who have the faith or the persuasion, the teaching of the Word through the anointing of the Spirit. The Lord will accomplish His purposes.

## THE SON OF MAN. 25

The next great event seen in the Word of the Lord is the implementation of a last day move of the Spirit of the Lord. A time of preparation for the wedding of the Lamb, to prepare and receive His prized possession, the church which He has purchased with His own blood. Acts 20:28 Joel spoke of it as a time of the pouring out of the Spirit upon all flesh, all the nations of the world. A simultaneous move of the Spirit. A spontaneous act of the Lord, free from any and all the manipulations of mankind. A pure stream flowing directly from the majestic throne of the Lord satisfying and filling the hearts cry of those who hunger and thirst after righteousness. Joel 2:28

Both water and oil are symbols of the presence of the Spirit in the life of the believer. Therefore the Spirit is poured forth, or will gush out in great abundance as it descends directly from the throne of the Lord. Rev. 22:1 Israel of old, for the duration of their wandering in the wilderness, drank a spiritual drink from a spiritual Rock, which was Christ (the anointed). 1 Cor. 10:4 There is no problem in identifying the Rock if we just believe that which is written in the scriptures. The Rock is the very one who brought Israel and the church into existence. He is the source, the one who gave birth, the creator. Deut. 32:18 The smitten rock (the crucified Christ),

The source of the blessing of the baptism of the Spirit is the Lord Jesus. And in response to the prayer of the Lord Jesus. John 14:16-17 The waters in the wilderness flowed freely that is in great abundance, literally gushing forth. Of great interest is that the flow is called streams (plural, the double portion), as they issued from the rock. Ps. 78:20 The double portion is not merely twice as much but an identical amount and measure. In this case, identical to the anointing which rested upon the Lord Jesus. He received the Spirit without measure. John 3:34 These are streams which will be at floodtide and overflowing their banks. It will be a time of cleansing and

purification. All that is superfluous will be carried by the floods and swept away from His people. The refuge of lies, all falsehood, will be removed by the floods which result from the melting of the hail. The flooding waters will destroy the hiding place of all that is contrary to good doctrine. Any and all revivals result in a work of sanctification among the believers and the bringing of great numbers to the Lord Jesus. The cleansing of the sanctuary is always a sure sign of the moving of the Spirit. Isa. 28:17 Judgment must first begin in the house of the Lord. When the saints see the need of repentance and the subsequent cleansing there is revival. 1 Pet. 4:17

## THE SON OF MAN. 26

The Divine performance of the dedication of the temple of the Lord on the day of the feast of Tabernacles will result in His glorious church. His Bride, the perfection of holiness, the excellence of beauty, the mighty manifestation of the glory of the Lord in its absolute completeness. In salvation we receive the fullness of His grace, grace upon grace, blessing upon blessing. There is no limit nor ending of the abundant mercy which He constantly displays in the lives of His children. John 1:16 The Lord Jesus is the essence of both grace and truth. Both are essentials to life eternal and are found in their completeness, solely in Him. John 1:14

As with all buildings there is a time when the structure is finished. Then it is time for the dedication and full occupancy. So it is with the true temple of the Lord. That is, the body of believers who have consecrated themselves to fit the divine requirements expected of the church of His glory, the Bride of Christ. She is the very epitome of all that is holy. Eph. 5:27 The glory of the Lord was mightily displayed at the time of the dedication of the tabernacle, in such fashion and majesty, that even Moses was unable to enter it because of the fullness of that glory. Ex. 40:33-34 The consecration of Solomon's temple was no less glorious. The glory of the Lord filled the house. 1 Kings 8:10-11 Both of these, the tent and the building of stone were but temporal, of the earth earthy. Now the Lord is building that which is eternal and everlasting. To the church the call is issued to truly be that everlasting dwelling place of the Lord. Not a transitory structure but that which is permanent. All other places of worship were but types and symbols. That which He is building now is without conclusion. 1 Cor. 3:16

The true temple is built upon the apostles and prophets as the foundation of the building. From them we have received the Word of the Lord as the blueprint and the instructions for properly constructing the building. The Lord Jesus being the chief corner stone. The most majestic, the most important stone of the whole temple. Eph. 2:20 His presence is the assurance that the building will be accepted and used for the purpose for which it was built. He is the most vital, the specially chosen, the elect stone beautifying and giving strength to the whole structure. The chief corner stone is the most elegant, of the greatest value and honored above all other stones used in the construction of this glorious temple of the Lord. 1 Peter 2:6 Isa. 28:16 Wonderfully, we are given a full and complete testimony of the veracity of the Word by prophet and apostle.

## THE SON OF MAN. 27

The Spirit of the Lord is building a house for the glory of the Lord to occupy. Those who make up the material used in the construction of the house are called holy brethren. Participants of the eternal, heavenly calling. Heb. 3:1 The final goal of the Lord is that of having a holy temple. That which beautifies the temple or the house of the Lord is holiness. It is the most worthy adorning for those who comprise the house of the Lord. Ps. 93:5 "The beauty of holiness" assumed being and character when David appointed singers to precede the army of Israel with praise unto the Lord. Most assuredly, they won a victory that day. 2 Chron. 20:21

The ultimate objective of the Lord is the perfect church. Those who say it cannot be, naturally, will not be motivated nor strive to fulfill the high calling of the Lord, in Christ Jesus. The declaration of the Word of the Lord is that He has called us to holiness and not to uncleanness. His desire is for a holy nation and He will have a people of holiness who populate it. 1 Thess. 4:7 The person who has been born of the Spirit will take on the character of that man who is a new creation in the Lord Jesus. He has become a work of righteousness and true holiness. Eph. 4:24 The new man in Christ is just that, he is new. The old carnal, worldly behavior will diminish as it is introduced to a brand new life in the Lord Jesus. 2 Cor. 5:17

Paul urged the Roman Christians to apply the same zeal to seeking after the things of the new life in Christ as they did when they were without Christ. People will go long distances, expending finances, time and strength to search for and find the pleasures of this life. Serve the Lord with that same drive and determination as was exhibited in seeking after the fleeting pleasures of this world. Seek diligently after the righteousness and holiness which is to be found in Christ and the benefits will be heaped upon one who does so. Rom. 6:19

The fulfillment of the promises of the Lord are Yea and Amen in Christ. However, there are divine requirements which must be met, particularly on the part of those who know the Word and will of the Lord. The promises of the Lord hinge on obedience to the Lord. Therefore, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of or in giving honor to the Lord. 2 Cor. 7:1 A statement such as we find here leaves us no doubt as to what the will of the Lord is. The total man is to be delivered from all that contaminates the beauty of the Lord as He desires to reveal it in His people.

## THE SON OF MAN. 28

The Lord does not waste words. Every word which He has spoken whether by prophet or apostle has deep and very intense meaning. Every child of the Lord should be in quick pursuit of the establishment and maintenance of His promises so graciously proffered us. The rewards, the benefits are eternal and out of this world. The ultimate of "perfecting holiness" is to fully bear His image and likeness. Jesus is the prime example of a Son of man who while in human form faced and conquered every sin common to man. As a man, He was tempted, but came out of that momentous season of temptation, without having sinned. Until the very end He remained sinless. Heb. 4:15 His example was that of perfect holiness. Do not lose sight of the fact that He too was a man, born of a woman who by the power of the Lord lived a perfect life. That same power and ability is available to all who are in Christ Jesus. Remember the invitation of the Lord to be holy because He is holy. "Sanctify yourselves therefore, and be ye holy: for I am the LORD your God." Lev. 20:7 1 Peter 1:16

What really happens when one is born again, born of the Spirit. The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ becomes our Father too. We are born of the same Word and Spirit which brought Jesus into this world. In the order of things in this world, like begets like. In the initial creation the Lord made man in His own image and likeness. Gen. 1:26 The Lord, in His foreknowledge, knowing all from before creation. Foreseeing, the whole future of all things which He would bring into existence, had a special plan for mankind. He purposed to predestinate, to determine before hand that He /uld prepare an opportunity for mankind to be conformed to the image of His Son. Predestination is not the Lord making some people special while rejecting others. Predestination is not to salvation but to conformation, that is, to be fashioned after the likeness of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. It is a life, a new life, a new beginning which is manifest by the revelation of the disposition, the character of the Lord Jesus in the life style and personality of the individual. The new person is enveloped, has clothed themselves with the same qualities as found in the Lord Jesus. The righteousness, the holiness of Christ is now evidenced in them. Eph. 4:24

That there is a moment of cleansing and sanctification to be wrought in the church in the end of the age. We turn to a command which will be given by the Son of man. Prior to His second coming He will command His angels to sweep through His kingdom, His church and thoroughly remove all who are offensive to Him and all sinners. Mt. 13:41

## THE SON OF MAN. 29

The coming (Gr. parousia, spoken of as being the rapture), the return of the Lord Jesus will be most spectacular event of time. Flashes of lightning are extremely visible, brilliant and most impressive. Jesus said that His return would be as lightning. Mt. 24:27 Furthermore He indicated the direction of His coming, as lightning shining from the east, or the sun rising. That bolt of lightning will flash around the world at the speed of light. For some it will be day, for others night. Every time zone will see His return almost simultaneously. Therefore He will return to the inhabitants of the whole earth, time zone by time zone at basically one and the same moment of time. Luke made it personal and pertaining to the Lord Jesus by saying; "so shall the Son of man be in His day." Lk. 17:24

The visibility of the return of the Lord Jesus is well documented in the scriptures. We have already seen that He will return like lightning an element of this earth's atmosphere which is common and highly visible. Wonderfully enough it is also an evidence of the glory of the Lord as lightning is revealed as emanating from the throne of the Lord. Rev. 4:5 It is a manifestation of the living, active glory of the Lord. Who do you suppose the person was who appeared to Daniel whose face appeared as lightning? Dan. 10:6 He was the same dignitary who rolled back the stone from the empty tomb. His countenance glowed with the glory of the Lord. The stone was rolled back for the women to view an empty tomb. He said, "He is not here, He is risen." Mt. 28:2,6 For the answer, check Mt.17:2 Ezekiel's beings of life were also persons associated with the fiery presence of the Spirit of the Lord. From them flashed forth streaks of lightning. Eze. 1:13 Their speed of movement or travel had the appearance of a flash of lightning. Eze. 1:14

The presence of the Lord on Mt Sinai was a mighty demonstration of His awesome presence. The Lord concealed His glory in the thick, black cloud. The evidence of His presence was made manifest in the roar of the thunder and the constant flashing of the lightning. The mountain trembled at His presence, the people trembled at the sound of His voice. Ex. 19:16,18. They well had cause to tremble for they had been witnesses of the destructive force of the hail and the ball lightning which had run along the ground in Egypt when Moses lifted up his staff. His action produced the greatest manifestation of the damaging power of a storm and hail that Egypt had ever known up to and until that time. Ex. 9:23-26 Only in the land of Goshen (Israel's quarters) the judgments of the Lord were not experienced.

## THE SON OF MAN. 30

In our discovery of the conditions of the throne of the Lord we have also noted that there is a manifestation of fire. Such a situation should most definitely be expected for the Lord our God, "is a consuming fire." Heb. 12:29 This aspect of the Lord is not hypothetical but is very real. The apostle did not say that fire was the Lord but that He is an all consuming fire. Therefore, we anticipate, that when viewing the throne of the Lord that there will be an evidence of the blazing, burning fire of His presence.

Ezekiel, when explaining his vision of the Lord strongly spoke of the presence of the fire of the Lord. He stated that he saw the throne with fire burning in it and around and about it. Eze. 1:27 Then his explanation of the appearance of the man seated upon that throne was a being of fire, from His waist down and from His waist up, there was fire, and brightness surrounding the whole scene. Furthermore, he spoke of the brightness being equal to the rainbow in the cloud in the day of rain. The yellow, the color of the Father. The red, the color of the Son, the Lord Jesus. The blue, the color of the Holy Spirit. All shining brilliantly, in perfection of color. All this he equated to the appearance of the glory of the LORD. Eze. 1:26-28

John's episode and the revelation given to him on the island of Patmos was one revelation after another of the Son of Man, the Lord Jesus. He first saw Him in the midst of the golden, glowing candlesticks, the anointed leadership and teaching ministry of the Spirit to the seven churches in Asia. Also, continuing to the full complement of all who will participate in His church throughout the ages of time. His majestic eyes were as flames of fire, not something which is repulsive or frightening to the redeemed but a thrill and cause of rejoicing. His eyes are beautiful there are none other which even begin to compare to them. His feet as glowing brass, freshly withdrawn from the furnace of fire. Rev. 1:3 How beautifully this agrees with the vision of Ezekiel. In His message to the church at Thyatira He identified Himself as the Son of God, leaving no doubts in our hearts as to the identity of this magnificent person. Rev. 2:18

Then we come to one who is called an angel. It is well that we remember that all who are called angels are not created angels. Angel in it's simplest meaning is nothing more than a messenger. This royal personage is not a created angel but is the Lord Jesus Himself conveying a message of prime importance. There are many instances in the scriptures where the Lord appeared in a different form or manner. Rev. 10:1

## SON OF MAN. 31

This very special angel is one of extreme might and power. Rev. 10:1 He is strong and valiant. One to whom all power could well be attributed. There is one who is all powerful, both on earth and in heaven and that is the Lord Jesus. Mt. 28:18 He is shrouded by a cloud, the cloud of glory. The holy

garments of the high priest were for glory and beauty. Ex. 28:2 Surely one clothed with such beautiful garments as we see here in the book of Revelation would be none other than our high priest, the Lord Jesus. Heb. 4:14

His crown is a full rainbow, brilliant and with the purity of colors which will be found only in things heavenly and eternal. Here too we see the scriptures fulfilled for Jesus is to be crowned with many crowns. Rev. 19:12 Once again the evidence of the triunity of the Godhead as revealed in the Lord Jesus. Repeatedly, we find in the Word the fact that there are some special things which please the Father and this is one of them. The Father, who is Spirit and likewise the Holy Spirit, Himself being Spirit, are pleased to dwell in fullness in the physical, resurrected, eternal, spiritual body of the Lord Jesus. Col. 1:19 Blended together in a unity that supersedes all other. Yet, each retaining and maintaining their individuality as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. They are neither three nor one, they are both, three in one. Dwelling together in the one body, that of the Lord Jesus Christ.

His appearance is glorious, and as welcome and enjoyable as the sun. His face is no longer like the sorrowful, pitiful, imaginative paintings which we see of the Lord Jesus today. His sufferings are past, He has been raised from the dead by the glory of God the Father and is exactly like the Word pictures Him. He is the SUN of righteousness. Mal. 4:2 He is the embodiment of His Father who is also so brilliant in His light and glory that He too is called a SUN. Ps. 84:11 No, never, our sun is not the Lord nor are any of the star/suns which shine in the heavens to be identified as being the Lord. He is much more brilliant than any of them. They all derive their light from Him because He is LIGHT. The only source of all light, natural and spiritual. 1 John 1:5

His feet as pillars of fire. A positive identification making this being to be none other than the Lord Jesus. John had previously seen legs and feet and was well aware that they belonged to the Lord Jesus. Rev. 1:15 He is the same person who appeared to Daniel. Dan. 10:6 How privileged these individuals were to see Him in the completeness of His glory and majesty.

## THE SON OF MAN. 32

Fire! Is it to be destructive or purifying? What will its effect be in our lives. We know it to be harmful but also very beneficial. For all that we have seen pertaining to the manifestation of the fire of the Lord there is still more to be considered. John the Baptist was well aware of the eternal plan and purpose of the Lord. As the forerunner of the Lord Jesus he foretold of a baptism of the Holy Spirit and fire which the Lord Jesus would send to His followers, thus sanctifying them and enabling them for ministry. Mt. 3:11 The fire of the Lord is a seal of a covenant which He made and ratified with His people. For instance the sacrifice which Abram prepared was consumed by the fiery presence of the Lord as He passed between the offering laid out before Him. Gen. 15:17 In the book of Exodus, when Moses was called, the angel of the Lord appeared in a flame of fire to Moses, yet the bush in which He stood was not consumed. This is obviously a different fire than that which is utilized by mankind for a multiplied number of purposes. Ex. 3:2 There are several other instances where this fire of the Lord was lit for a divine reason. Take time to search them out.

Another very important case of the use of fire by the Lord was the lighting of the continual fire which was used in the consuming of the sacrifices in the tabernacle and temple. That fire came from the Lord Himself. It was the duty of the priest to see that the perpetual fire of the Lord was maintained and kept burning. Lev. 6:12-13 The introduction of the Lord's fire was accompanied by His glory. Moses and Aaron had gone in and came out of the tabernacle when the glory of the Lord appeared in the tabernacle before all the people. The fire of the Lord swept into the tabernacle consuming the burnt offering prepared and lying on the altar. Lev. 9:23-24 When the people saw this miracle they shouted and prostrated themselves before the Lord. The Miracle of fire from the throne of the Lord was repeated again at the dedication of Solomon's temple, where once again the Lord verified His good pleasure by manifesting His glory as well as His fire. 2 Chron. 7:1

If His glory and His fire were necessary to prepare these buildings constructed for worship unto Him, how much more do we need the fire and the glory in this day, to really become the temple of the Lord. I say it

prayerfully and carefully but in today's church we need more fire, more unction and less tongues. Most unfortunately, tongues has become that which is sought after rather than the purifying and anointing power of the Spirit and glory of the Lord. He is still the God who answers by fire.

### THE SON OF MAN. 33

Among the prophets privileged to have been given a vision of the throne of the Lord was Daniel. His description is very vivid and exciting. We may not be granted to see the throne while in this life but with the eye of faith, we may participate with them in their descriptions given in the word of the Lord. Very positively the throne of the Lord is a throne of glory as only the Lord can produce. To describe it as a burning, blazing, mass of flames does not portray the completeness of the light which flows from the presence of the Almighty. What other description could Daniel use to try to convey the awesome appearance of such a glorious Lord and the most magnificent throne in the universe for all of time, plus eternity. There is only one like it. The thought of blazing wheels express the tremendous activity and whirling flames of glory surrounding the throne. Dan. 7:9 Then to have that glorious power flow out from the throne like a mighty fiery river, touching and filling all who are in His blessed kingdom. Every moment in His presence will be a constant baptism of Holy Ghost fire. Dan. 7:10

If the church, the members of the body of Christ really believe in the immanent return, the rapture, they give no evidence of preparation for that all important event. Take for instance the words of the apostle Paul as used in his prayer for the church at Thessalonica. He prayed that the whole person, spirit, soul and body be sanctified and preserved blameless unto the day of the rapture. 1 Thess. 5:23 That is without fault, spot, wrinkle, blemish. Totally without defilement of any sort. Eph. 5:26-27 The rapture is frequently spoken of, but it has become a cliché to those who speak of it and those who hear it. The Lord works according to His appointed times. Rest assured that not one iota of the prophetic word will fail. It shall come to pass. Be patient, wait for the completion of His plans. Hab. 2:3

He is coming exactly at the schedule time. While we do not know the agenda or the precise time we can read the signs. Contrary to popular belief that He could come any moment, there are some vital situations

which must precede His coming. Because the antichrist is destroyed by His coming. He, the antichrist, must first appear on the scene. If he is not here first, how could he be eliminated at the time of the rapture? Incidentally, the word 'coming' is the word rapture or parousia as written by Paul in 2 Thess. 2:8. The person who is titled the Wicked will appear by means of revelation. In other words, his coming on the scene will be in a spectacular fashion. He will imitate the casual second coming of Christ which so many present in their teaching.

## THE SON OF MAN. 34

There are two momentous events which characterize the last days. The first is the coming of one who is called, by the scripture, the antichrist. The second, the coming (the parousia of the Lord Jesus). The deceiver, the antichrist must appear first in order for him to be eliminated, consumed by the spirit of the mouth of Jesus when He comes. A casual or a minimal understanding of the coming of the Lord Jesus is not sufficient. The great scam will be perpetrated on multitudes of Christians because they do not understand the plan of the Lord for the end of the age. The antichrist will be ushered into his position in a spectacular manner. So much so that Paul spoke of the antichrist having a parousia or coming. 2 Thess. 2:9 A dramatic entrance into the religious community which will be the deception of the ages. In a threefold manner he will delude the religions of man on the earth.

He will come convincing the inhabitants of the earth with the demonstration of all the powers of darkness. Note, Paul said; all power (dunamis). He will demonstrate with mighty miracles. Jesus had made a much broader statement by saying that there would come those who were forerunners of the antichrist. He called them, false Christ's. These all precede the coming of the antichrist, thus preparing the hearts of the people for the great one to come. They demonstrate with great (megas) signs and wonders. Spectacular displays of the powers of darkness. Every aspect of occultism will have reached the apex of its power by this time. Mt. 24:24 So convincing will these demonstrations be that even the very elect, the chosen of the Lord, stand the possibility of being taken in by the manipulations of these who have a false anointing, and who are utilizing the full force of the powers of darkness.

Scary? Yes, of course it is. Does the Lord have an antidote for it? Most definitely, "Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." A knowledge of the truth is liberating from all fear and bondage's. John 8:32 That is why we study the Word rather than just taking the words of men and believe them. Study the Word that the approval of the Lord Jesus might be upon you and yours. 2 Tim. 2:15 Peter spoke of the past and the future in relationship to these fake prophets and teachers. Our generation will see a flood tide of individuals who fit into this category. His assessment was that many would follow their exceedingly dangerous example and be misled into a lie. A sure sign is that they make merchandise of the people of the Lord. Leading them, not to benefit them, but for monetary gain which they milk out of them. 2 Peter 2:1-3

## THE SON OF MAN. 35

There is no question of the thought conveyed to the church at Thessalonica by Paul. He gave them a double emphasis on the second coming. He called it, "the coming" (parousia, rapture). Then to seal his intent he added "and our gathering together unto Him." 2 Thess. 2:1 Both of which are keys to the statements that he is about to make concerning the rapture and the events preceding that day. Contrary to what some teach, he did not anticipate the return of the Lord Jesus in his life time. He urged them to be calm and not upset, in mind or spirit, because of some sort of communication reportedly from him, by word, or letter, that the day of Christ was at hand. We have seen the havoc wrought by deceived individuals who have predicted that the day of Christ was at hand and have led groups of people astray, some even to committing suicide. 2 Thess. 2:2

Hear it, do not be deceived. "THAT DAY SHALL NOT COME," except, then he lists actions, by the antichrist, which will take place PRIOR to the second coming of the Lord Jesus. There is and will be even a greater era of apostasy seen in the Christian world. It is like the tides of the sea, there are times and areas where they flow in opposite directions at the same time. We will see revival and at the same time the formation of the religious harlot church. Which is the amalgamation of all the religions of the world into one, whose leader and object of worship will be the antichrist. Rev. 17:5

The man, who is the opposite to the Son of man, the man who opposes all that is good and pure will be manifest and come into power, by means of revelation. An imitation of the revelation of the Lord Jesus. The second coming of Christ is to be the moment of His revelation from heaven. Luke 17:30 There is no question but what it will be a most magnificent moment of time. The antichrist, in order to deceive and convince the peoples of the earth that he is the Christ must be revealed in a spectacular manner. He has the full authority of Satan to commit all manner of lying signs and wonders. 2 Thess. 2:9 He is given the title of the son of perdition, the man who is the very epitome of the totally lost. He is without redemption or hope a salvation. Completely evil and wicked. Judas was a type of this extremely deceptive individual and illustrates to us that the antichrist will be an apostate, who like Judas, will be a part of the leadership of the last day church. John 17:12 The most hurtful, the most damaging opposition has always come from those who were a part of or close to those who were chosen by the Lord to guide His people.

## THE SON OF MAN. 36

In gross contradistinction we find that the words used in relationship to the future return of the Lord Jesus are also to be applied to the antichrist. We have seen that he will have his moment of revelation, (Gr. Apokalupto). His revelation will come at the time scheduled by the Lord. 2 Thess. 2:6 He will be revealed as the man of sin, a title totally befitting him. As the man of sin, he is the absolute, the extreme, the very ultimate, the totally demon possessed sinner. He is diametrically the opposite to the Lord Jesus. Yet, he will imitate the Lord Jesus and will convince the ungodly that he is the Christ and has come to lead and direct them. 2 Thess. 2:4

The man of sin, the son of perdition, the great impersonator in order to present a believable front to the peoples of the world will have his own Coming (Gr. Parousia). John saw the spectacular rising of this individual as coming up out of the sea (the masses of humanity). His sudden appearance on the scene, his political powers displayed by his heads and his horns and the beast like nature displayed give him an immediate advantage over the uninformed and the unsaved of the world. Plus the fact that the dragon, Satan, will delegate his power, his throne and the fullness

of his authority to him which will make him to be a man of extreme authority. Rev. 13:1-2 Further proof that he must come before the second coming of the Lord Jesus is seen in his ability to make war with the saints. So, very obviously, some saints are still around during the tenure of his reign for he makes war with them. Rev. 11:7

There is no light, frivolous second coming of the Lord Jesus which will rescue all his saints from tribulation and persecution. Ask the saints in India, China and Africa about persecution for Christ' sake. Persecution is included in one of those last day signs which precede the coming of the Lord Jesus. Jesus also included the betrayal by parents, brothers and sisters, kinsfolk and friends causing some to be put to death. Luke 21:16 For all the evidence of these last day signs being fulfilled, the Lord Jesus said the end is not yet. Mark 13:7 He indicated that these things were to be but the beginning of sorrows. In regard to the completion of all the prophetic utterances pertaining to the end of the age and the second coming of the Lord Jesus, on a scale of one to ten, we are at one. The intensity of the prophecies recorded in the Gospels reach their awesome climax in the book of Revelation. The full impact of the seals, the trumpets and the seven last vials are far from reaching their last great crescendo. Never fear Jesus is coming but not until all of His Word in relation to that glorious event has been accomplished.

## THE SON OF MAN. 37

The end of the world is presented by the Lord Jesus in the parable of the tares. Mt. 13:39 The story as offered with the interpretation is easily understood. It is the time element which is of interest to us and the events which occur at the time of the end of the world. The NIV translated the word, world, as age. Strong's Word Dictionary, for the word; end, presented the thought of completion or the compensation of a dispensation. Therefore, what we are seeing and hearing in the parable of the tares is not the consummation, the end of the earth but the conclusion of an age and the events associate with it. This is introducing the end of the gospel dispensation and will be finished just prior to the tribulation period.

The angels will sweep through the church, at the command of the Son of man in a purifying action which is directed at the kingdom of the Lord. In a

large house there are vessels of all kinds. Some are honorable, others are not. Therefore there will come a time of purification where the dishonorable will be separated from the honorable, which will then be used for the Masters purpose. 2 Tim. 2:20-21 It is harvest time, the time of the gathering in of the crops of the field. It is foreshadowed in the old testament by the Day of Atonement. That all important and special day when the high priest was permitted to enter into the Most Holy Place. It is yet to be fulfilled in the spiritual experiences made available to the church. As in the parable, there will be a cleansing accomplished in the church. A work of sanctification where all offences, snares and stumbling blocks will be removed. All who are living in iniquity will be gathered and bundled together, separated from the true body of Christ. Mt. 13:41

The visible results will be the righteous in whom the full scope of the spectacular glory of the Lord will be made manifest. The righteous will shine forth as the sun. MT. 13:47 Not only are they bathed in the sun like glory of the Lord, they are filled with that same brilliancy and the shining forth of the presence of the Living Lord, who is the light of the world. The sun is the source of our light. The LORD God, the Father, shining forth as light, is accounted to be a Sun. Ps. 84:11 The Lord Jesus is given the title, Sun of righteousness, thus He displays the same characteristics. Mal. 4:2 What He is, was literally revealed on the Mount of Transfiguration. Mt. 17:2 The people who have ingested His presence and Spirit will bear His likeness and shine with the same eternal glory. They are seen as the Sun clothed bride of Revelation 12:1. A people filled with all the fullness of the Lord.

## THE SON OF MAN. 38

The Son of man, the Lord Jesus was destined to be exalted, as the Son of man, to the right hand of the power of God, on high. Luke 29:69 As God, in the flesh, the witness and testimony of His work of redemption will ever be on display in the eternal kingdom of the Lord. As the slain Lamb He is the centerpiece of the throne. The everlasting evidence of His death, burial and resurrection are seen in this Lamb, whose very presence will demonstrate the power of the blood of Christ to save, and His glorious resurrection. Rev. 5:6

Jesus prophesied to the high priest that he would see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power. Mt. 26:64 His statement so angered the priest that he rent his clothes and accused Jesus of blasphemy. It is very apparent that he thoroughly understood the words which Jesus spoke but was not about to receive them as truth. However they were truth, as we well know. Among the multiplicity of end time events which were revealed to John on Patmos is to be found the statement, that at His coming "every eye shall see Him". Rev. 1:7 That is all inclusive, the righteous, the ungodly as well as those involved in His crucifixion. Most definitely, this high priest will witness the return of the Lord Jesus.

As a prelude to His return, the temple of the Lord will be opened in heaven, for it is the time of judgment for the ungodly and rewards for the righteous. Rev. 11:18-19 The time of the display of His wrath against sin and the sinner. It is the time for the rewarding of His saints. Mt. 16:27 When He comes in all of His glory He will sit upon His throne. Mt. 25:31 The sheep will be separated from the goats. Consider carefully that this is an event which takes place at the time of His throne presence. The goats are commanded to depart into everlasting fire. Mt 26:41 Into Everlasting punishment. Mt 26:46 A punishment which was not intended for them but had been reserved for the devil and his angels. Mt. 26:41 These events involve another very serious situation which they precede and that is the presence of sinners in the millennium. There is positively no way for sinners to survive the separation of the sheep from the goats and find their way into the kingdom of the Lord on earth. At the season of the second coming they are consigned to everlasting severance from the glorious and wonderful things of the Lord. Paul stated, "that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God." 1 Cor. 6:9 Then he gave us a list of the acts which will preclude them from entering into that blessed everlasting kingdom, first on earth and then the new heavens and the new earth.

## SON OF MAN. 39

The appearing, (epiphania, manifestation), is also the time of the judgment of the living and the dead. Their eternal destiny is sealed once and for all eternity. Those who are in Christ, both the deceased and the living will be caught up to be with Him. As with the declaration made by the Lord Jesus in Mathew 16:27 His coming, His appearing will be the time of

the division of the saved and unsaved. 2 Tim. 4:1 In both instances His presence is His kingdom. Jesus spoke of a number of signs which would precede His return. He also indicated that they would evolve over a period of time, (when these things begin to come to pass), your redemption draws near. Luke 21:28 He likewise related them to the coming kingdom of the Lord. Luke 21:31 Those who look forward to and love His appearing will receive a crown of righteousness on that day. 2 Tim. 4:8 His second appearing (in the end of the age), will be the consummation of our salvation, the resurrection of those who sleep in Him and the catching up of the living. Heb. 9:28 Which ever terminology is used, His coming (rapture), revelation, and appearing are all one and the same event.

There are events which accompany His second coming which, regardless of where it is placed in relationship to the great tribulation period, will be manifest at the time of His appearing. He will come to be glorified in His saints. Thus we see the glorious moment which is directed toward those who are in Christ Jesus. 2 Thess. 1:10 This is the moment when He descends from heaven. 1 Thess. 4:16 He will come as the Son of man in the fullness of the glory of the Father. True and eternal rewards, good and bad, eternal life or eternal death, will be given to all at this time, according to their works. Mt. 16:27

The moment of His glorification in His saints is directly and strongly related to the revelation of His coming, for He will return in great flaming fire visiting judgment upon the ungodly. 2 Thess. 1:8 Mind you, this is at the same moment of time when He is glorified in His saints. 2 Thess. 1:10 The two events are one and the same. It is the fire of the vengeance of the Lord. The very essence of the Lord is that of a blazing, burning fire. Ezekiel saw the throne and the glorious Presence which occupied that blessed throne. He described it as the figure of a man, who, from the waist upward glowed like polished metal; From the waist downward, like flaming fire with a brilliant aura of bright light shining around and about Him. Most definitely a fitting and proper description of the throne and of the Lord. Eze. 1:26-27 He is a consuming fire. Therefore He comes in flaming fire. Heb. 12:9

## SON OF MAN. 40

The coming of the Lord Jesus will be a day of punishment for those who have refused the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Their punishment will be everlasting destruction and separation from the presence and glory of the Lord. 2 Thess. 1:8-9 Again, where ever the second coming is placed, this fact is certain, that if the ungodly are from that moment on, cut off entirely from the presence of the Lord, as Paul stated here, then there is no possibility of sinners finding their way into the millennium.

Jesus Himself warned, that not all who would claim to be doing the works of the Lord would find their way into the kingdom of heaven. Even though there were obvious signs and wonders wrought by them, Jesus would say that; "He never knew them." Mt. 7:21-22 Therefore He would command them to depart from Him because they were workers of iniquity. Mt. 7:23 Those who will be accepted into His kingdom are they who do the will of the Father. Mt. 7:21 To obey is better than sacrifice and to hearken than the fat of rams. 1 Sam. 15:22 Consider also the words of Peter; "if the righteous scarcely be saved , where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?" 1 Pet. 4:18 What possible expectation can the ungodly and the sinner have of being on earth during the Millennium?

Would you believe that not all who anticipate the second coming of the Lord Jesus will be caught uninformed and unprepared. Jesus gave a parable concerning faithful and unfaithful servants and associated it with His coming. The faithful servant is the one who is truly prepared for the return of his master. They are properly attired and their lamps are brightly burning. Luke 12:35 They are a people who have put on Christ. Gal. 3:27 Their commitment and dedication to the Lord is full and complete. They have been set free from the works of the carnal man. Rom. 13:14 The new man created in Christ Jesus is their life. It is a manifestation of His holiness and righteousness lived out in them. Eph. 4:24 The new man is a person of spiritual comprehension, understanding the things of the Spirit. They are created in the image and likeness of the Most High. Col. 3:10

In keeping within the order of events in the end of the age it is vital that we see that the master is returning from the wedding. Luke 12:36 The second coming is not the next item on the agenda of the Lord. First, there will be a

mighty move of the Spirit of the Lord. It will be the final harvest, culminating in a wedding. Mt. 22:8-10

## THE SON OF MAN. 41

In connection with the return from the wedding are the words of the Lord Jesus in regards to the ten virgins. Mt. 25:1-12 We note that there were all of one classification, they were virgins. They all had lights and oil (the anointing) but five were wise and took an abundant supply, the foolish did not even have sufficient for the night. They were all filled with expectation, anticipating the coming of the bridegroom. At the midnight hour the cry was made that the appearing of the bridegroom was nigh. They all heard the proclamation. They arose together, they trimmed their lamps and then the difference became apparent. It was only midnight and they needed their lamps to burn for the rest of the night. They were not caught up in a rapture, for when the foolish returned and would have entered into the wedding, they were rejected. The foolish, returning to the place of the wedding illustrates the fact that the wedding is separate from the rapture and will take place on earth, prior to the tribulation period. They heard the voice of the bridegroom saying, "I know you not." Consider that the foolish were fifty percent or one half of those who knew that there was a wedding about to take place. They neglected the one necessity which would have enabled them to participate in the wedding. Not all who say Lord, Lord will take part in the plans of the Lord for the church in the end of the age.

The Apostle Paul wrote concerning marriage giving excellent and practical counsel. His advice was not from practical experience, for he was not married. His words were inspired by the Spirit of the Lord, for while he was writing concerning a relationship between a man and his wife there was also a much deeper meaning. He expressed that stating that he was writing of a great mystery. Eph. 5:32 The marriage which the aforementioned parables foreshadow. A literal marriage between Christ and His church. The very fact that many do not understand nor are they able to conceive that there will be a very real, factual marital union between Christ and a perfected church in the end of the age, indicates that it is still a mystery. Probably the most revealed, open secret to be found in the Word of the Lord. A casual, humdrum, lackadaisical Christian life will not prepare anyone for the most blessed coming event of the ages, the marriage of the

Lamb. Christ is the head, the leader, the guide of the church. All spiritual activity originates with Him. We have the mind of Christ. 1 Cor. 2:16 Our thoughts, our actions originate from Him when we are indeed joined to Him. Those who are joined with Him live in full association with Him. All through one spirit. 1 Cor. 6:17

## THE SON OF MAN. 42

The love of the Lord is all inclusive. The magnitude of His love is expressed in His love for all of humanity, past, present and future. John 3:16 The driving force of that enormous love is His desire to include all of mankind in a precious work of eternal salvation. As in all love situations of life there must be a mutual emotion on behalf of both parties. Jesus identified the individual who love Him, by their obedience to the Word. He likewise promised that they would be loved of the Father and that He too would respond to them, and love them. Furthermore, He would come to them and manifest Himself to them. That is, to make Himself known in a complete and loving manifestation of His nature, character and being. A personal acquaintanceship, a revelation, an appearance of Himself. John 14:21 So absolute is this relationship to become that Jesus promised that the very presence, the exact existence of who and what the Father and the Son are, would dwell within the heart and spirit of the believer. John 15:23 This was not to be but a visit but an abiding, a permanent arrangement.

It is no secret that the Divine purpose of the Lord is not only to dwell with His people but to live in them, continuously. Jesus promised, as an abiding presence, the Spirit of truth. Not only would He dwell with us, but He was also to be in the people of the Lord. John 14:17 The gift of the Spirit as evidenced on the day of Pentecost was not a religious shot in the arm to jump start the church but as stated, it was to that generation, to their offspring of the next generation. Expanding far beyond that to those who would be afar off, even to all who would ultimately be called of the Lord to repentance. It is an all inclusive promise which has not been revoked and may be a part of each and every believer today. Acts 2:39

How wonderful are the mighty works of the Lord. So often they are diametrically opposite the works of the heard headed, died in the wool religionist. The Lord prepared the heart of Peter to preach to the Gentiles

through a series of visions. The Lord Jesus appeared to Cornelius telling him to send for Peter to come down from Joppa. The Lord worked in a perfect manner in both parties to bring them together. Acts 10:1-48 A group of Law keeping individuals accompanied Peter on his trip to Caesarea and were awe stricken when during the sermon by Peter the Holy Spirit came upon the Gentiles and they heard them speak in tongues. Acts 10:45-46 The baptism of the Spirit was proven not to be for one race , but for all. Not for one time, but for as long as time will last. He abides!

### SON OF MAN. 43

The Son of man, the Lord Jesus Christ and His affiliation with His bride is at one and the same time, a great mystery and a revelation which is most vital for His church to comprehend. Eph. 5:32 Their association is presented as being that of a marriage. His interest, His concern is His church. The people whom He purchased with His own blood. Acts 20:28 The church, the supernatural body of Christ in the earth. Called by Paul, the body of Christ, consisting of a multiplicity of persons, diverse one from another yet joined into a unit by the Spirit of the Lord. The usage of one of the names of the Son of man here is not without it's significance. This vast body of believers are united into one body in Christ. Christ, bearing the connotation of the anointing, the Holy Spirit. Therefore, the body of Christ, His bride His church will function and communicate, in perfect accord, by the power of the Spirit. Rom. 12:4-5

He is designated as being the head. The source of all life, guidance and performance of the body. It is well to note here, that we are all baptized into the one body of Christ, by the same Spirit. That speaks to a complete and absolute union. All, made one in Christ. Not only joined to Christ but also being made members one of another, creating absolute harmony in the body of Christ. What a glorious prospective awaits the church when the Lord fully accomplishes His ultimate intent and purpose in her. 1 Cor. 12:13 The total man is included in the unity of the head with the body. Not only will His church be His body but His flesh and His bones. That well covers the total man. All compacted together in perfect agreement. Eph. 5:30

The measure of love of the man for the woman is to be equal with the love and care that an individual heaps upon themselves. For the two are

considered to be one flesh. Unequivocally, the Apostle proclaimed them to enter into a status of marriage and become one flesh. Eph. 5:31-32 He plainly stated that all of that which he had previously mentioned was to be the experience of Christ and His church. While, in his discourse, he mingled the necessities of a successful marriage, he was also making a prophetic statement pertaining to the church and Christ in the end of the age. His enlightenment is so plain and obvious that many cannot or will not see the opened revelation to be found in his words. This is one of those situations where it is well for those who have an ear to hear, listen carefully and prayerfully to what the Word is saying unto us. There is a work superseding all the works of the Lord which He will accomplish soon in His people.

#### SON OF MAN. 44

Now, you are the body of Christ. 1 Cor. 12 :27 While the future of the body of Christ contains a glorious and wonderful fulfillment, we are currently, as individuals, included as members. Paul, in his discourse found here in chapter twelve, on who and what the body is lists a number of members who have certain shortcomings and the need of more attention being given to them. However, in the process of time, the object of the Lord is to establish absolute unanimity and perfection in that body.

There are certain criteria established by the Word of the Lord which are required for membership in that glorious body. The blending of the body into one unit is consistently emphasized. It has to be like the identical accord which is demonstrated in the Godhead. These people are members of the body of Christ. In order to be a part of this glorious church there must be perfect union with the Christ of God. 1 Cor. 12:12

The spirit, the life style of these members is to be identical for they are all to be of one Spirit. They, of course, are those who have been born of the Spirit. Without the new birth, one cannot serve the Lord Jesus. Now we see that they are all baptized into the body of Christ, by one and the same Spirit. Regardless of race or creed, this is an imperative for true membership In the body of Christ. We might take note that it is the body of CHRIST. Why? Because Christ in the Greek means the anointed one or the

anointing. This would coincide with the baptism, or anointing of the Spirit. 1 Cor. 12:27

No individual, church or religious order has any choice in the placing of a person in the body. Those who are chosen to be placed in this glorious group are placed there by the good pleasure of the Lord. 1 Cor. 12:18 In other words they are those who have pleased the Lord in being obedient to His Word. Another outstanding feature of this body is the complete lack of disagreement to be found among them. 1 Cor. 12:25 No dissenting words, no opposing thoughts or ideas, perfect harmony produced by the working of the Spirit in their midst. In as much as we are now the body of Christ, there must be those who can find full and complete fellowship, not only with the Lord Jesus but also with one another. The challenge facing the church today is not a unity formed by man but a coming together in the Spirit of Christ where there is an evidence of all-embracing unison. Impossible? Not with the Lord with whom all things are possible. Try the words of the Lord Jesus Luke 18:27

#### THE SON OF MAN. 45

The witness of the Spirit of the Lord assures one that they are indeed, a child of the Lord. Rom. 8:16 It is through the working of His Spirit that we are able to receive all that has been promised. Those who are the children of the Most High are heirs of the Lord, by virtue of the death, burial and resurrection of the Lord Jesus. The will has been read and the distribution to the heirs is in the process of finalization. The wealth being dispensed is given to all in an equal portion. If some seem to receive more than others, it is because of their faith and confidence in accepting that which is offered. Inasmuch as we are co-heirs with the Lord Jesus, we have the possibility of receiving an equal portion. There is however a occurrence which is not pleasant to the natural man which will be encountered. The Apostle termed it to be suffering with Him. Rom. 8:17 Whatever form that may take it cannot in any way, be equaled to the revelation of the glory of the Lord which is to be manifest in His children. Rom. 8:18

The great hero of the church, the Apostle Paul is a prime example of one who suffer much for the kingdom of the Lord. The extent of his commitment to the Lord is expressed in his words, "I am crucified with Christ." Gal. 2:20

He was not indicating that he had actually suffered the same experience as the Lord Jesus. He was saying that his old life had been nailed to the cross. That man who had so greatly persecuted the church was now completely dead and buried. He had ceased to exist. Again, he drew attention to the fact that the old man was indeed, crucified with Christ, to the destruction of the old character, the man of the past. Rom. 6:6 Thus the way was cleared for a full and complete inheritance of the goodness and abundance of the Lord.

Therefore he could exhort both those in Ephesus (Eph. 4:22) and Colossi (Col. 3:9) to desert the ways of the old man and make certain that they live according to the righteousness of the man which is demonstrated in the life of Christ Jesus. Thus identifying with the death of Christ, by means of water baptism. Rom. 6:3 There is a desperate need for a complete comprehension of the seriousness of water baptism. It is not merely a ritual. Nor is it to be simplified, or to be watered down to nothing but an outward sign of an inward work of grace. It is an extremely important step in following the Lord Jesus and a full identification with Him as a joint heir. Sharing and sharing alike all the precious things of the Lord. The result of this act of obedience to the Lord is a foundation stone in the life of those who have a strong desire to properly live for the Lord Jesus. Rom. 6:2

#### THE SON OF MAN. 46

One thing is positive. Those who belong to the Lord expect the rich blessings of the Lord as a part of their inheritance. By the way, it is an inheritance that staggers the imagination, heavenly, eternal, with the unlimited presence and glory of the Lord. Explicitly, the Word speaks concerning the individual who is a doer of the Word. Merely to hear is insufficient, there must be action applied to that which is presented to us. The simple analogy of the person who hears the Words of the Lord Jesus and springs into action by responding to them is assured of a foundation of strength and durability. Luke 6:47-48 A clear cut gospel truth which requires that anyone hearing will not receive anything until there is a positive reaction and a definite following after the instructions given. They are truth seekers and love the Word, therefore they are achievers, doers of the WORD. John 3:21

There are times when the natural man would like to disagree with the Word and reject its truths. Especially when it is contrary to a life of unrighteousness. Specifically Jesus said that, the Lord does not hear sinners. Could it be that prayers go without a positive response because of conditions in the heart of the one praying? John 9:31 The confession of David grants us an insight into the attitude of the heart of the Lord in respect to why prayer is sometimes not answered. "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me." Ps. 66:18 Strong words, nevertheless, they are truth. A most horrible price is paid by those who refuse to hear the call of the Spirit to repentance. Col. 3:25 Those who do His will are they who will receive the full blessing of the Lord in their lives here on earth and in the eternity to come. James 1:25

It is crucial that the life style of those who claim relationship with the Lord Jesus, be changed and we begin to live the fullness of His life. We are to be like Him. We are to do His works in the earth. The challenge issued by the Lord Jesus is that those who were His disciples would do yet greater works than He. John 14:12 It is recorded of His ministry that He healed all that were sick and cast out devils from those who were possessed. Mt. 8:16 In His great compassion, upon seeing the multitude He healed their sick. He did not work on a percentage basis, His work was full and complete. Peter caught the vision. The presence of the Lord was so mighty in him that they situated the sick along the streets that his shadow falling on them as he passed by might heal them. Acts 5:15 The multitudes from the surrounding cities flocked to him and he healed every sick one. Acts 15:16

## THE SON OF MAN. 47

One of the most precious of His possessions which the Lord Jesus shares with His church is the might and power of the Lord. Jesus declared that all power, the fullness of power from two realms was delegated to Him. Mt. 28:18 Thus His authority and strength are limitless. The Father, through the resurrection has placed the Lord Jesus at His own right hand, far above, that is, placed exceedingly higher and reigning over all. Every principality, all who are in any position of authority being in subjection to Him. Every force, all power ruled by Him. He is over every source of might, of influence, divine, satanic, human superhuman, all are under Him. World powers, rulers, kings, governments are ordained of Him and are used by

Him for His purposes. That exceeding great and mighty power is not only for this world but for that which is to come. It is eternal, He will never be removed from His everlasting stature in the eternity to come. Eph. 1:19

To cap all this off, the Father has set, or established the place of the Lord Jesus to be at His right hand. Seated with Him is His throne. Eph. 1:20 The beauty of all this is that in the wisdom and desire of the Lord He has included those who will really dedicate their life to Him. When we follow the pattern established by the Word we are raised, resurrected together with Him. There is a spiritual life that is lived above the beggarly elements of this world. He has privileged us to sit together with Him in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. Eph. 2:6 Those who are seated with Him are made to be like Him. We are still in this world but we have access to heavenly places and a heavenly atmosphere. Moreover, He has promised that those who overcome will be granted permission to be seated with Him in His throne. The same throne as the Fathers throne. Rev. 3:21

We find some great and precious promises in the scriptures pertaining to our position in all this as joint heirs. For instance, we are the vessel in which He has been pleased to place His treasures. Earthen vessels for sure, never the less filled with His heavenly treasures. 2 Cor. 4:7 John, knowing full well the whereabouts and the exalted position of the Lord Jesus, wrote, "as He is, so are we in this world." 1 John 4:17 Our association, our fellowship with Him should be unmovable. A total union, even as He has invited us repeatedly in the Word to become one with Him. While we are still in this world we may have the glorious, majestic aura of His presence constantly present with us. No good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly. Ps. 84:11

## THE SON OF MAN. 48

Companionship with Him, that is Christ Jesus, is not always a mountain top experience. The Word makes one's association with Him very practical. To have Him accomplish in us, one aspect of His life is not enough. We are called upon to follow Him in every facet of His being. He died for us, He was crucified for us. If then, we want Him with us, is it unreasonable that we should be called upon to die with Him. Only through death can we be totally freed from the besetting sins of the flesh. In the process of reaching

the goal which has been set before us, we take our instructions from the Word of the Lord. The spiritual person knows that they have been crucified with Christ, and so, are no longer the servants of sin. The answer, the key to a strong spiritual life is found in the desires of the flesh being crucified with Christ. Rom. 5:6

Those, who through the Spirit, have died to the world, the flesh and the devil are the Lord's freemen. To be dead with Christ is to be freed from sin. Therefore that new life in Christ is the order of life now lived. This is not supernatural Christianity but down to earth, and very practical. Rom. 6:7-8 The only way that mankind can possibly live victoriously, without sin, is to be identified with the Lord Jesus in His death and resurrection. Rom. 6:9-11

The cross of Christ was not a relic or a symbol to be hung on a wall or be displayed in a museum. The physical cross or any facsimile thereof is absolutely powerless. The power of redemption is in the blood of the Lord Jesus which was shed on Calvary. Rom. 5:3 His blood is the blood of sanctification. 1 John 1:7 His blood is the blood sealing the everlasting covenant. The only covenant recognized by the Lord. Heb. 13:20 Jesus urged His disciples to carry their cross daily and thus to follow Him. Luke 9:23 He well knew the value of this action and made it to be standard procedure for those who would be His disciples. Luke 14:27 If that was the calling before His crucifixion, how much more so, is it His requirement for today.

It is the accomplishment, the work, the commitment of the Lord Jesus on the cross which makes it viable to emulate. The only means of reconciliation between the Lord and mankind is through the blood of the Lord Jesus. Col. 1:20 Jesus said that any who attempt to enter in any other way was a thief and a robber. John 10:1 There is but one way to achieve all that has been purchased of us through the Lord Jesus and that is completing the pattern of His Word as it is directed toward us. Take it to be very personal.

THE SON OF MAN. 49

The Lord Jesus gave a very special promise, not only to His disciples of that day, but one which is very real today in the lives of His people. He said,

“I will not leave you comfortless, I will come to you.” John 14:18 Those who have been born of His Spirit well know that His promise will be wonderfully fulfilled in our lives. The assurance of His constant presence with us creates peace of heart and mind under all circumstances. The promise of the consistent presence of His Spirit being with us is indeed reassuring. More importantly, however is the fact that there was a second and a third phase to that promise. He will abide, remain, stay forever. Rather than coming for a brief and then leaving, It is plainly stated that He will continue being present during the entire gospel dispensation. The promise was to those of that day. To their children of the next generation and to all who were yet to come to Christ, even those living in the end of the age. Acts 2:39 “He shall be in you.” John 14:17 Not merely surrounding us with His presence, but dwelling, welcomed and at home within the heart and life of the believer. What greater blessing could He possibly bestow upon us that the persistent, continual presence of the Spirit of the Lord within.

If the dedication of the tabernacle in the wilderness and the temple in Jerusalem produced the majestic manifestation of the power of the Lord. A presence which was visible and unique, how much more will He manifest Himself in glory in the true temple, the eternal temple, which is of course His Bride of the last days. His dwelling place is His temple. Inasmuch as He has determined that He will dwell in His people He has made them the holy temple of the Most High. He will know no other temple. His Bride is the final and the great eternal temple. The dwelling place of the living Lord by the Spirit of the Lord. 1 Cor. 3:16 The spiritual revelation and knowledge of the Apostle Paul was full and all comprehensive, so much so that he called himself an abortive, one born out of due season. 1 Cor. 15:8 He knew, understood and taught teachings which pertain to the end of the age. His vision was for our day and the immediate future. The teacher of truth, the Holy Spirit was His source of knowledge in the things of Christ. Gal. 1:12 The Word, the will, the ways of the Lord were conveyed to him by the Spirit of the Lord. Revelation is not an obscene word when it comes to the things of the Lord. The vital truths of the scriptures are made plain. It is simply a granting of knowledge and understanding. Paul’s knowledge of the Lord and His purposes were not taught him by any man, but the Lord, who dwells within, and granted him an understanding of the Word, second to none who ministered in the early church.

## THE SON OF MAN. 50

In Him, that is in Christ Jesus are to be found all that is needful for eternal life as it is embodied in a natural man. He was born of a woman, born as are all are brought forth into this world. Every human trait possible was made manifest in Him. Every test, trial and temptation common to mankind, He faced and conquered. He was confronted by the entire weaponry of the devil but remained undefeated. Heb. 4:15 He was born sinless, He lived His life in a sinless manner and died the sinless Lamb of God, all for our pardon and forgiveness.

His empathy toward those who follow Him is absolute. He thoroughly comprehends the feeling of our infirmities. In our lack, our weakness, our humanity He feels what we feel. There is not a human emotion but what He has experienced it. Some, with a far greater impact than what we can ever understand. Every experience in His life was preparing Him to be the great High Priest of our profession. As such, He is the epitome of forgiveness, mercy and grace. No one, but no one can commiserate as He can, withal those who come to Him for forgiveness. He is the means and the advocate of reconciliation between God and man. Heb. 2:17

No one could have taken His place. As the Son of man He was destined to be the Lamb of God. John 1:29 All other lambs sacrificed were but types and shadows of that which is true substance, The Lord Jesus. He is the only true mediator between God and man. None other, regardless of their rank or status, in heaven or on earth can possess this high and exalted position. There is but one, there can never be more than one, who is the mediator between the Lord and man. That one, is the Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Tim. 2:5 By virtue of the shedding of His most precious blood He has been declared worthy to be the one mediator of the NEW testament which establishes fellowship between God and man. Heb. 9:14-15

It is established to be a BETTER covenant than the old. As a matter of fact, there is no comparison. It is the difference between that which is reality and that which is but a shadow cast by the real thing. Its ministry is exceedingly better than the old. Heb. 8:6 As a matter of fact, the old was dependent upon the establishment of the new. Without the new, none under the old covenant would ever find a place in the eternal economy of the Lord. The

effectiveness of the old is directly related to the shedding of the blood of the Lamb of God. Without the shedding of blood, His blood, there is no forgiveness.

## THE SON OF MAN. 51

The Son of man. The Lord of the harvest seen in a cloud of light, the manifest glory of the Lord which is ever resident within Him. Rev. 14:14 The Greek word used for white is leukos, originating from luke, or light. It is evident that the prayer of the Lord Jesus was fully answered. In His prayer He requested that the glory of the Lord, that is the Father Himself, once again enfold the Lord Jesus. The majesty of the Lord, which Jesus laid aside, in order to become the savior of mankind. John 17:5 It is little wonder then that He is seen here as one fully involved in the light of heaven. The true, eternal light, which He identified as His Father.

There is then, an even greater light than that which was manifest on the mount of transfiguration. While the fullness of the glory of the Lord was obviously denied Him as the Son of man, He was not without the Father, nor the light, which is God. 1 John 1:5 He was able to proclaim Himself to be the light of the world. John 9:5 That light makes known the difference between cleansing from sin and the continuance in sin. Those whose works are sinful not only refuse to come to the light, but hate it and reject it. Truth seekers are attracted by the light and enjoy its many benefits, for they are forgiven of all their sin. John 3:20

From the report of the evidence of the glory of the Lord seen in the Lord Jesus on the mount of transfiguration it is evident that the human spirit can be filled, to a completion, with the light of the Father. We must constantly remind ourselves that Jesus was the Son of MAN, thus was identified with all, as one born of flesh and blood into this world. The wonders, the mighty display of the power of the Lord in His life seem to make Him to be one who is super human. He was not, for He was just as you and I are, an inhabitant of this world. Phil. 2:8

His transfiguration revealed the glory which was resident within Him as a human vessel. He went through a metamorphose before their very eyes and suddenly His face was shining as brilliantly as the sun. Light was

suddenly beaming from His face. He radiated with the light of the God of light. So intense was that light within Him that it also caused His clothing to be altered and it too shined with the brilliance of the glory of the Lord. Mt. 17:2 Luke recorded that He was in prayer at this time. That is a good key for us. If we want to see the glory of the Lord, then seek Him in prayer. He also stated that His whole appearance was changed. Luke. 9:29 Prayer will result in the revelation of the glory of the Lord.

## THE SON OF MAN. 52

Jesus gave thanks to His Father. Luke 10:21 In this instance it was because He had witnessed the furtherance of the demonstration of the wonder working power of the Lord. His disciples had been commissioned by Him to perform the same ministry which He had manifested in healing the sick and in deliverance from evil spirits. His spirit was made to rejoice, inasmuch as these who followed Him had received what the religious orders of that day completely missed. His disciples were capable of receiving the revelation of the mighty working of the Spirit of the Lord in those who believe.

Jesus gave thanks on visiting the tomb of His friend, Lazarus. He had been dead for a total of four days and as Martha plainly stated, his body is already decomposing, and smelled of death. This was not an easy situation. Perhaps, had Jesus arrived immediately after his death, it would have been easier to believe but now, Lazarus is already four days into the process of corruption. Is there anything too hard for the Lord. He encouraged them to have faith and they would see the glory of the Lord. With a commanding voice, the voice of faith. The voice of the Spirit, He commanded Lazarus to come out of the tomb. Miraculously, Lazarus was literally carried by the power of the Spirit out from the tomb and made to stand before them. A dual miracle was performed before them that day. His means of exiting from the tomb. His restoration to a perfectly normal human being with no foul smell, not one iota of corruption in his flesh. Perfectly normal. Jesus had to tell the surrounding observers to remove the grave clothes for he was still bound with them. His command was to loose him and set him free. John 11:39-43 Thus, the glory of the Lord, the author of life, was made manifest and they saw the resulting miracle.

Jesus gave thanks for the cup and the bread. He and His disciples had gone to Jerusalem to partake in the Passover. Only He knew that in the next brief period of time He would become the Passover Lamb. The real thing, not the shadow of which the people of that day were participating. As the Son of man, the emotions of His heart must have been heightened and many. The purpose of His birth into the world was coming to it's climax. He was about to be judged in an unjust manner. Condemned without a cause. Crucified for the sinful acts of others but raised for our justification. Rom. 4:25 What a man, who in the face of all that He knew would shortly transpire gave thanks for the coming climax of His life and ministry. The vine was about to die that the branches might partake of His life. Luke 22:17-20

### THE SON OF MAN. 53

The crucified serpent. "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up." John 3:14 Physically, it was Jesus who was crucified. Spiritually, the serpent, Lucifer and all of his works were nailed to that cross. In the wilderness, the Lord did not remove the serpents, which were plaguing the people of Israel, but He provided a remedy. There was deliverance for those who believed and exercised their faith by coming to the brazen serpent, who when viewing it, were healed. Num. 24:7

The fiery serpent of brass was a replica of the serpents of death, a problem which they had brought upon themselves. Sin is an individual matter. We will each give account for ourselves before the Lord. The crucifixion of the Lord Jesus, the Son of man, has a twofold effect. Accepting His atoning blood as our only means of redemption and deliverance from sin, cleanses and heals both spiritually and physically. 1 Pet. 2:24 Healing for the whole man was accomplished at the cross. We must all appear, personally, before the judgment seat of Christ. Rom. 14:10 Some settle the account by coming to the cross and finding pardon. While others, procrastinate and will appear before Him in the great white throne judgment. 1 Tim. 5:24 Once we have committed our sins to Him, there is not more judgment. Those who have been pardoned, bear no more guilt or condemnation. Rom. 8:1

The shape, the form, the material of the cross is meaningless. As a matter of fact, it can become dangerous and lead to false doctrine. After the plague was stopped, the children of Israel retained the brazen serpent which they began to pay homage to by burning incense. They even gave it a name, Nehushtan, 2 Kings 18:4 King Hezekiah, known as a righteous king, changed all the heathen practices which were being used and cleansed the land. Among them was this Nehushtan, which was smashed into pieces. Our hope is not in the cross or the form of a cross, it is in the Christ of the cross. The crucified Lamb of God. His death, His being nailed to the cross, removed every obstacle separating man and the Lord. Col. 2:14 Peace of heart and mind are obtainable because of the blood of the cross. Reconciliation, is available to all, through the blood of the cross. Col. 1:20 These are only made possible through the atoning work which was fully accomplished in His own being when He was nailed to the tree. Inanimate objects of any sort are not a part of His redemptive works in the hearts of men. Who He is and what He accomplished in visiting this world as the Son of man is what counts with the Lord.

---