

God's Governing Light

B.R. Hicks



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Governing
Light*

by B. R. Hicks

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Introduction

God is the Supreme, Sovereign Ruler in His Monarchal Kingdom. God Himself is the Lawgiver in His Kingdom, which He governs, rules, and regulates with His Own Omnipotent Hand. God governs His Kingdom by exercising His Divine Authority, implementing His Judgment according to His Master Plan and the Laws of it, both of which He Himself has established. By His Almighty Power, God rules according to His Purposive Will, regulating and directing the course of His subjects.

As the Supreme Sovereign Ruler of His Creation, God governs in the same way as the captain of a ship who sits quietly at the ship's stern, rarely seen by the creatures whom he governs, as he guides them through the trackless sea.

Men govern small parts of God's Universe according to multitudinous, temporal laws, which mortal, imperfect, human beings write and execute. However, the Almighty God, the Creator of all spiritual and natural substance, rules over His whole Creation by only Ten Eternal, Divine Commandments, which He has Written and which He executes.

After we have been born again, spiritually, by accepting the LORD Jesus Christ as our personal Saviour, we begin to have a desire for God to take the throne of our heart so that He might lead and guide us into His Perfect Will by His Light and Truth.

The greatest peace and liberty that man is able to experience is when he puts his complete trust in God's Knowledgeable, Wise, and Good Government over both man's individual life and over the collective life of His whole Creation.

God has sent the LORD Jesus Christ to come into our heart, not only to save us but also to teach us His Divine Government over our individual lives. If believers will yield to Christ's inner Government, they will experience continual spiritual peace and prosperity. Christ's perfect, humble inner Government of our individual lives permits no affronts either to God or to man.

Christ's inner and outer Government is not mere Counsel and Advice; it is Supreme, Sovereign Authority and Power to execute and enforce His Laws in our life. The LORD Jesus Christ is able to perform and carry out the Laws of His Heavenly Father.

One thing every sincere Christian asks himself, sooner or later, is "How can I be sure that I am submitting my life to God's Wise Government? How can I know that I am being obedient to God's Master Plan for my life and walking in His Will?"

What is man asking when he asks for God's Will? He is saying, "LORD, I want You to be first in my life. I want You to govern each step I take. Lead me, LORD, by Your Spirit of Light and Truth. I do not want to walk in any form of darkness." The amazing thing is that we, as believers, definitely, can know God's Will for our life.

Hebrews 8:6 says that Jesus Christ is the Mediator of a Better Covenant, established on Better Promises. Since the Old Testament saints had a visible confirmation of God's Leading, we would have a less, not better, Covenant than they if we did not also have a sure way of knowing God's Purposive Will for our life.

In Old Testament days, only the High Priest, who wore the Breastplate, entered the Holy Place where he stood by the Golden Altar, facing toward the Ark of the Covenant, to receive God's Will for the people. When God spoke from the Mercy Seat, the High Priest received a Witness from the *Urim* (Light) and *Thummim* (Perfection of Truth), confirming God's Purposive Will for the people. But, in the Book of Hebrews, the Apostle Paul revealed our Better Covenant in Christ Jesus when he penned the following verses:

Having therefore, brethren, *boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus*, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; (Hebrews 10:19,20).

Whereof *the Holy Ghost also is a witness* to us: for after that he had said before, *This is the covenant that I will make with them* after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; (Hebrews 10:15,16).

Thus, it is when we allow God to lead us by the Witness of His Spirit of Light and Truth that we crown Jesus King of our life.

Walking in God's Purposive Will is allowing God's Authority to be the Supreme Ruling Power over us. When we

accept His Purposive Will for our life, we accept His Government over our spirit, soul, and body.

When defining governments, man has said: "Government provides justice for everybody, defends its people from attack, and promotes the people's welfare."

Aristotle said that when government is directed toward the improvement of all its citizens, it is pure government. The true purpose of a state, he said, is the perfection of its citizens.

This is the kind of Government God provides for those who submit to live under His Headship. One of His Purposes in sending the Holy Ghost is to lead us and to govern us, taking us down paths that will perfect our human nature so that our nature will become like the LORD's Holy Nature. God has our welfare, our defense, our justice, our perfection in mind in every situation and circumstance which He allows to come our way. God's Government is a pure Government of Light and Truth.

Some governments benefit only the intelligent (an aristocracy) or only the wealthy (an oligarchy). Some are ruled by one man (a monarchy). A monarchy can be a pure government, but if it is corrupt, it becomes a tyranny.

We live in a country under democratic rule which gives us freedom of speech, religion, the press, and universal suffrage, but if we are serving Lucifer, we are living in tyranny spiritually.

We are born in the natural realm into a worldly kingdom which is under Lucifer's rule, but we, individually, can choose God as our Governmental Head, having our personal life controlled by His Judgments. Consequently, our decision not to be a part of Lucifer's kingdom will engage us in a spiritual warfare as we struggle against his power over our soul; but we are assured of the victory over Lucifer's tyrannical rule because Christ overcame him at Calvary's Cross. We defeat him, day by day, as we *choose* Jesus Christ to be the Sovereign King over us.

If we feel serving God is too hard, we need to stop and consider this question: Have we truly taken notice of world governments which are controlled by Lucifer's tyrannical power?

A tyrant takes the right upon himself to rule over others. His power is not granted to him by the people; Instead, he *usurps* authority over their lives. All tyranny is basically the same, be it a dictatorship, despotism, fascism, nazism, or communism. They all disregard the rights of citizens, showing little respect for human life. Throughout history, dictators have trampled on the liberties of the people, resorted to violence and murder, and used treach to gain authority. Though we have no world governments existing today which are guided totally by God's Headship, Israel's history gives us clear examples of living under both types of governments.

In the Old Testament, Israel flourished as a nation when she walked under God's Headship. Invariably she suffered when she defected from God's Rule and Reign over her and served idols. Tyranny oppresses — fallen Lucifer's rule oppresses. Denying God's Headship stripped Israel of His protecting Power over her. It was God's Power which unified and gave Israel her invincibility. Without it, Israel became weak. Weak means lacking in strength; not able to resist external force or withstand attack; mentally or intellectually deficient; wavering, indicating lack of judgment; not able to withstand temptation or persuasion; lacking normal intensity or potency; not having or exerting authority or political power.

How very true it is that we become weak (have no strength against temptation, no judgment, waver in our beliefs, lack normal power) when we walk out from under God's Headship. We need God as King in our life to give us the strength of His Judgments so that we might have the necessary power to resist devils, power to keep our mind and heart steadfastly on the Prize, and strength to do God's Will and not fallen Lucifer's.

How much we lose when we deny God's Headship. Yet, God loses nothing. He is as True, as Strong, as Faithful, as Just as He was before we denied Him His rightful place as King in our life. Any evil (misery, woe, and affliction) that befalls us under God's Headship is His Mercy. For God is Righteous, allowing only that which is for our own good to happen. Job said that he knew he would come forth as gold after his testing. God's Nature is not tyrannical (tyranny does not stem from perfection), but it is fallen Lucifer who is the father of tyranny.

As individuals and as Churches, we can choose God's Rulership, regardless of what earthly kingdom we are a citizen. Our body can be chained and imprisoned, but our spirit and soul can serve the LORD. We can rebel against God's Rule and Reign over our life, or we can accept the LORD's Government; the decision is up to us.

Besides establishing that God, the "Father of Lights," and His only Begotten Son, the "Day Light" are the Supreme Ruling Forces over the Creation, another purpose of this book is to explain the meaning of living under the Rule of God's Sovereign Governmental Headship. After becoming acquainted with the way God's Will can be made known to us, we should be able to choose God's Headship over us.

We also see, in our study, God's Revelation to man of His Government of Light in the Old Testament and in the New Testament.

God's Government for present man was instituted in the Garden of Eden. Then, Abraham received a Promise from God of a mighty nation which would serve God and be ruled by Him. Later, Moses received God's Laws for

the Nation of Israel, which God had *promised* to Abraham. Under Moses came the time of the High Priests who used the two mysterious stones, the *Urim* and *Thummim*, to confirm God's Mind and Will for them and for the people. The way these stones functioned, in the High Priest's Breastplate, in confirming God's Mind or bearing Witness to God's Word, was a shadow, a type, of the Holy Ghost Witness and the Word Witness in the New Testament. The Spirit Witness and the Word Witness work as a ministry in leading and guiding the New Testament Church, today.

God rules over His Creation by both spiritual and natural Laws. *Spiritual Law* is a term in the Scriptures that means direction and refers to the Revealed Will of God in relation to human conduct.

God's Spiritual Laws include all His Divine Testimonies, Precepts, Statutes, Commandments, Judgments, and Covenants for regulating man's moral behaviour *within* himself and *without* himself or his outward actions.

The Scriptures reveal God's Divine Law or Knowledge of His Purposive Will as a *must* for human behaviour. God's Laws for moral behaviour are one of the special revelations in Scriptures, the other special revelation being that of the LORD Jesus Christ, God's Son, Who is able to redeem man and to empower him to fulfill the Moral Righteousness of God's Laws. God's Laws are perfect, expressing His Divine Authority, Holiness, Wisdom, Understanding, Knowledge, Goodness, and Love.

God's Laws are adapted to the necessities and welfare of mankind. They are conformed to God's Supreme, Sovereign Government of the world.

If we do not allow the LORD Jesus Christ to govern us from *within*, within our spirit and soul, first, we will be unfit to govern others who are without, those who are given to our direction and care as we function as good shepherds over them.

Christ's Government teaches us to allow Him to crucify and mortify the harmful injuries that we give to God's Spirit, Word, and Works and to each other. Hence, Christ Jesus solves this problem by filling us with the depths, heights, length, and breadth of His Wisdom, Understanding, and Knowledge so that we can experience His Governmental Control of us and our life as we study what we must do in order to grow unto the Measure of His Spiritual Stature.

Christ's inner and outer Government over all God's Creation is generated out of the Heavenly Father's Love for all His Creation. All other governing by the creature is generated out of proud tyranny.

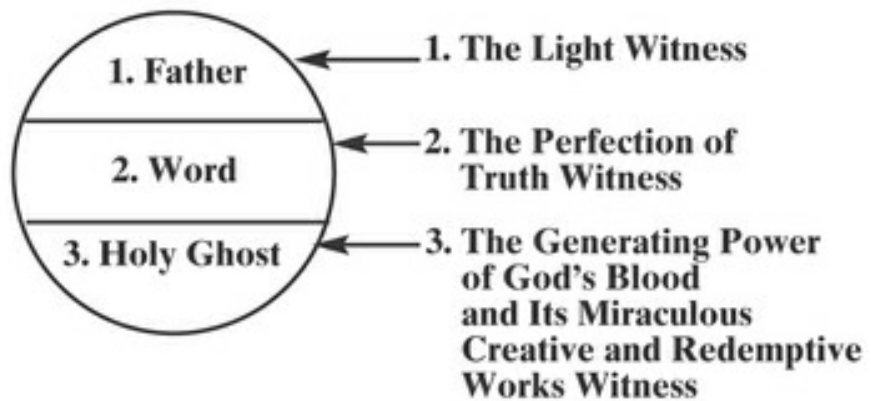
God always has borne Witness to His Government of Love over His Creation by a Threefold Witness of Light — by the Witness of His Holy Spirit, by the Witness of His Divine Word, and by the Witness of His Almighty Works, which Truth was recorded by the Apostle John. The historical Truth about God's Threefold Witness, as found in the Old Testament and the New Testament, forms the central core of this book

This is he that came by water and blood, even Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth. For *there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one. If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son* (1 John 5:6-9).

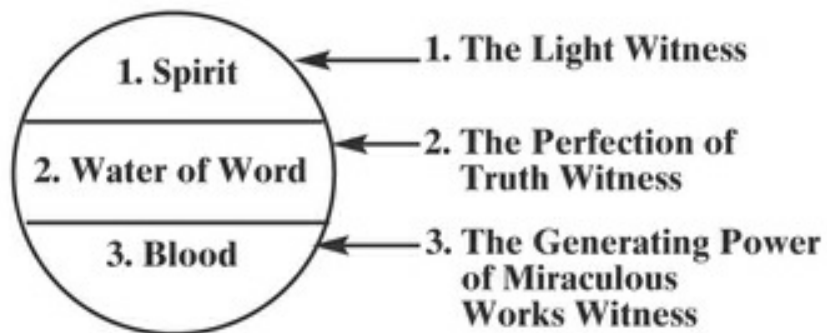
God has three Light Witnesses in Heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost. He has three Light Witnesses on Earth: the Spirit, the Water, and the Blood.

God provided three Witnesses both in Heaven and in Earth to testify to, to attest to, and to give evidence of His True Government, which implements His Master Plan and executes His Purposive Will in and over His Creation.

GOD'S THREEFOLD LIGHT WITNESS IN HEAVEN



GOD'S THREEFOLD LIGHT WITNESS ON EARTH



Another reason for God's giving three Witnesses in Heaven and in Earth is that these Witnesses serve as evidences and *Tokens* of His Master Plan and Purposive Will, and they substantiate and prove His Righteous, True Government. The lessons about God's Token Witnesses also are included in this study.

The Father is the Eternal, Heavenly Light Witness because He is the Source of all Light. The Father's Unbegotten, Divine, Immutable Light in Heaven is our Eternal Witness of the Grace and Glory hidden in His Master Plan. The Father's Light always gives revelation and understanding of what is in His Master Plan that He has hidden in Jesus Christ.

The Word, the Perfection of Truth, bears Witness in Heaven to God's Purposive Will that He has hidden in Jesus Christ.

The Holy Ghost in Heaven bears Witness to God's Almighty Power that He has put in Jesus Christ to perform *all* His Good Works.

The Spirit, the first Witness on Earth, also is a Light Witness to bear Witness of Jesus Christ and His Government by enlightening man's understanding and by revealing the Father's Master Plan and Purposive Will that are hidden in Christ Jesus.

The Water of the Word is the second Witness on Earth to the Perfection of Truth of God's Purposive Will that He has hidden in Christ Jesus, which washes away the evil thoughts in our own will that are against God's Will.

The Blood of Jesus Christ is the third Witness on Earth to God's Almighty, Powerful, Miraculous Works against Lucifer and his powers of darkness. This last Witness is the Thigh Witness, which is explained in Part Six of this book.

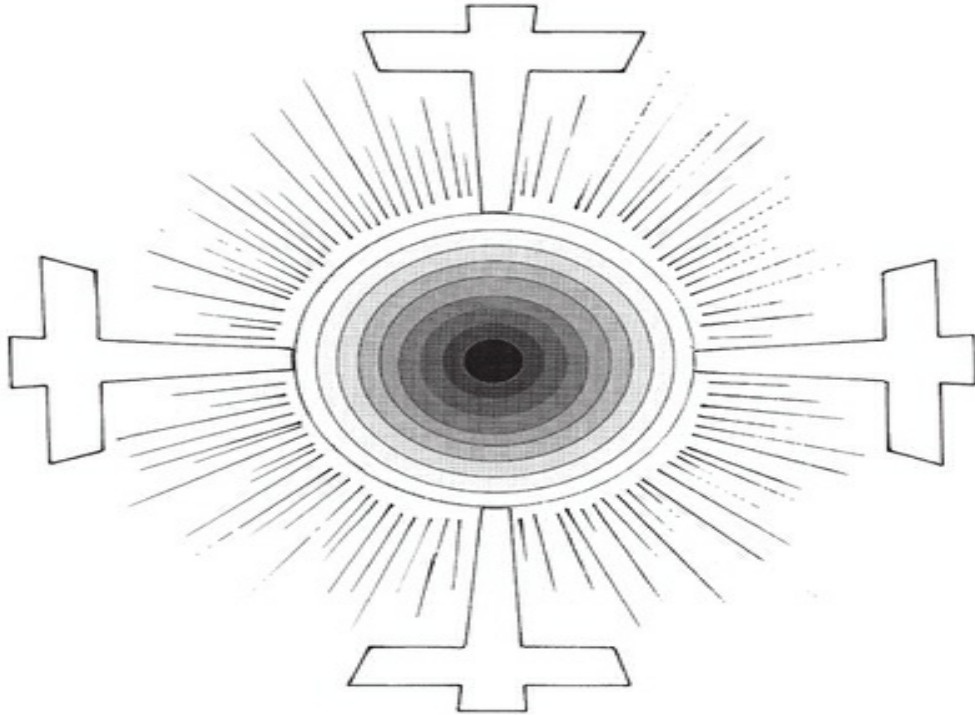
These three Witnesses — the Spirit or Light Witness; the Waters of the Word; and the Blood or the Witness of

Works — confirm God's Sovereign Governmental Light, Life, and Power over all His Creation.

May the desire to walk according to God's Government of Light fill your heart after you have read the following lessons that have been revealed by the Spirit of the LORD as a result of the many years the Author has spent faithfully praying and studying God's Word, in order to find Christ's Wisdom, Understanding, and Knowledge.

— The Author

PART ONE



**God, the “Father of Lights,” and
His Only Begotten Son, The “Day Light”**

PART ONE

The Ruling Forces Over All Creation: God, The “Father Of Lights,” And His Only Begotten Son, The “Day Light”

All Creation is ruled by the Unbegotten “Father of Lights” and by His only Begotten Son, the “Day Light,” Who created the heavenly lights — the sun, moon, and stars — to be His assistants in ruling the Earth and its world of inhabitants.

I. The Supreme Ruler of All Creation Is the Unbegotten “Father of Lights.”

God is the Unbegotten “Father of Lights”.

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from *the Father of lights*, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning (James 1:17).

All forms of Light have their origin in the “Father of Lights”. In the natural realm, there are the three forms of Light:

- the light of the sun;
- the light of the moon;
- the light of the stars.

In the soul realm, there are four forms of Light:

- the light of reason;
- the light of conscience;
- the light of learning;
- the light of understanding.

In the spiritual realm, there are three forms of Light:

- the Light of Revelation of Truth;
- the Light of Faith;
- the Light of Wisdom and Knowledge.

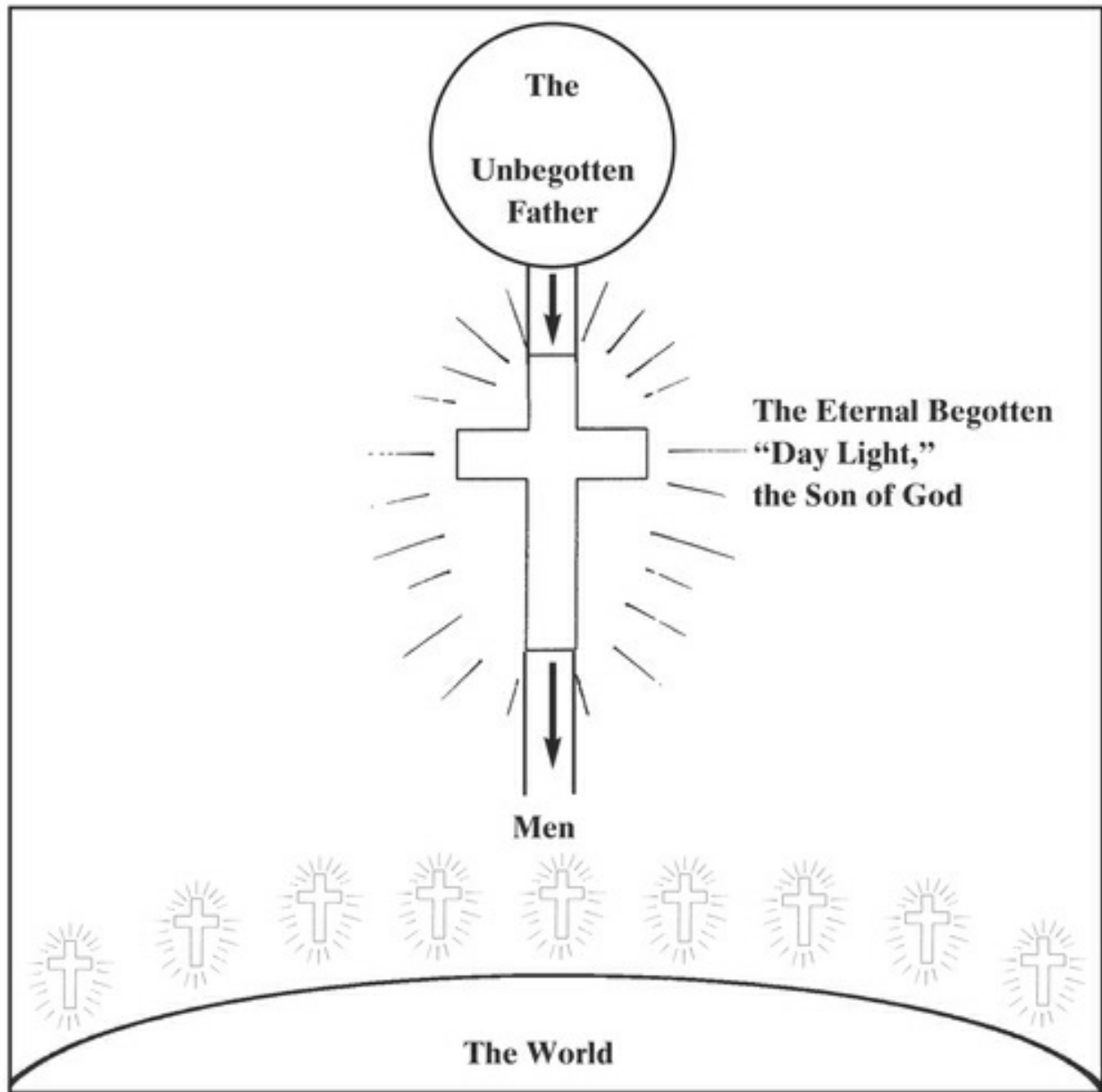
In the natural realm, the Father’s physical light enables man to see and behold the beauty and grandeur of God’s glorious Creation in the visible world.

In the soul realm, God’s Intellectual Light enables man to learn, to see, to perceive the difference between moral Light and darkness, and to understand God’s Reward for walking in His Light and His Punishment for walking in darkness.

In the spiritual realm, the Father’s Light in Christ Jesus enables man’s spirit to comprehend His Divine Revelation of Truth and, therefore, to be, to live, and to walk in His Invisible Spiritual Light. Consequently, all forms of Light have their origin in the Unbegotten, Immutable Father of all Lights.

The Supreme Sovereignty of God’s Government is seen from the beginning of this present Creation. When the Earth lay in its watery grave in the Deep, the *Teh-home* or the Bottomless Pit, God’s Spirit moved upon or brooded over the chaotic condition of the Earth.

II. The Only Begotten Son Is the “Day Light.”



Jesus declared that He is the “Day Light” of the world.

Then spake *Jesus* again unto them, saying, *I am the light of the world*: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life (John 8:12).

God the Father has given the Government of Light unto His Son, the “Day Light,” Who desires that men receive His “Day “Light” into their hearts; whereby, they can become flaming “Lights” for the LORD Jesus Christ in this present evil world.

The Apostle Paul also confirmed that God’s Plan and Purpose for mankind is for them to be bright shining “Lights” in the world.

Do all things without murmurings and disputings: That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, *among whom ye shine as lights in the world*; Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain (Philippians 2:14-16).

God's Plan and Purpose for Governing by Light is simple. The "Father of Lights" rules, with His Lights, over His Son, the "Day Light," and the Son rules over His children of "Light" with His "Day Light." This is why the Apostle Paul exhorted believers to walk as children of "Light," who are ruled over by Christ's "Day Light."

For ye were sometimes darkness, but *now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light:* (Ephesians 5:8).

As children of "Light," we should let our "Day Light" shine in the darkness of this world, just as the "Father of Lights" and His Begotten Son, the "Day Light" shine into the world, lighting its darkness.

The Hebrew word for *day (yome)* also is translated as "Everlasting" or as "from the days of Eternity."

But thou, Beth-lehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, *from everlasting* (Micah 5:2).

Christ, the Son of God, is God's Eternal "Day," Who has been going forth from Eternity-Past with His Radiating, Ruling Rays of Light as God's Begotten "Day Light." This Scripture reveals the Eternal Generation of Christ, the Son of God, Begotten of His Father before all the worlds. Christ, the Father's "Day Light," is ordained to carry on God's Government "in" and "over" the following things:

- "in" Israel, as the Ruler over the nation;
- "in" His Church, as the King with seven stars in his Hand and the sharp sword out of His Mouth (Revelation 1:13-16);
- "over" ALL things (Hebrews 2:8).

God's Kingdom is Light, and His Rulership over His Kingdom of Light is enforced by His Government of Light.

But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him *who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:* (1 Peter 2:9).

Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of *the inheritance of the saints in light:* Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and *hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:* (Colossians 1:12,13).

Christ's people have been called out of fallen Lucifer's kingdom of horrid darkness and translated into Christ's Kingdom of marvelous Light, Happiness, Prosperity, and Joy!

God is *Light*. His Kingdom is Light; and His Government over ALL is Light. The Law of God's Government is Light. God's Son, Jesus Christ, is "Day Light," and His children are children of "Light."

O send out thy light and thy truth: let them lead me; let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacles (Psalm 43:3).

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a *light* unto my path.... *The entrance of thy words giveth light;* it giveth understanding unto the simple (Psalm 119:105,130).

The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: *the commandment of the LORD* is pure, *enlightening the eyes* (Psalm 19:8).

For *the commandment is a lamp;* and *the law is light;* and reproofs of instruction are the way of life: (Proverbs 6:23)

God's Laws of Truth are radiating Rays of Light from His Living *Torah*, the Christ, His "Eternal Day." God rules in His Kingdom of Light by His Laws of Light.

God promised Jesus, the Son of Man, to prolong His days or make them like the "Eternal Day" of Christ, the Son of God.

Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, *he shall prolong his days,* and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand (Isaiah 53:10).

When the Humanity of the Son of Man was raised from the dead and was joined eternally to the Divinity of the "Day Light" of the Son of God, the days of the Son of Man were prolonged into one Everlasting "Day of Light."

Hence, the Son of Man arose as a “Day Star” in God’s Kingdom of Light.

We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and *the day star arise in your hearts*: (II Peter 1:19).

When the Father’s “Day Star” arises in our *lover* heart or mind, our *lover* heart is renewed and filled with Light to love our Creator, God, and the LORD Jesus Christ, with all our heart.

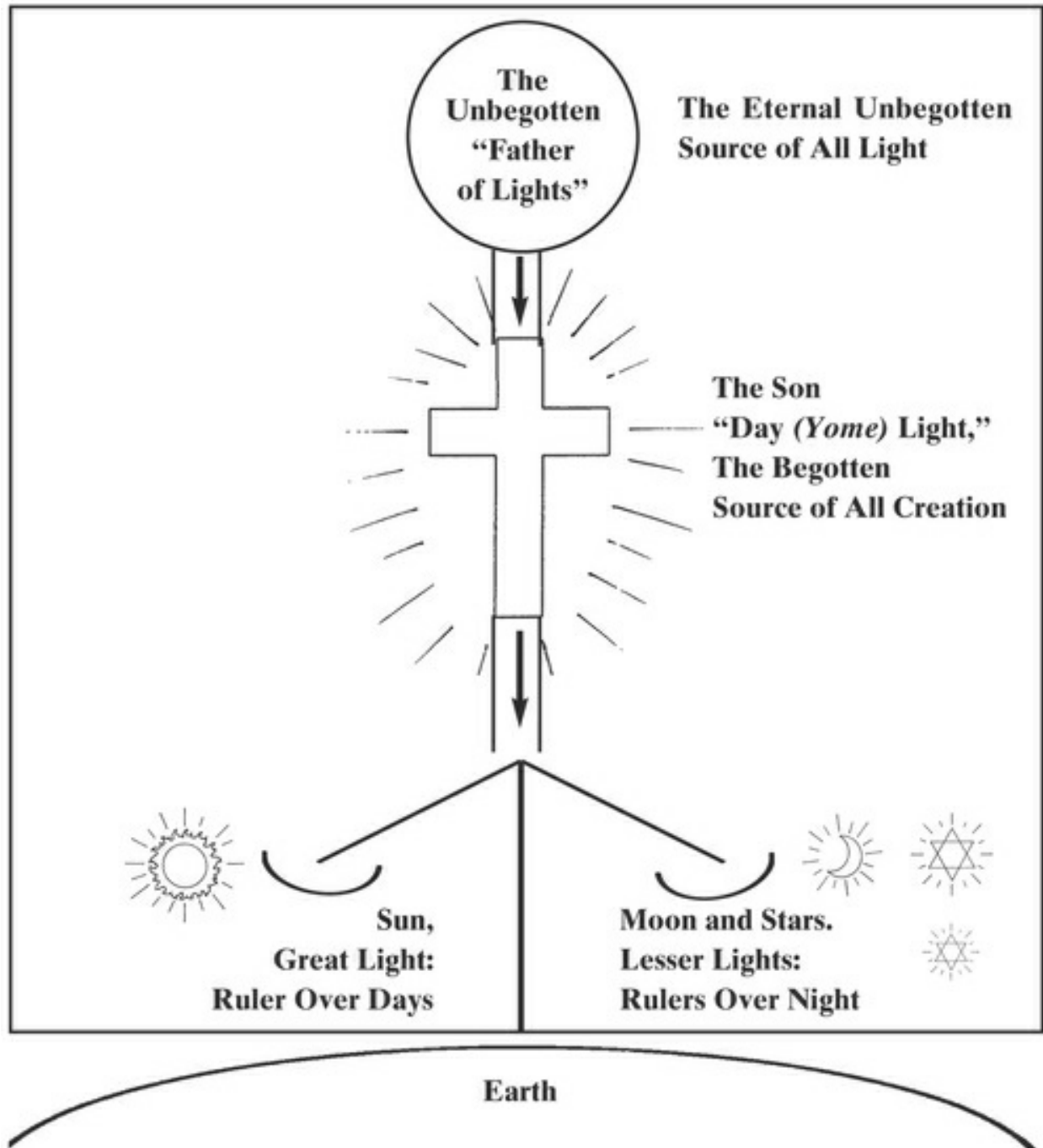
III. The Heavenly Lights in Creation Are God’s Appointed Rulers of Light which Assist Him in His Administrative Government of Light.

The heavenly lights govern and fix the time of days and years. The shining light of the sun, moon, and stars constantly give a threefold Witness of the invisible Light of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. In God’s Kingdom of Light and Government of Light, He always has appointed Rulers of Light to assist Him in His Administrative Government of Light.

The Psalmist also confirmed this Principle of Truth.

To him that made great lights: for his mercy endureth for ever: The sun to rule by day: for his mercy endureth for ever: (Psalm 136:7,8).

Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The LORD of hosts is his name: (Jeremiah 31:35).



The heavenly lights also are for signs to guide man in his movements over land and sea, helping him locate his position; they are man's heavenly compass.

The heavenly lights also regulate the seasons of the year — spring, summer, autumn, and winter. The lights of the seasons rule over seed-sowing time, cultivating and growing time, harvest time, and resting time for man, beasts, and the land.

God's heavenly rulers of light are His *subjects* and the Earth's *servants*.

The Hebrew root word for the *ruling light* of the sun, moon, and stars is *maw-shawl*, meaning to have dominion, government, power, to rule. All the governing light of the sun, moon, and stars depends on Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Creator, the "Day Light," Who, in turn, depends upon His Unbegotten "Father of Lights" to keep His Begotten Light rekindled. God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit all had a part in the Creation, and they all

established Governmental Control, both in the spiritual and natural realms.

This is why Jesus told us to pray to the Father, asking for our allowance of “Day (*Yome*) Bread” each day.

Give us this day our daily bread (Matthew 6:11).

If we look to the “Father of Lights,” in faith believing, He will give us, through His Son, His *Yome* Bread or “Light Bread” that will feed our heart and mind with His Enlightenment, Happiness, Prosperity, and Brightness. Thus, we can grow in the Stature of the LORD Jesus Christ, the “Day Light” or “Day Star,” so that we can be a bright and shining “Light” to those round about us.

David was sure of the LORD’s Eternal “Day (*Yome*) Light” of His Son, which Truth is recorded in the twenty-third Psalm.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD *for ever* (Psalm 23:6).

The Hebrew word that is translated as *for ever* is the plural form of *yome*, or God’s Eternal “Day Light.”

God the “Father of Lights” and His only Begotten Son, the “Day Light” (*Yome, Ore*), created greater lights in the natural realm to rule over the days and lesser lights to rule over the nights in God’s natural kingdom.

And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years: And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so. And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also. And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth, And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was good (Genesis 1:14-18).

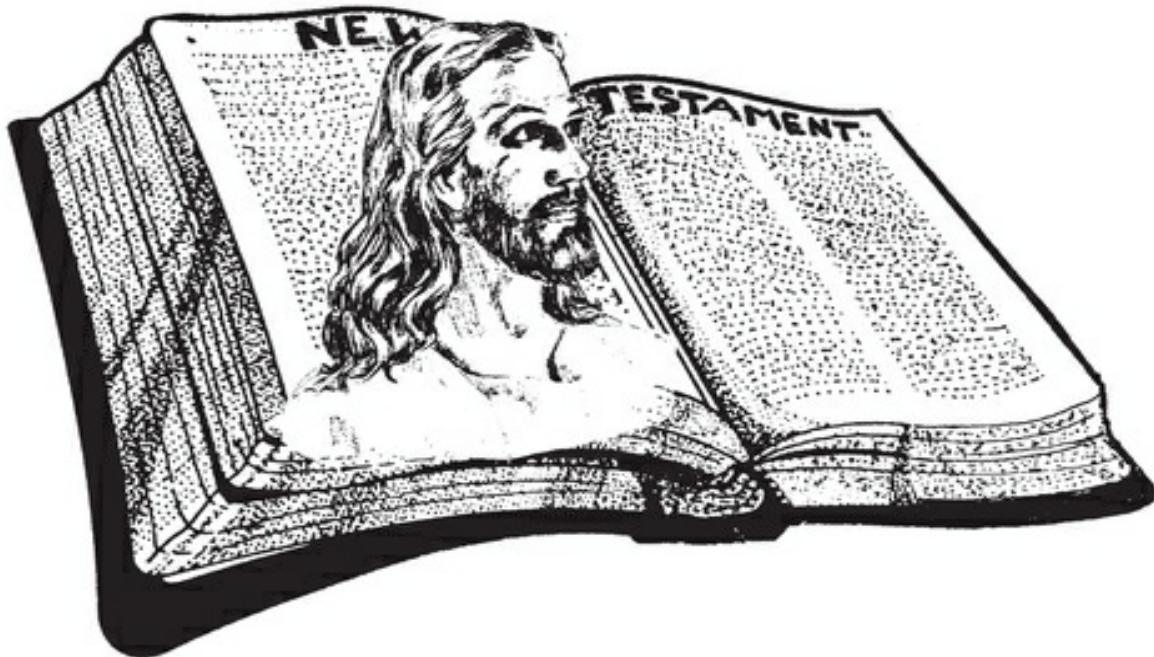
God commanded and His Son, by His Mighty Works of Light, created the natural sun, moon, and stars for the Father’s following, appointed purposes:

- for dividing between natural day and night;
- for signs;
- for days and years;
- for giving light to the Earth;
- for ruling.

The sun awakens man’s being to movement and activity. The moon and stars quieten and put man’s being to sleep in the night. Thus, the heavenly lights divide man’s time between his active, waking hours and his resting, sleeping hours.

God’s Word establishes that the Unbegotten “Father of Lights” brought forth His Begotten Son, the “Day Light,” and, through His Son, the Father created all things, including the heavenly lights which assist Him in ruling over the Earth in the natural realm.

PART TWO



**God's Government of Light
and His Law of Grace
in the Old Testament and in the New Testament**

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God's Revelation To Man Of His Government Of Light And His Law Of Grace In The Old Testament And In The New Testament

God's Government of Light and His Laws of Light commanded man to come under God's Moral Discipline and to bring his desires under submissiveness to God's Dominion, Power, and Rulership. God Almighty's Illuminating Light revealed His Master Plan and Purposive Will for man.

As soon as God placed man in the Garden of Eden, He gave him a Commandment, a Law.

And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. *And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die* (Genesis 2:15-17).

God Himself operates within and according to Laws which He has established. The Universes would be in a state of mass confusion and would cease to exist if God had not founded them on both spiritual and natural laws. Consider, in the following verses, what God said to Job:

Knowest thou the ordinances of heaven? canst thou set the dominion thereof in the earth? Canst thou lift up thy voice to the clouds, that abundance of waters may cover thee? Canst thou send lightnings, that they may go, and say unto thee, Here we are? (Job 38:33-35).

By the Ordinances or Heavenly Laws, God governs the mighty movements of the sun, moon, and stars. By God's Sovereign Dominion, He has appointed the planets their orbits. God's Government of Light has appointed the time and seasons of the Earth; cold and heat; winter and summer; day and night. God has appointed the sun to rule over earthly days and the moon to rule over earthly nights.

God, in His Almighty Power, sends the clouds to give rain upon the Earth, according to His Law or His Purposive Will. With His Omniscient Voice, He appoints the lightnings their paths of ministry to the Earth.

God has planned that each thing in His Creation should operate according to His Divine Laws. Man is no exception — far from it. It is impossible for us to imagine people attempting to live without the natural laws that even man himself has made.

I. God Revealed His Government of Light to Adam-Male and Adam-Female in the Garden of Eden, Through His Positive Command and His Negative Command, and Man Failed to Obey God's Laws.

God revealed His Government of Light to Adam-male and Adam-female in the Garden of Eden. He gave them both a positive and negative Command from His Governmental Light.

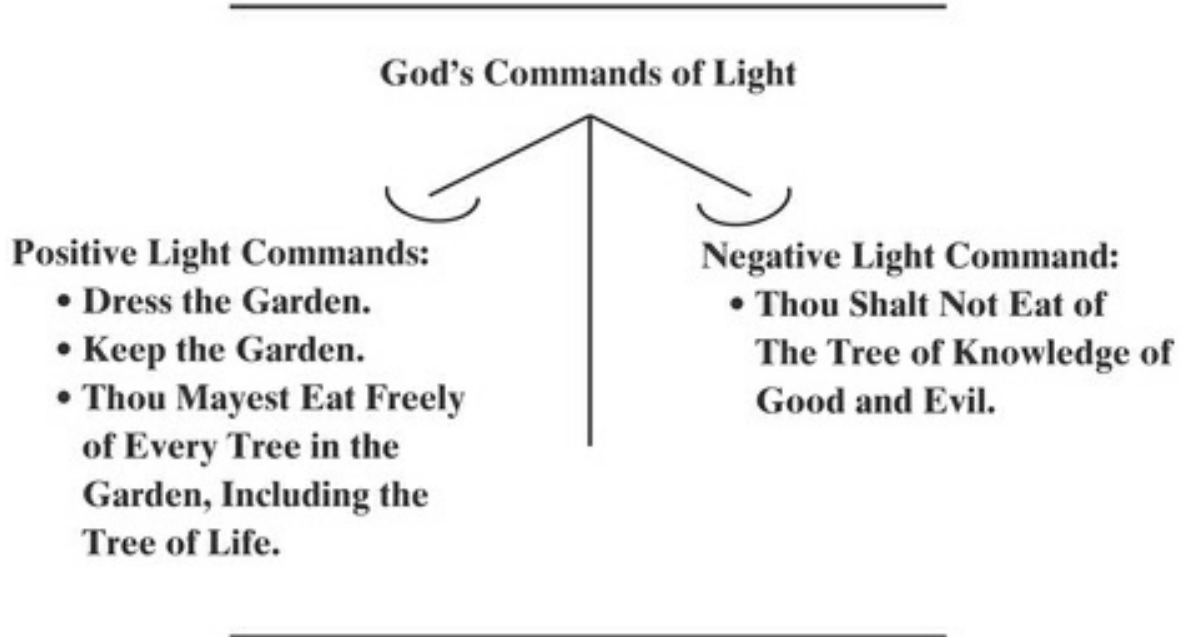
God's Government of Light and His Laws of Light commanded man, after God had put man in the Garden. God's *First Law* to Adam was that of *Work*. He was to *dress* and *keep* or cultivate the Garden and protect it from the enemy by preventing Lucifer from entering the Garden. Work was God's Divinely Appointed Law. What a precious privilege is God's appointed Work!

And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to *dress it* and to *keep it*. And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, *Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die* (Genesis 2:15-17).

God's *Second Law* to Adam was that of *Restraint* — to eat and not to eat. God commanded man to *eat* freely of all the trees in the Garden, including the Tree of Life. But, God commanded man *not to eat* of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. God also revealed the consequence of disobedience, which was that man would *surely die* if he did eat.

God's Commands are Light and Life to man if they are received and embraced in his heart.

For the commandment is a lamp; and *the law is light*; and *reproofs of instruction are the way of life*: (Proverbs 6:23).



Adam-male and Adam-Female had the most sacred privilege of embracing the “Day Light” of God’s Government and Laws, and remaining spiritual children of “Light,” or choosing to reject God’s “Day Light” and embracing the darkness of Lucifer, the Serpent, and his lie. The Serpent told them that disobedience to God’s Commands of Light and Life *would not* bring death and mortality.

But, Adam-male and Adam-female failed to choose the “Day Light.” Instead, they chose to allow fallen Lucifer, the Serpent, to rule over them with his head of falsehood and deceit. Consequently, they never worked by dressing and keeping the Garden, nor did they eat of all the trees in the Garden. Instead, they ate of the fruit from the forbidden Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. Thus, they completely disobeyed all of God’s Laws in the Garden.

God’s Law of Light is the only Eternal, Unfailing Guide as to what constitutes good and evil.

When the Serpent entered the temptation arena with his darkness and lies, calling Light darkness and darkness Light, Adam-female, by herself, was incapable of discerning, through her mental intellect, her reasoning, or her feelings, what was God’s True Governmental Light and what was fallen Lucifer’s darkness and lies.

Adam-female had the most sacred privilege of having freedom of will and choice. She had the ability to choose what she would do: embrace God’s Governmental Light and be obedient to her Creator and Master or reject His Laws of Light and embrace Lucifer’s darkness, subjecting herself to his deceit and lies. Through her choice for self-gratification and her act of disobedience to her Creator and Master, she embraced the Serpent’s darkness and lies and ate the forbidden fruit; furthermore, she gave it to her husband to eat.

As a result of their choices, Adam-male and Adam-female had to face God’s Governmental Light of Judgment. They were guilty and disobedient; hence, they were cast out of the Garden.

Nevertheless, God introduced another Law — the Law of Redemption by Grace, through sacrificial blood.

From Adam to Moses, God’s Eternal Law of Grace was revealed to fallen, sinful mankind. The word *Grace* means God’s Unmerited Favour. God’s Grace is not a payment of debt. God’s Grace is not merited by good works. Man’s total moral depravity, since falling into sin, and his complete spiritual inability to cleanse and save himself become an occasion for the Sovereignty of God to manifest His Eternal Law of Grace.

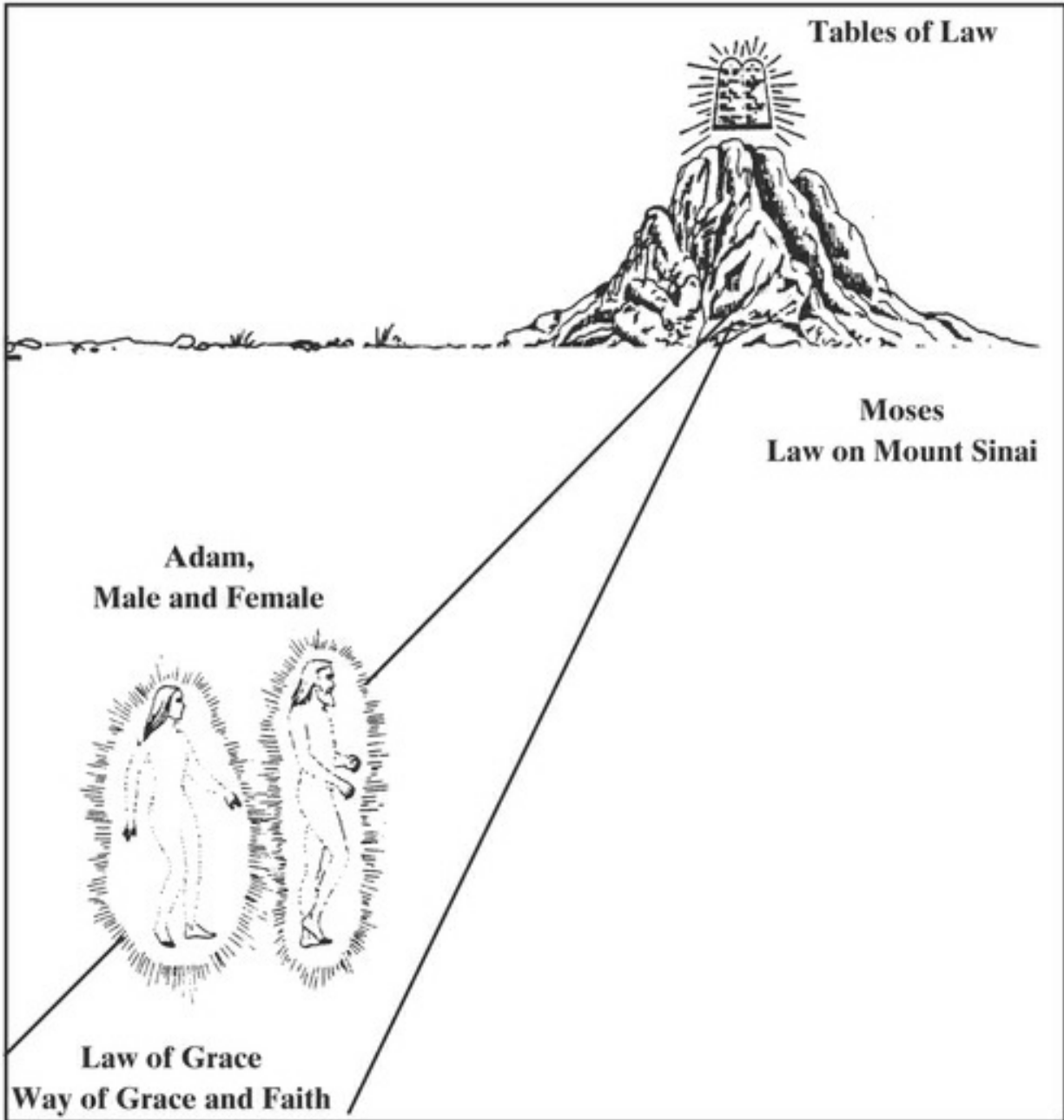
From the time of Adam’s fall into sin until the time of Moses, the world wallowed in a pit of idolatry, except for a few believing souls who found God’s Grace through sacrificial blood offerings, which were a type of the Blood of the LORD Jesus Christ. Abel, Seth, Enoch, Noah, and those who passed down through the loins of Noah’s son Shem found God’s Grace in this way. Only eight souls were saved from the great flood — Noah and his family. And, later, only just Lot and his two daughters were saved from Sodom and Gomorrah, when God destroyed those cities by fire

and brimstone from Heaven. Wickedness reigned everywhere in the Earth.

After sin had separated man from his intimate relationship with the one true God, man worshipped many idols, in all shapes, forms, and kinds. The powers of nature, such as the sun, moon, and stars, and the seasons of the year were worshipped. Kings and cities were symbols of power and authority, so they were worshipped. Sex was worshipped as the source of life. To make their gods more real, man made images of false gods to which he bowed down. Idolatry reigned in man's heart and in the works of his hands.

However, when sin first entered man's heart, God showed forth His Divine Grace, Favour, Kindness, and Good Will to Adam-male and Adam-female by clothing their sinful nakedness with skins taken from sacrificial animals that had given their lives as a temporary covering for the sinful pair, which was a picture of the Blood of Jesus Christ that was to be shed, later, for a covering for sinful mankind.

Thus, from the beginning, God instituted the Law of Grace and Salvation by faith in God's Grace. This is one of God's Eternal Laws. From Adam to Moses, man's Principal Law from God was that of His Grace or Unmerited Favour through blood sacrifice, which was a covering for sin and a shadow and type of the Perfect, Eternal Sacrifice of Jesus Christ that was to come later.



God granted sinful man an allowance of pardon and forgiveness of sin, not as a merited right but as a favour and a privilege. In His Divine Favour, Kindness, and Good Will, God conferred His pardoning, forgiving, and merciful Grace upon mankind from Adam to Moses.

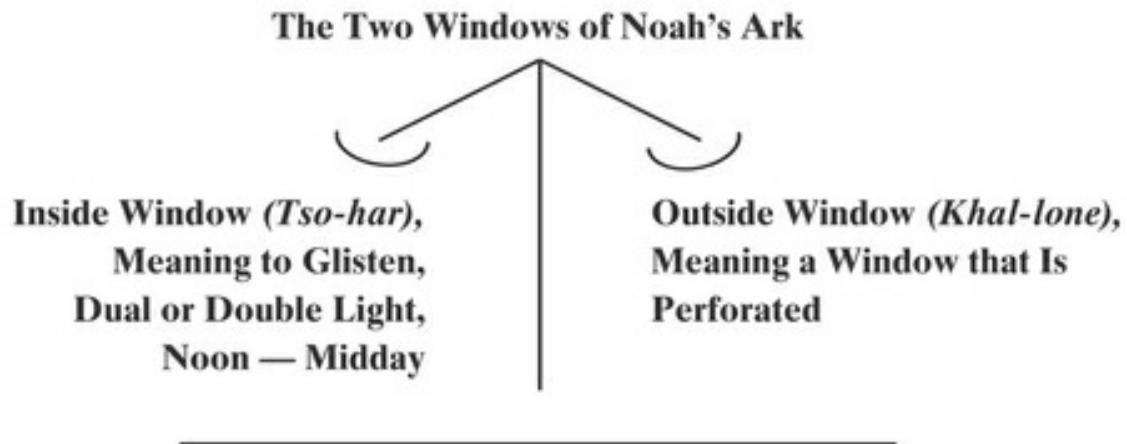
II. God Revealed His Government of Light to Noah.

Later, God's Governmental Light and the Light of His Commandments were given to Noah, in his day, because of the wickedness of all flesh. By the Light of His Governmental Judgment, God chose to destroy all the world's wicked, corrupt people, thereby cleansing the Earth of its unspeakable corruption.

God chose Noah to build an Ark because Noah had embraced God's Governmental Moral Light in the midst of worldly darkness and corruption.

Noah was a righteous, just man; he was blameless, faultless, and wholehearted before God. So, God told Noah to build an Ark for protective shelter for himself and his wife and his three sons and their wives. Noah preached to his wicked generation for years, while building the Ark according to God's Purposive Will.

Noah built *two different windows* in the Ark by God's Divine Instructions: one looked outside, from the top of the Ark, while the one on the inside was also above, in the Ark, for all the creatures in the Ark to look up and see the Light of God's Government, which ruled over them during their stay in the Ark. God's Miraculous, Divine Governing Light ruled over (1) Noah and his family; (2) over seven of every kind of the clean animals; and (3) over two of every kind of the unclean animals so that they lived in peace and harmony during their stay in the Ark.



A. The Inside Window of Noah's Ark Illuminated the Entire Ark.

A window (tso-har) shalt thou make to the Ark, and in a cubit shalt thou finish it above; and the door of the ark shalt thou set in the side thereof; with lower, second, and third stories shalt thou make it (Genesis 6:16).

Jewish history says that the *Tso-Har* Window was a miraculous Stone that Noah hung in the ceiling of the Ark, which illuminated the whole Ark.

Noah made this Window, using whatever Miraculous Stone of Light that God gave him. He attached it to the Ark, and finished it above. Although Noah did not make the Stone of Light, he made it a Window of Inside Light and Illumination by following God's Divine Command in working with it.

The Hebrew word *tso-har* often is translated as noon or midday. This could not refer to a literal, natural noonday, when the sun is the brightest, because the sky was covered with storm clouds, and the Windows of Heaven were open, pouring down God's Judgmental and Governmental Flood Waters that inundated the Earth. Noah's Ark floated upon the flood waters, waiting for corrupt man and animals to fall and for the Earth to be cleansed.

By the Radiating Rays of His Miraculous, Divine Governmental Light, God ruled over *all* the Creation in the Ark — the tame and the wild — creating peace and harmony during all the many days they were in the Ark. Because of Noah's obedience to God's Purposive Will and by the Power of God's Ruling *Tso-har* Light, God saved Noah, his family, and the animal world for the future replenishing of the world.

During the twelve months that Noah, his family, and the animal world were in the Ark, they did not have, nor did they need, the light of the sun by day nor the light of the moon and stars by night. God provided *Inside Light to change the natures* of the animals so that they all were vegetarians. They all were peaceful and harmonious. For twelve months, they all were submissive to the human family who ministered to them.

This is an instructive example of how willingly following the LORD's Light of Government *will change our nature*.

B. The Outside Window of Noah's Ark Provided Natural Light and Air.

And it came to pass at the end of forty days, that *Noah opened the window [khal-lone] of the Ark* which he had made: (Genesis 8:6).

This verse in the Book of Genesis reveals that Noah also made this *khal-lone* window, which was for natural light and air. The Hebrew word *khal-lone* means a perforated window. However, this natural window did not have the taming, transforming Power that the *Tso-har* Window of Miraculous Light had upon all the Creation.

The powerful Governmental Light of the *Tso-har* Window also had to soothe the fears and misgivings that the human family must have had as a result of being shut up with all the animals, both tame and wild, and of having to serve them continually.

Nevertheless, the *khal-lone* window was still a necessity, in the natural realm, because it allowed the Ark to receive air. God miraculously had to prevent the rain from coming through the perforated window, while He generously supplied the Ark with fresh air. This *khal-lone* window was opened at the end of the deluge so that the raven and the dove could be sent out to test the conditions of the Earth.

Noah selected the raven, a bird of prey, because it could rest its feet and feed on the carrion, whether the Earth was dry or not. Noah released the raven through the *khal-lone* window, and it never returned. As soon as the raven was released, finding itself free of God's *Tso-har* Light of Governmental Restraint, it returned to its former carnivorous nature, feeding on the floating corrupt flesh of men's dead bodies.

Later, Noah released a dove through the same window, but the dove found no clean place upon which she could rest her feet; therefore, she returned to Noah and the Ark. Noah waited for another seven days and sent the dove out again. When she returned to Noah and the Ark, this time, she had an olive leaf in her mouth. Thus, Noah knew that the waters were not yet completely abated from the Earth. Noah waited a further seven days and, then, sent the dove out through the same window. This time she did not return. Thus, Noah knew that the Earth was dry.

The raven gave a witness to Noah of the wet, corrupt condition of the Earth. The dove gave a twofold witness to Noah — of the wet, corrupt condition of the Earth — and of the dry, clean condition of the Earth. Thus, through the raven and the dove, God gave a threefold Governmental Witness to Noah about the condition of the Earth.

III. God Revealed His Government of Light to Abram and Gave His Promise that from Abraham Would Come a Great Nation.

God's Governmental Light and the Light of His Commandments were given to Abram in his day in order to save him from the idolatrous condition that existed in his country.

Of all the idolatrous people on Earth, Abram (who later was called Abraham) stood above all the others. Although he lived in the midst of rampant vileness and despicable idolatry, he chose not to be an idolater.

NOW the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed. So Abram departed, as the LORD had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran (Genesis 12:1-4).

And he [Stephen] said, Men, brethren, and fathers, hearken; *The God of glory appeared unto our father Abraham, when he was in Mesopotamia, before he dwelt in Charran, And said unto him, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred and come into the land which I shall shew thee. Then came he out of the land of the Chaldeans, and dwelt in Charran: and from thence, when his father was dead, he removed him into this land, wherein ye now dwell (Acts 7:2-4).*

By faith *Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.... And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city (Hebrews 11:8,15,16).*

God's Governmental-*Kabode*-Glory Light appeared to Abram when he dwelt in Mesopotamia or Ur of the Chaldees. The Hebrew word for *Ur* is *Oor*, which is made up of the same Hebrew root letters as the *Ore* Light of Jesus Christ. The *oor* light of the Chaldees was their idolatrous worship of the sun, moon, and stars. In Abram's time, Ur represented the highest civilization which had been achieved by man. It also was the center of worship of the gods of the sun, moon, and stars.

When Abram left Ur (*Oor*), he was a citizen of the highest ranking city in the known world. Then, he wandered to

unknown lands, leaving behind him all that human civilization had been able to achieve with its idolatrous religion, and he went out, led by God's Governmental Light, to achieve the highest of all Moral Light, the New Jerusalem, the New City, Whose Builder and Maker is God.

God's *Kabode* Governmental Light appeared to Abram in the midst of gross, idolatrous, heathen darkness. Abram made a changeless choice to leave the Earth's highest civilization and all that had been brought to birth by idolatrous darkness, through the people's worship of the Creation's lights of the sun, moon, and stars, and he followed God's Governmental-*Kabode*-Glory Light, although he did not know where it would lead him.

Abram obeyed the Voice of the LORD, and by faith he sojourned as a stranger in Canaan's Land, which also was a land full of idolatrous practices. All the while, Abram continued looking for a country where a nation would be built that would be free from fallen Lucifer's rule. God promised Abram such a land.

What unspeakable faith Abram had in God's Governmental Light, trusting it to guide and direct him according to God's Master Plan and Purposive Will! Abram put himself completely under God's Supreme, Sovereign, Governmental Light, trusting it to send him, then to take him, whithersoever the LORD pleased.

In looking for Governance and Guidance of his life, Abram subjugated himself, in faith, to God's *Kabode*-Glory Light and to His Wisdom. Abram recognized the ultimate Superiority of God's Knowledge over the idolatrous knowledge of darkness; therefore, he submitted himself to God's Purposive Will, believing it to be the most Superior Will in determining the *best* for him in all things. The Power of God's *Kabode*-Glory Light produced implicit faith in God in Abram's heart, causing him to be obedient to God.

Abram and Sarai proved their sincere choice for God's Governmental Light by being *unmindful* of the country from which they had come. They had no lust for the pleasurable things in Ur, nor did they regard its plenteous supplies. They had neither regretful sorrow for leaving Ur nor a repentant will for being separated from it. Their experience under God's Governmental Light was most assuring and satisfying.

God later explained to Abram that his seed would spend 400 years in affliction in a foreign country before inheriting the Promised Land, as a nation, and before making a clean place in which the LORD's Holy Name and His *Torah*-Truth could dwell.

If Abram and Sarai had chosen to return to Ur, they had many things to help them in their return journey.

- They knew the way back to Ur (*Oor*).
- They had the necessary natural strength to return there.
- They had all the necessary time to return.
- They had sufficient financial means to return there.
- The people of the new land in which they sojourned would have been glad to be rid of them.
- Their relatives and friends gladly would have received them if they had recanted on God's *Kabode*-Glory Light as their Governor and Guide and if they had returned to worship and follow the Creation's Light instead of the Creator and His Divine, Governmental Light.

God always has been faithful to reveal His Divine Governmental Light in the midst of idolatrous heathen darkness. The Principle of God's Law of His Divine Government of Light is a continuous, Eternal Beam that shines throughout the Bible, beginning in the Book of Genesis and extending through the Book of Revelation.

God reaffirmed His Law of Promise to Abraham's seed, Isaac, and, then, to Jacob, who became the father of the twelve tribes of Israel. It was during Jacob's lifetime and the lifetime of his sons that they moved to Egypt to escape long years of famine in the Land of Canaan.

Four hundred years later, after Joseph's death, God was ready to fulfill the first part of His Promise to Abraham, which was to bring the Hebrews, Abraham's descendants, out of the land of Egypt and into the Promised Land where they became established as a nation.

IV. God Revealed His Government of Light to Moses.

Moses is another classic example of one to whom God manifested His Government of Light.

Israel had grown from the seventy persons, who had gone into Egypt to escape starvation, into a company of many thousands. Their God-appointed leader was Moses. God communed directly with Moses as He had with Adam, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

NOW Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the back side of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb. And *the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush*: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed. And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt. And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I. And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet; for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground. Moreover he said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God. And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows; And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites. Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto me: and I have also seen the oppression wherewith the Egyptians oppress them. Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt (Exodus 3:1-10).

The LORD Christ, in Angelic Form, appeared in the midst of Governmental Fire-Light that burned in the midst of a thorn bush, to inform Moses of God's Master Plan and Purposive Will for him as a spiritual leader and deliverer of His people from out of Egypt. Moses followed God's Government of Light by going to Israel and Pharaoh in Egypt. And, by the Power of God's Governmental Light, he performed mighty miracles and wonders which, ultimately, liberated Israel from Egyptian bondage.

To the Nation of Israel, the visible sign of God's Leading by His Governmental Light was before them in the Pillar of Cloud, by day, and in the Pillar of Fire, as it led them by night. God's Presence continually manifested Itself before them in the Cloud and Fire. Although the Cloud and Fire faithfully led them out of the idolatrous darkness of the Egyptians, by day and by night, most of Israel continually chose to embrace fallen Lucifer's darkness in their hearts. Therefore, they constantly murmured and complained against all of God's Government of Light, although God faithfully revealed it before their faces.

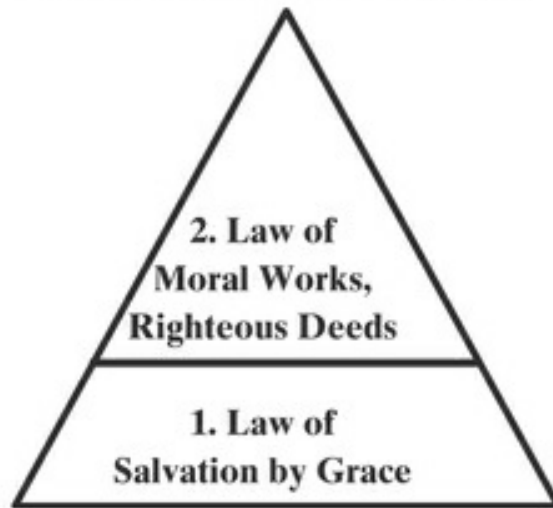
The Cloud and Fire that had led the tiny Nation of Israel through the wilderness was a type of the New Testament Baptism of the Holy Ghost and Fire (First Corinthians 10:2). The Old Testament contains a natural, literal, or pictorial counterpart for each spiritual experience received in the New Testament Dispensation. Thus, we see, in the New Testament Baptism of the Holy Ghost and Fire, the fulfillment of the Ministry of the Old Testament Cloud and Fire as the Holy Ghost leads believers from experience to experience in their spiritual growth in Christ Jesus.*

In addition to having the visible Pillar of Cloud and Fire leading them, Israel also heard the thunderous sound of God's Voice from Mount Sinai and saw the terrible smoke and the Fire-Light of God's Glory, which was like a devouring Fire upon the top of the mountain, when God gave Moses the Ten Commandments.

However, instead of embracing God's Government of Light and His Law of Light, they preferred to embrace fallen Lucifer's darkness, all over again, by saying that they preferred to return to Egypt and live under Pharaoh's rule of darkness and embrace their former oppression and slavery rather than to walk under the "Day Light" of God's Headship and His Government of Light.

The first set of Moral Laws of Righteous Works was given to Moses by which the Israelites were to work and conduct themselves before God and man. Thus, their Moral Works of Righteousness would be correct toward God and, second, their Moral Works of Righteousness would be correct toward each other. Thus, God purposed that the Law of oral Works of Righteous Deeds be built upon the Law of Salvation by Grace through faith.

God's Divine Order of Building



THERE is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit (Romans 8:1-4).

The Apostle Paul affirmed that after Salvation by Grace, through God's Law of the Spirit of Life of Christ Jesus, we can, by Christ's Strength, fulfill the Moral Righteous Works and Deeds of the Law. Thus, we can build a tower of Truth in deeds that will be acceptable to God the Father because our tower will be built *on* Christ Jesus and *by* Christ Jesus.

Jesus summed up these Moral Laws of Righteous Works when He said, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself" (Luke 10:27). Hence, all Moral Righteous Works are Deeds of Love.

God intended that Adam-male and Adam-female abide by His Moral Law of Righteous Works in pleasure since, in the beginning, He had created them Pure and Holy. However, when they sinned and disobeyed the LORD God, He introduced them to His Salvation by Grace. Then, he sent them forth to learn to obey His Moral Law of Good Works in pain.

Later, God also expected the whole Nation of Israel to abide by the Moral Laws of Righteous Works of His *Torah*-Truth, since, in the Garden, He already had given and established the foundational Law of Salvation by Grace, through faith, which He also had given to the tiny Nation of Israel before He gave them His *Torah*-Truth at Mount Sinai. Moses wrote the "Book of the Covenant" after the Ten Commandments had been given, spelling out many details of Moral Behaviour and, also, God's Judgments for unholy works and misconduct.

Thus, we see that God's Divine Laws did not evolve from man's search to find a workable social order or government but were ordained by God Himself from the beginning of mankind so that He could be the Holy, Supreme, Sovereign Governor of His Creation. From the first Laws of Righteous Works and Salvation by Grace through faith in a sanctified offering — given to Adam-male and Adam-female in the Garden — to the Moral Laws of the works of Righteousness that were written on tables of stone by the very Finger of God during Moses' time — God proved Himself to be the Governor of His Creation, the Maker of the Divine Laws of His Divine Government, and the Executor of His Divine Laws.

V. God Revealed His Government of Light and the Confirmation of His Oral Law Through the Aaronic

Priesthood, in Their Use of the *Urim* and the *Thummim* .

After Moses had left the scene, God continued displaying His Divine Government of Light to Israel from the *Kabode-Glory* Cloud upon the Mercy Seat above the Ark of the Covenant, confirming His Divine Directions through the *Urim* and *Thummim*, which were Stones of Light in the Breastplate of the High Priest.

And when Moses was gone into the tabernacle of the congregation to speak with him, then he heard the voice of one speaking unto him from off the mercy seat that was upon the Ark of testimony, from between the two cherubims: and he spake unto him (Numbers 7:89).

And the LORD said unto Moses, Take thee Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay thine hand upon him; And set him before Eleazar the priest, and before all the congregation; and give him a charge in their sight. And thou shalt put some of thine honour upon him, that all the congregation of the children of Israel may be obedient. And he shall stand before Eleazar the priest, who shall ask counsel for him after the judgment of Urim before the LORD: at his word shall they go out, and at his word they shall come in, both he, and all the children of Israel with him, even all the congregation. And Moses did as the LORD commanded him: and he took Joshua, and set him before Eleazar the priest, and before all the congregation: And he laid his hands upon him, and gave him a charge, as the LORD commanded by the hand of Moses (Numbers 27:18-23).

The LORD, Jehovah, chose Aaron and his family for the Priesthood, to minister as Priests for all Israel. Prior to the giving of the Law on Mount Sinai, it was the custom for the father to act as the Priest of his household. A Priest was someone who could approach God through the sacrifice of animal blood and intercede in his own behalf and in behalf of his family. However, when God gave the Law to Moses, He established the Aaronic Priesthood, confining the Priesthood completely to the family of Aaron. This meant that only Aaron and his sons were to minister as Priests. As a result of the insurrection of Korah, Dathan, Abiram, and On against the Aaronic Priesthood, Aaron's Rod was made to bud and blossom and bear fruit by the Miraculous Power of God, proving God's selection of Aaron to be the High Priest. This story is related in the sixteenth chapter of Numbers.

After God's Command to make the proper clothes for Aaron the High Priest, including the Breastplate which contained the mysterious Divine Figures known as the *Urim* and *Thummim*, the Nation of Israel was governed by the Witness the High Priest received through the *Urim* and *Thummim*. It was by their flashing Light and Truth that God's Governing Oral Law from the *Kabode-Glory* Cloud on the Mercy Seat was confirmed to Israel. Consequently, God constantly revealed His Governing Voice to Israel, from the Mercy Seat, with the confirmation of its being made known through the Breastplate of the High Priest.

Aaron and his sons were to be consecrated for seven days, and the Altar for sin offerings was to be sanctified for seven days. From then on, there was to be a continual burnt offering at the door of the Tabernacle of the Congregation. The LORD promised to meet the children of Israel there.

This shall be a continual burnt offering throughout your generations at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD, where I will meet you, to speak there unto thee (Exodus 29:42).

As long as Israel existed as a nation, God governed them through His Oral Law from the Mercy Seat, and the confirmation of it came through the *Urim* and *Thummim* in the Breastplate of the High Priest. In addition to the High Priest, God also used Judges, Prophets, and Kings to help Him implement His Divine Government over His peculiar, chosen people, Israel.

VI. God Revealed His Government of Light to the Judges of Israel.

Joshua obeyed God's Governmental Directions, spoken to the High Priest and confirmed by the visible, flashing Light of the Stones set in the Breastplate, as long as he was leading the Nation of Israel. After Joshua's death, the twelve tribes functioned as a confederacy, with God and His Divine Government of Light as their only unifying force.

In the time of the Judges, we see the work of God's Great Government of Light over Israel. For instance, one of the thirteen Judges God raised up to govern Israel was Deborah, who was a Judge in Israel during the time that Jabin, King of Canaan, was oppressing Israel.

Deborah was a Prophetess, signifying that her activities were divinely inspired by God's Governmental Light. She was the wife of Lapidoth, whose name means a lamp or flame. Some Hebrew histories say that Lapidoth was

analogous to or the same as *Barak* whose name means *lightning*.

Deborah was so full of God's Governmental Light that her speeches were full of inflammatory zeal and such a warlike spirit that the armies of Israel were motivated to follow her. The degree of God's Governmental Light was so great and so intense in her that sparks and flames of zealous fervour were created in the hearts of her followers, including Barak.

Because Deborah and Barak and their armies went out to fight the Canaanites under the Governmental Light of God, the Creator, He caused the lights in Heaven to join in the battle.

They fought from heaven; the stars in their courses fought against Sisera. The river of Kishon swept them away, that ancient river, the river Kishon. O my soul, thou hast trodden down strength. Then were the horsehoofs broken by the means of the pransings, the pransings of their mighty ones (Judges 5:20-22).

God has promised that, in His Governmental Light, we shall see more Light joined to it.

For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light (Psalm 36:9).

Deborah and Barak experienced this Truth in their battle with King Jabin, Sisera, and the Canaanites. They went out to battle under the Governmental Light of their Creator; therefore, He joined the powerful working of His lights in the Creation to His Divine Light in order to win the battle. There was great joy in Israel because the enemy was defeated and swept away.

After the time of the Judges, the Prophets ruled in Israel.

VII. God Revealed His Government of Light to the Prophet Samuel.

After being led by the Judges, who walked by the Governmental Light of the Law as it came through the Breastplate of the High Priest, Israel was led by God's Prophet Samuel.

Israel was settled in a land of plenty, but because she had failed to utterly drive the heathen out of the land, as God had commanded her, she continually lapsed into their idolatrous ways. Israel's neighbours in the land lived in gross spiritual darkness. Therefore, since Israel had not obeyed the LORD completely, before long, we once more see the same old rebellion against God's Government of Light asserting itself as she preferred embracing fallen Lucifer's darkness to embracing God's Governance and Guidance of Divine Light.

VIII. God Revealed His Government of Light to the Kings of Israel.

In Israel's rejection of God's Government of Light, administered through Samuel the Prophet, she asked for a King so that she could be like other nations round about her.

Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah, And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations. But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said, Give us a king to judge us. And Samuel prayed unto the LORD. And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them. According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt even unto this day, wherewith they have forsaken me, and served other gods, so do they also unto thee (1 Samuel 8:4-8).

This request displeased Samuel, so he prayed unto the LORD. Samuel had ruled over Israel with God's Government of Light and Life. Hence, it was natural for him to feel displeased since he had devoted his life wholly to God and to them.

The LORD said to Samuel, "...They have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them."

Israel's demand for an earthly King was a deliberate choice of disloyalty and an insolent rejection of God's Divine Sovereignty and Governmental Light. Because they had forgotten God's many Divine Leadings by His Governmental Light on their behalf, they also had a lack of appreciation for Samuel's services to them.

The complaint that rebellious Israel had against Samuel was that he was old. Although Samuel was old, he still had the following positive, desirable qualifications.

- From his early childhood to his old age, Samuel always walked in a close intimate spiritual union with God.
- He was full of God's Wisdom and Knowledge.
- He was a living spiritual example before their eyes.
- He was not dead; therefore, he still was very capable of leading Israel spiritually.
- He had not yet heard from God concerning His Will for what spiritual leader in Israel would replace him after his own death.

By casting out God's faithful servant, Israel displayed her ingratitude and unkindness toward God and His servant. Samuel should have been doubly honoured in his old age, since he had lived clean and Holy *and had walked* under God's Governmental Light *all* the days of his life.

The people wanted a King *like other nations*; in other words, they wanted a King of Darkness instead of a King of Light. Consequently, God gave them Saul, a King who ultimately followed the darkness of his own carnal will.

Samuel's ministry of God's Governmental Light did not cease, however, just because Saul ascended to the throne of Israel. In fact, Samuel's ministry increased, as he continually tried to constrain Saul to walk under God's Governmental Light.

Saul did not obey God's Governmental Light that came through Samuel the Prophet, nor did he ever seek the Light Witness of God's Government of Light through the *Urim* and *Thummim* of God's High Priest. Instead, in a mad, jealous rage, Saul slew God's Priests in a vain effort to destroy God's Government of Light that came through the Priesthood. Consequently, at the end of his life, Saul sought governance and guidance from Lucifer's darkness that was administered through the Witch of Endor because God no longer would give His Governmental Light to Saul.

And when Saul saw the host of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart greatly trembled. And when Saul enquired of the LORD, the LORD answered him not, neither by dreams, nor by Urim, nor by prophets. Then said Saul unto his servants, Seek me a woman that hath a familiar spirit, that I may go to her, and enquire of her. And his servants said to him, Behold, there is a woman that hath a familiar spirit at En-dor. And Saul disguised himself, and put on other raiment, and he went, and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night: and he said, I pray thee, divine unto me by the familiar spirit, and bring me him up, whom I shall name unto thee (I Samuel 28:5-8).

Saul rejected God's Government of Light; therefore, he was afraid, and his heart trembled greatly at the presence of his enemies, a sad indication of Saul's complete loss of God's Governmental Light.

God could not answer Saul by the Light of the *Urim* and *Thummim* since Saul had slain all the Priests except Abiathar, who had taken the Ephod and the *Urim* and *Thummim* in his flight from Nob, as he escaped Saul's massacre of the Priests (I Samuel 23:6).

What an unspeakable shame for God's people to seek Lucifer's darkness as their governor and guide instead of God's Government of Light!

After Samuel's death and after Saul's rule and reign of carnal darkness, which ended in the darkness of his death, God raised up a faithful King — David — who already had proven His great love for God's Government of Light by walking according to the Light and Truth of God's *Urim* and *Thummim* that governed him according to God's Purposive Will.

Through God's Governmental Light, David took the fortress and city of Jebus from the Jebusites, turning it into Jerusalem and establishing his throne there.

God's Ark of the Covenant, which before had been without a fixed abode, was brought into Jerusalem with joyful and solemn ceremonies. Thenceforward, Jerusalem became the ruling center and capital of Israel because of God's Governmental Guidance from the *Kabode*-Glory Light on the Mercy Seat.

Israel's historical experience from her Kings to the rule of the Romans was mingled with alternating choices between embracing God's Governmental Light and fallen Lucifer's idolatrous darkness. Consequently, when Israel followed God's Governmental Light, she experienced unparalleled triumphs and victories over her enemies. However, when Israel defected from God, and followed Lucifer's headship of darkness, she experienced unspeakably deep humiliations and defeats until, ultimately, she was under the darkened rulership of the heathen Roman Empire.

Throughout the history of the Nation of Israel, God always was faithful to visit her with His Governmental Light in the midst of her idolatrous darkness. It was under the heathen darkness and tyrannical rule of the Romans that the Lord Jesus Christ, the Light of the World, was born.

* B. R. Hicks, [*Israel's Journey from Egypt to Canaan's Land*](#) (Jeffersonville, Indiana: Christ Gospel Churches Int'l., Inc.,

PART THREE



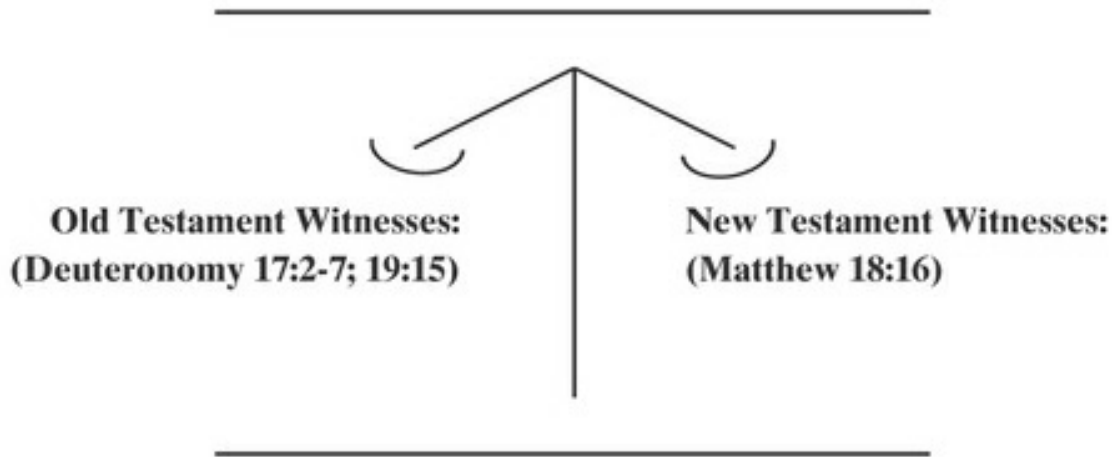
**God's Witness from Heaven
about Who His Son Is**

PART THREE

The Historical Truth About God's Threefold Witness In Both The Old Testament And In The New Testament

God always has provided a threefold Witness from *Himself* so that the Truth of His Master Plan, His Purposive Will, and His Almighty, Miraculous Works would be established.

However, God's Order, in *both* the Old Testament and the New Testament, is for the Truth about man's *works*, whether good or evil, to be established by the mouth of either two or three witnesses from among men.



A man's evil deeds or works, plus testimonies from the mouth of *two* witnesses made a threefold witness against him concerning his crime and his guilt.

I. God Required a Threefold Witness in the Old Testament in Relation to Man's Works.

The LORD's decree in the Old Testament was that no man was to be put to death for a crime except by the mouth of two or three witnesses whose validity as witnesses was unimpeachable. A judicial procedure against guilty persons was only possible on the evidence of at least two *eye witnesses*, plus the wicked works of the guilty person, making a threefold witness against him. The two or three witnesses all truly had to agree in their testimonies. Thus, the two witnesses and the wicked works of the criminal became one united piece of evidence. Consequently, if the guilty criminal had committed wicked works that were worthy of the death penalty, the sentence of death was carried out because of the unified threefold witness of the two eye witnesses, plus the witness of the criminal's wicked work.

If there be found among you, within any of thy gates which the LORD thy God giveth thee, man or woman, that hath wrought wickedness in the sight of the LORD thy God, in transgressing his covenant, And hath gone and served other gods, and worshipped them, either the sun, or moon, or any of the host of heaven, which I have not commanded; And it be told thee, and thou hast heard of it, and enquired diligently, and, behold, it be true, and the thing certain, that such abomination is wrought in Israel: Then shalt thou bring forth that man or that woman, which have committed that wicked thing, unto thy gates, even that man or that woman, and shalt stone them with stones, till they die. At the mouth of *two witnesses*, or *three witnesses*, shall he that is worthy of death be put to death; but at the mouth of one witness he shall not be put to death. *The hands of the witnesses shall be first upon him to put him to death, and afterward the hands of all the people.* So thou shalt put the evil away from among you (Deuteronomy 17:2-7).

The Hebrew word for *witness* is *ayd*, meaning testimony or recorder.

The hands of the witnesses had to be the first upon the criminal to put him to death. Afterward, the hands of all the nation joined the witnesses to put the criminal to death, hence removing the evil from their midst.

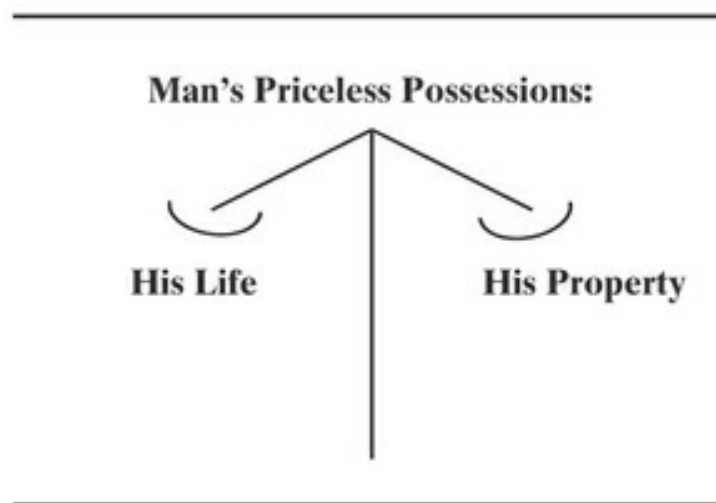
God forbade any kind of torture of the accused that had the intention of compelling a confession or extorting a testimony from him, although the court might really desire it.

Before guilt could be established in the case of manslaughter, murder, the removal of a landmark, or any other type of injury to life or property, there had to be testimonies from the mouths of two or three unimpeachable, truthful witnesses who had seen the wicked works of the criminal.

One witness shall not rise up against a man for any iniquity, or for any sin, in any sin that he sinneth: *at the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, shall the matter be established* (Deuteronomy 19:15).

No sentence could be passed and executed upon the guilty until proper proof had been obtained through the testimonies of two or three unimpeachable witnesses.

God established in His *Torah*-Truth that life and property were the two chief, priceless possessions of man's earthly existence.



Because of this Truth, God instituted Laws to protect man's life and his property. God also instituted capital punishment for willful, sinful destruction of another person's life. And, He instituted Laws of restitution and recompense for sins against another person's property.

The guilt of the criminal was established through at least two unimpeachable witnesses who had seen the criminal's wicked works or deeds, making a threefold witness against him. Thus, the proper sentence was executed upon him. This was God's form of governing in the Old Testament Church.

II. God Required a Threefold Witness in the New Testament in Relation to Man's Works.

The LORD Jesus Christ also confirmed the Truth and the Authority of the threefold witness as a form of government in the New Testament Church.

After Jesus had warned His Disciples against giving offense, He also instructed them as to what they must do if offenses were given to them.

Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But if he will not hear thee, then *take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established*. And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican (Matthew 18:15-17).

Jesus Christ commanded that an offended, injured brother give the offender a threefold witness to make things right: (1) by going secretly, privately, and alone to the offender; (2) by going again to the offender, with one or two

witnesses, if he had refused to make things right the first time; and (3) by going before the whole Church if the offender refused, the second time, to make things right.

If the offender refused the threefold witness of the righteous efforts of the offended, then the offended one was to count his offender as a heathen or a Publican.

Jesus Christ made provision in His Church for the Beauty of His Holiness, Peace, and Purity to be preserved in His Church. Hence, the testimony of His Church would be publicly protected before the world, if His Disciples would be obedient unto the Light of His Governmental Word.

Jesus first instructed His Disciples to go, secretly, to the brother who had offended them and tell him his fault.

If, in our heart, we have conceived a great displeasure against our brother because he has injured us in some way, it is best to deal with it secretly and immediately. Otherwise, we will allow resentments to grow and fester in our heart until they ripen into a secret, malignant malice that will destroy our spiritual, intimate relationship with the LORD and with our brother.

We are not to rail behind our brother's back, but we are to go to his face and confront the problem. If he hears, the truth about the situation is established by us and him alone, through the witness of our two mouths together. If he will not hear, we are to take one or two witnesses to help reason with the offender. Thus, the truth is to be established publicly in the mouth of two witnesses (you and one other) or three witnesses (you and two others). If the offender refuses to bear witness on this second visitation, he must be taken before the whole Church. When the truth about the offense is established thusly, the erring brother must either repent or be counted as a heathen or a Publican.

III. God Gave a Threefold Witness in the Old Testament about Who His Only Begotten Son Is.

Before God's only Begotten Son was unveiled to the world, God gave mankind a threefold Witness of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, in the following ways: (1) through the Mosaic Tabernacle, the Light Witness upon which the Pillar of the Cloud and Fire abode when Israel encamped at her appointed encampments; (2) through the Word Prophets, the Perfection of Truth Witness concerning God's Master Plan and Purposive Will; and (3) through John the Baptist, the Generating Power of God's Miraculous Works Witness.

A. The Witness of the Mosaic Tabernacle Established the Truth about Who the LORD Jesus Christ Is.

The Mosaic Tabernacle bore testimony of the LORD Jesus Christ by the Pictorial Light it presented of His Stature and His Sovereign Power to govern and to guide the affairs of His people through the Witness of the *Urim* and *Thummim* in the High Priest's Breastplate. The Pictorial Light through the *Urim* and *Thummim* confirmed the Truth of God's Voice or Headship that came from the *Kabode* Glory Cloud that abode above the Ark of the Covenant upon the Mercy Seat.

The Book of Acts in the New Testament also confirms the Pictorial Light and Witness of Jesus Christ in the Mosaic Tabernacle.

Our fathers had *the tabernacle of witness* in the wilderness, as he had appointed, speaking unto Moses, that he should make it according to the fashion that he had seen. Which also our fathers that came after brought in with Jesus into the possession of the Gentiles, whom God drave out before the face of our fathers, unto the days of David; (Acts 7:44,45).

God had Moses to erect the Tabernacle in the Wilderness as a Light Witness or Testimony, a figure or picture for the time present, of good things to come — the True Tabernacle of the LORD Jesus Christ — which was begotten of God, not of man (Hebrews 9:11; 8:2).

The Mosaic Tabernacle contained the Tables of the Law, the Light Testimony of God's Moral High Calling for man, which was a figure or a foreshadowing of God's Word, the Christ, Who came down from Heaven to Earth and tabernacled in Holy Flesh, in the Temple of His Holy Body that was prepared for Him by His Father (John 1:14).

B. The Witness of the Word Prophets Established the Truth about Who the LORD Jesus Christ Is.

God also bore witness of the Perfection of Truth in His Son Jesus Christ through the Word Prophets.

To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins (Acts 10:43).

The Prophets did bear witness, through the Perfection of Truth, of the Death of Jesus Christ, that, through His Name and for His Sake and upon His Merit before the Father, whosoever (Israelite or Gentile) believeth in Him shall receive remission of sins.

The Perfection of Truth in Christ Jesus, God's Living Word, assures us that remission of sins brings pardon and freedom from guilt and condemnation.

But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: *for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them*, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more (Jeremiah 31:33,34).

Jeremiah, the Word Prophet, bore witness of the Coming of the Messiah, Jesus Christ, Who would forgive man's *iniquity*, which is the obstacle that prevents man from knowing God in a spiritual, intimate way in his heart. Hence, the LORD Jesus Christ comes into the inward parts of the penitent person's heart and will, and He also puts His Moral Law in the penitent heart and will so that the person can be both a hearer and a doer of God's Word. Christ lives in the heart of a true believer to enable him to be a doer of the Righteousness of God's Moral Law.

The *permanence* of Christ's Moral Truth in the heart and the will is the essence of His New Covenant.

Who is a God like unto thee, *that pardoneth iniquity*, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy (Micah 7:18).

Who is like unto God in Mercy, Who gave His only Begotten Son to die on the Cross so that He could pardon man's iniquity? God, in His tender Mercy, forgives the penitent soul through the Name and Sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ.

C. The Witness of John the Baptist Established the Truth about Who the LORD Jesus Christ Is.

God not only had the Mosaic Tabernacle as a Light Witness of His Son; He also had the Word Prophets to bear testimony of the Perfection of Truth in His Son; furthermore, He used John the Baptist and the generative Power of John's Miraculous Works of preaching as a third witness to introduce Jesus Christ and to make ready a people prepared for His Appearance in Israel, under the Old Testament Covenant.

And they came unto John, and said unto him, Rabbi, *he that was with thee beyond Jordan, to whom thou bearest witness*, behold, the same baptizeth, and all men come to him. John answered and said, A man can receive nothing, except it be given him from heaven. Ye yourselves bear me witness, that I said, *I am not the Christ*, but that *I am sent before him* (John 3:26-28).

Ye sent unto John, and *he bare witness unto the truth* (John 5:33).

John the Baptist was the third and last Old Testament witness about Who Jesus Christ is; He is God's Son! John the Baptist was superseded by the Son Himself, with His Divine Light of Perfection of Truth and His Miraculous Work of the New Testament Covenant of the Gospel of Salvation through His Name. Hence, Christ's baptizing of Disciples unto Himself exceeded and swallowed up John's miraculous Works Witness about Him.

On the occasion just quoted from the Book of John, John the Baptist confirmed his former testimonies that Jesus Christ was superior to him.

As ministers, we always should humble ourself and exalt, extol, and lift up on high the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ because He, alone, is worthy of all praise.

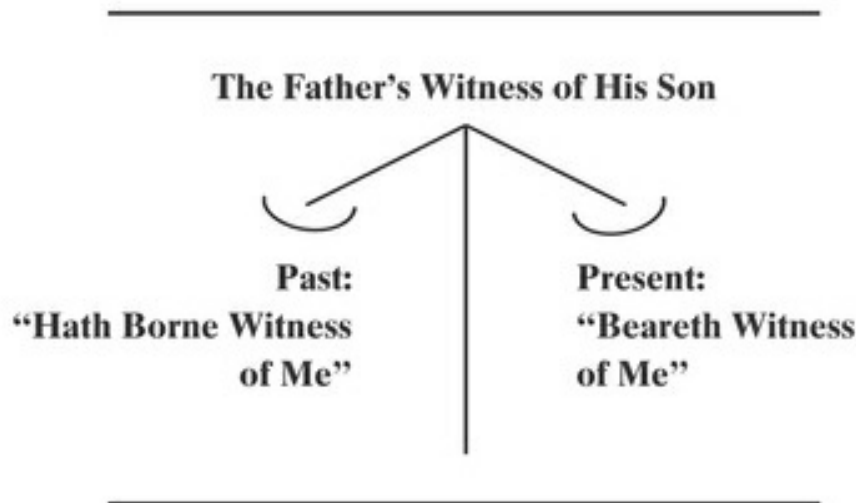
IV. God's Threefold Witness in the New Testament Established the Truth about His Son's Commission and Ministry.

The Lord Jesus Christ also had a threefold witness of His Commission and His Ministry: from His Father in Heaven; from the Light from the Perfection of the Truth from God's Word, which the Son spoke on Earth; and from

the generating Power from His Father to perform miraculous Works on Earth.

A. God the Father's Threefold Witness that Was Spoken from Heaven about His Son Established the Son's Identity.

The Heavenly Father bore Witness, three special times, from Heaven concerning His beloved Son. The Son also acknowledged that His Father had borne Witness of Him and that He continued in His present earthly journey to bear Witness of Him.



And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: And lo a voice from heaven, saying, *This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased* (Matthew 3:16,17).

If I bear witness of myself, my witness is not true. There is another that beareth witness of me; and I know that the witness which he witnesseth of me is true.... And *the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me*. Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape (John 5:31,32,37).

I am one that bear witness of myself, and *the Father that sent me beareth witness of me* (John 8:18).

Although Jesus was the Word, the Truth in Flesh, and, therefore, infallibly True, He waived His privilege to bear Witness of Himself, deferring to the Witness and Confirmation of His Heavenly Father.

The Father not only had borne Witness of His Beloved Son, by His audible Voice from Heaven, but He also continued to bear Witness by His Wonderful, Miraculous Presence in the Works that His Beloved Son did.

1. The Father Established His Son's Identity at Jesus' Baptism.

The first time the Heavenly Father bore Witness about His Son was at Jesus' Baptism, when His Voice spoke from Heaven saying that He was well pleased with His Beloved Son.

2. The Father again Established Jesus' Identity when He Glorified the Son's Name.

The second time the Heavenly Father bore Witness from Heaven about His Beloved Son was concerning His Holy Name that He had bestowed upon His Son, even the Name of the LORD Jesus Christ.

Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour. *Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again.* The people therefore, that stood by, and heard it,

said that it thundered: others said, An angel spake to him. Jesus answered and said, This voice came not because of me, but for your sakes (John 12:27-30).

Jesus Christ had been prophesying about His Suffering on Calvary's Cross; therefore, He asked His Father to glorify His Name on the Cross. These expressive Words of Jesus were a consecration of His Sufferings on the Cross to the LORD's Name and to His Glory. The Father spoke from Heaven to bear Witness that He would glorify His Name that He had put upon His Son.

When Jesus hung upon the Cross, the Veil of the Temple was rent in the form of a Cross, making an opening so that God's *Kabode* Glory on the Mercy Seat and the *Shekinah* Glory in the Ark could be transferred to the Lord Jesus Christ and His Name on Calvary's Cross. It was the Father's Glory upon Jesus' Name at the Cross that caused one of the malefactors to know Who Jesus was and to believe on Him; therefore, the dying man defended Jesus against the railing accusations of the other malefactor and the two thieves.

3. The Third Time the Father Established His Son's Identity Was on the Mount of Transfiguration.

The Father sent His only Begotten Son into the world, and He bore Witness of His Son by giving Him His Commission and by sealing it publicly and solemnly with His own Voice of Fire and by Lightning from Heaven.

AND after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into a high mountain apart, And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light. And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him. Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias. While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him (Matthew 17:1-5).

On the Mount of Transfiguration, the Father's Fire and Light caused His Son's Face to shine like the sun.

The small degree of God's Glory on Moses' body, at Mount Sinai, could be covered with a thin veil. But, the Father's Unbegotten Glory shining upon His Son's Body could not be hidden by Jesus' clothes. Therefore, Jesus' clothing was transformed into "White Light." The Father's Voice out of a bright cloud commanded Peter, James, and John to hear His Beloved Son, in Whom He (the Father) was well pleased. Thus, Christ's Witness of Himself was confirmed by the Father's Witness of Him.

B. God's Witness from Heaven Was Revealed Through His Light from the Perfection of Truth about His Son.

Both Old Testament and New Testament Scriptures bear Witness about Who the Son is. Also, God's Voice came from Heaven to bear Witness of His Son. And, the fact that Jesus had Power to perform miracles, doing always what He saw His Father doing and saying always what His Father said, was a Witness of the Father's Presence with Him.

1. God the Father's Voice Witnessed from Heaven, Proclaiming the Truth about His Son.

The Psalmist bore Witness that the LORD's Voice was accompanied by Hailstones and Coals of Fire and Lightnings when He descended from Heaven to resurrect His Son out of Hell and Death.

In my distress I called upon the LORD, and cried unto my God: he heard my voice out of his temple, and my cry came before him, even into his ears. Then the earth shook and trembled; the foundations also of the hills moved and were shaken, because he was wroth. There went up a smoke out of his nostrils, and fire out of his mouth devoured: coals were kindled by it. He bowed the heavens also, and came down: and darkness was under his feet. And he rode upon a cherub, and did fly: yea, he did fly upon the wings of the wind. He made darkness his secret place; his pavilion round about him were dark waters and thick clouds of the skies. At the brightness that was before him his thick clouds passed, hail stones and coals of fire. The LORD also thundered in the heavens, and the Highest gave his voice; hail stones and coals of fire. Yea, he sent out his arrows, and scattered them; and he shot out lightnings, and discomfited them (Psalm 18:6-14).

By His own Voice of Hailstones, Coals of Fire, and Lightnings out of Heaven, the Father bore Witness to His Son that He was on His way to raise Him up out of Death, Hell, and the grave with His Unbegotten Glory (Romans 6:4).

The Father also confirmed the Eternal Generation and the Supernatural Conception of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, as the Perfection of Truth (Colossians 1:15; Hebrews 1:3).

The Father bore Testimony from Heaven that He especially had designated and empowered His only Begotten Son to the Miraculous Work of Redeemer and Saviour of the whole world. God's Son always was and is and forever will be His Father's Delight (Proverbs 8:30).

2. The Father's Presence with the Son Was a Witness to the Truth about His Son.

Although Jesus Christ also is a *True Witness*, His Witness of Himself was not accepted by sinful mankind as being legally true. Hence, the Father Himself bore Testimony to the validity of His Son, not only by His Voice out of Heaven but also by His continual Presence with Him, as He told His Son what to speak and showed Him what to do.

Jesus' Words, which were from the Father, also bore Witness of His Origin and His Commission on Earth.

And all bare him witness, and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of his mouth. And they said, Is not this Joseph's son? (Luke 4:22).

Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness (John 3:11).

Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then?

Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that *I should bear witness unto the truth*. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice (John 18:37).

If we receive the witness of men, *the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son*. He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son. And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son (1 John 5:9-11).

Although Jesus' gracious Words from His Father proceeded out of His Mouth, bearing Witness of their Divine Origin, the people did not believe in Him. Although Jesus spoke the Father's Words of Grace, the people were graceless wretches; hence, they concluded that His "Word Witness" was worthless.

Jesus declared that "*We speak that we do know,*" referring to His Unity with the Father's Words of Truth and the certainty and sublimity of their validity. Christ's Words were a credible and competent Witness of their Divine Origin. Jesus Christ bore witness to the infallible certainty of the Father's Words of Truth.

If we receive the words of men for a Witness and testimony concerning earthly matters, how much more should we receive the Father's Words of Life through His Son Jesus Christ, which Words carry the highest Perfection of Truth, Authority, and most Unquestionable Infallibility. God's Word or His Record is the sum and epitome of all Truth, which is that God has given us Eternal Life and that this Life is in His Son.

3. The Witness of God's Power that Was Given to His Son to Perform Miracles Proved the Truth about His Son.

Another Witness from the Father about His Son were the generating, powerful, miraculous Works that God did on Earth through His only Begotten Son.

But I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, *the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me* (John 5:36).

I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work (John 9:4).

Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: *the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me* (John 10:25).

Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but *the Father that*

dwelleth in me, he doeth the works (John 14:10).

Jesus declared that He did the Father's Works on Earth, which bore greater Witness of His Commission from God than the words of John the Baptist. All of Christ's Miraculous Works were Holy and Heavenly, and the Father's Divine Purity, Power, and Grace shone through them, proving abundantly that He was sent from God and by God. The miracles that Christ wrought on Earth bore Witness of His Divine Commission from God. The Father appointed His Son and empowered Him to work wonders and miracles, according to His Purposive Will.

Jesus was pleased to be working good, constantly, on the bodies, souls, and spirits of men. The Father sent His Son to work — not to be idle — in His Day Season or in the Light of His Father's Master Plan.

Jesus acknowledged that all His Miraculous Good Works were done in the Name of His Father, which bore Witness that His Father had sent Him. Jesus gave His Father all the Glory and the credit for all the marvelous, miraculous Works that He did on Earth. Through the inseparable Union of Jesus Christ's Divine and Human Natures, a Human Temple was provided, whereby God the Father could dwell in His Son and do all His wonderful Miraculous Works through Him. Thus, the Father's Works, through His Son, revealed the Father's Love, Mercy, and Grace to Christ's Disciples.

V. God's Threefold Witness on Earth Is Given Through the Spirit, the Waters of the Word, and the Blood.

In the present Church Age, God also has given a threefold Witness on Earth through the following: (1) the Spirit; (2) the Water; and (3) the Blood.

The Father's Spirit of Light is a Witness of the Perfection of His Master Plan and Purposive Will for the redemption of man on Earth through the Son's Sacrifice. Jesus Christ, the Perfection of Truth, as the Water of God's Word, is another Faithful Witness because of the Performances of all His Promises. And, Christ's Disciples are a Witness of God's Generating Power of Miraculous Works, through God's Creative Blood and Redemptive Blood in Christ Jesus, because of their empowerment to do great Works by the Holy Ghost.

And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one (1 John 5:8).

And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, (Revelation 1:5).

And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; (Revelation 3:14).

THE THREE LIGHT WITNESSES ON EARTH



A. The Spirit Witness Is the Father's Light Witness in Christ Jesus Through Redemption.

Jesus Christ *redeems* by the Spirit of the Eternal Father's Light, which enables Him always to see what His Father is doing; He redeems by the Perfection of Truth that was manifested through the Waters of God's Word and His Holy Name, Obedient Death, and Resurrection Life. And, He redeems by His Resurrected Blood that was carried to the Mercy Seat in Heaven.

Having therefore, brethren, *boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus*, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; (Hebrews 10:19,20).

The Blood of the LORD Jesus Christ in Heaven bears Witness of His Miraculous Creative and Redemptive Works, both in Heaven and on Earth. His precious Blood bears Witness on Earth to the Holy and Living Way that He has made with His Eternal Resurrected Blood, whereby His people can enter into the Holy of Holies. His precious Blood Witnesses to His people of the great honour and privilege that He has procured for them, giving them comfort and rest from the penalty, power, and presence of sin so that they can give Him ALL the Honour,

Glory, and Praise. What a gracious privilege to enter the Holy of Holies and come into the LORD's Presence to commune with Him, to be joined to His Blood Covenant of Atonement, and to receive communication from Him!

Thus, Jesus Christ is a faithful Witness in all three manners of redemption: by Spirit, by Water, and by Blood.

B. The Water of God's Word Is a Witness Through Jesus Christ's Testimony about His Father's Master Plan and Purposive Will.

From Eternity, Jesus Christ has been and is a faithful Witness to all the Counsels and Instructions of God His Father. In Time, He also is a faithful Witness of God's Master Plan and Purposive Will. Jesus Christ, as a faithful Witness, cannot be deceived, nor will He deceive us. Consequently, we can depend safely on His Testimony concerning His Father's Master Plan and Purposive Will.

Because Jesus Christ is the Father's faithful Witness, He is dependable and unchangeable in His Promises and Purposes concerning His Spirit of Eternal Light; the Waters of Perfection of Truth in His Holy Name, His Obedient Death, and His Resurrected Life; and the Generating Power of His Miraculous Works through His Creative Blood and His Redemptive Blood on the Earth and in Heaven.

C. The Blood Is a Witness Through the Testimonies of Jesus' Disciples after They Had Been Empowered by the Holy Ghost To Do Miracles.

The Spirit of Light and Truth from the Father also bears Witness of Jesus Christ and His Spiritual Stature.

But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me: (John 15:26)

After Jesus had informed His Disciples about all the painful hardships that they would suffer in this world, He revealed that the Father's Spirit of Truth would support the Truth of the Gospel by His Witness of it, lest the Disciples should be overwhelmed by Lucifer's violent torrents of opposition. Jesus also revealed that the Disciples, too, should become His Witnesses.

And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning (John 15:27).

Jesus appointed His Disciples to be Witnesses for Him, and He poured out the Holy Ghost and Fire-Light upon them so that they would be empowered to be faithful Witnesses of His Gospel and the Kingdom of God.

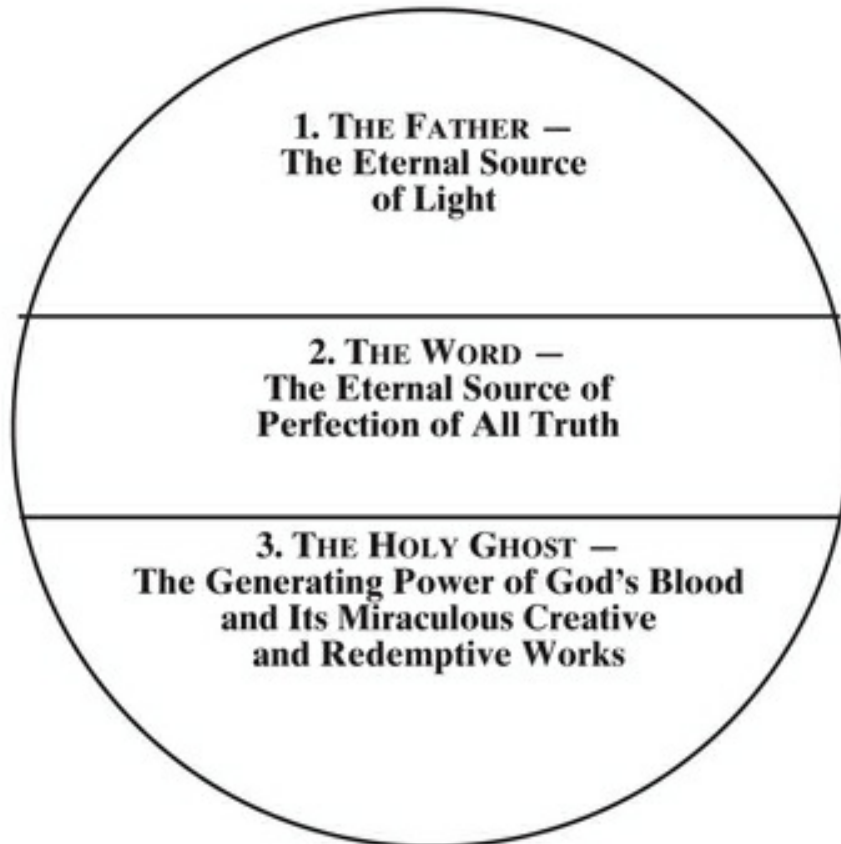
At His trial before the High Priest and Pilate, Jesus' Disciples forsook Him as Witnesses. However, after they had received the outpouring of the Holy Ghost and Fire-Light, they courageously Witnessed about Christ's Gospel Truth so that He could recover His Right to human souls and maintain His Sovereign Crown to rule over them. Christ's Disciples vindicated Christ's Cause by their faithful Witness to His Truth and His Resurrection Power.

VI. God's Threefold Witness in Heaven Comes Through the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost.

God's Word also shows that God uses a threefold Witness in Heaven to bear record or testimony of the Truth: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost.

For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one (I John 5:7).

THE THREE LIGHT WITNESSES IN HEAVEN



God's Word reveals that each of the three Divine Persons in the Trinity or the Godhead are absolutely equal in every Divine Perfection.

A. God Is the "Father of Lights."

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from *the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning* (James 1:17).

The Hebrew root word for *light* is *ore*, meaning to be or to make luminous, glorious, to kindle, to give light, to show light, to set on fire, to shine, to give illumination, happiness, lightning, and brightness, and to be enlightened, to cheer, enlighten, to cause one's face to shine on anyone, to be propitious, to give prosperity, knowledge, revelation, and Truth.

Thus, the Unbegotten Eternal Father is the Source, the Cause of all things. He is the "Father of Lights" Who sends forth, through the LORD Jesus Christ, His Radiating Rays of Brightness, Cheer, Prosperity, Happiness, and Revelation to *all* His Creation. The tiniest flower and the tallest tree can say, "Thou art my Father." We can say, "Thou art my Father, with Whom there is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." The Father is *unchangeable* in His Nature, Perfections, and Workings. He is unchangeable in His Master Plan, Purposive Will, and the Performance of them. Consequently, our happiness or our misery is a result of our own choice and behaviour toward our Heavenly Father. He is an Unbegotten, Eternal Light Witness of the happiness and the good that He desires to

give His Creation.

The Father's Unbegotten Light shines through His Son, bearing Witness of His Infinite Love and Concern for all His Creation. There is no darkness in the Father's Unbegotten Light. It leaves its mark of illumination on all Creation.

The "Father of Lights" bore Witness from Heaven of His only Begotten Son. As we already have mentioned, the Father sent His Witness of Light from Heaven upon the Lord Jesus Christ at His Baptism, sealing His Commission, His Office, His Power and Authority by the Holy Ghost Dove, as Jesus ascended out of the water.

And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased (Matthew 3:16,17).

The Father sent His Glory upon His Name in His Son.

Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again (John 12:28).

The Father also set His Witness of Light from Heaven upon His Son's Nature and Character when Jesus was Transfigured on the mount, in the Presence of His Disciples, *Peter, James, and John*.

While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him (Matthew 17:5).

The "Father of Lights" also bore Witness from Heaven of His Son by raising Him from Death, Hell, and the grave by His Unbegotten Glory (Romans 6:4) and by raising the overcoming saints from Paradise (Matthew 27:52,53).

B. The Word Is the Perfection of Truth.

The second Witness from Heaven is the Word, the Divine Name of the Christ Who existed from the beginning with the Father. He made the worlds, and He was God the Word with God the Father. The Divine Word bore Witness from Heaven that He would descend from Heaven to be made Flesh and to be joined to Jesus' Human Nature.

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth (John 1:14).

C. The Holy Ghost Is the Generating Power of God's Blood and Its Miraculous, Creative, Redemptive Works Witness.

The Holy Ghost Witnessed from Heaven by descending upon the Virgin Mary to generate the Miraculous Conception of Jesus' Immaculate Human Nature and Holy Redemptive Blood in the Virgin's womb.

And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God (Luke 1:35).

The Holy Ghost bore Witness of the Lord Jesus Christ by descending upon Jesus Christ in a bodily shape of a Dove at His Baptism.

And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased (Luke 3:22).

The Holy Ghost bore Witness of the Son of God by empowering Him to cast the spirits of Hell and darkness out of men.

But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you (Matthew 12:28).

The Holy Ghost also came upon the Disciples of Christ so that they would have power to preach Jesus Christ.

AND when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. *And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance...* Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine. *But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words: For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day. But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:... Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ (Acts 2:1-4, 13-18,36)*

Although the Nature and Testimony of the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost are the same, which bear record of all Divine Light, Truth, and Works, their Ministries are different. Although the three Divine Persons are equal in their Holy Divine Nature, they minister in different realms in God's Master Plan of Redemption. The Father reveals the Son as the Saviour of the world, and the Son reveals the Father as the Unbegotten Cause of all things, and the Holy Ghost reveals the Son's Spiritual Stature unto all penitent believers who desire to grow up unto the Measure of the Fullness of Christ's Stature (Ephesians 4:11-13).

These examples of God's Working by two or three Witnesses are sufficient to establish the Truth that, in different ways, God always supports the Truth of His Master Plan and Purposive Will by His Divine Witnesses.

VII. God Gives a Threefold Witness on Earth: The Spirit of the "Father of Lights"; the Water of God's Word, the Perfection of Truth; and the Blood, the Generating Power of the Miraculous Works of the Holy Ghost.

THE THREEFOLD LIGHT WITNESS ON EARTH



A. The Spirit of the “Father of Lights” Bears Witness on Earth to the Truth.

Without the ministry of the Spirit of the “Father of Lights” to draw men to Jesus Christ, His Son, no one could be saved.

No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day (John 6:44).

All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out (John 6:37).

The Word predicts that all hearts who are ordained to Life will be enlightened by the Spirit of the “Father of Lights,” in His Wise Counsel as to Who Jesus Christ is — the Saviour, Redeemer, and Mediator of the believing souls of man. The Spirit of the Father’s Omniscient Will searches out His lost sheep, and His Spirit of Omnipotence shall bring them to His Son, Jesus Christ. The Father’s Spirit shall not drive them to Christ, but His Spirit of Light shall enlighten their understanding; therefore, they shall come, willingly and freely, to Jesus Christ.

The Spirit of the “Father of Lights” gives us His Divine Revelation concerning our lost condition and brings us to Christ so that He can work His Divine Work of Salvation in our heart. The Father has given the souls of men to the Son, and all that He has given to Jesus Christ shall come to Him.

Thus, the Spirit of the “Father of Lights” always bears Witness of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

B. The Water of the Word, the Word Witness, the Perfection of Truth, Bears Witness on Earth to the Truth.

The Water of Christ's Words of Truth always bear Witness on the Earth of its Sanctifying and Cleansing Power in the hearts of believers.

Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and *cleanse it with the washing of water by the word*, (Ephesians 5:25,26).

Husbands are to love their wives as Christ loves His Church. Jesus Christ loves His Church with a pure, sincere, and constant affection, while He ministers to all her faults, failures, and imperfections of which she is guilty.

The first greatness of Christ's Love for the Church is manifested by His Death on Calvary's Cross and His going down into the Obedient Waters of Death.

The second greatness of Christ's Love to His Church is His Sanctifying and Cleansing of it by the Waters of His Word.

The Waters of Christ's Word of Perfect Truth sanctify the members of His Church, permeating them with His Holiness and Purity so that they may be consecrated wholly unto Himself and to God the Father.

The Waters of Christ's Word deliver His people from the penalty, power, and presence of sin and its guilt.

The Waters of Christ's Word, the Perfection of Truth, also cleanse His people, freeing them from unChrist-like impurities, soils, and stains so that they may be bright, gleaming, and shining "lights" in this present evil world.

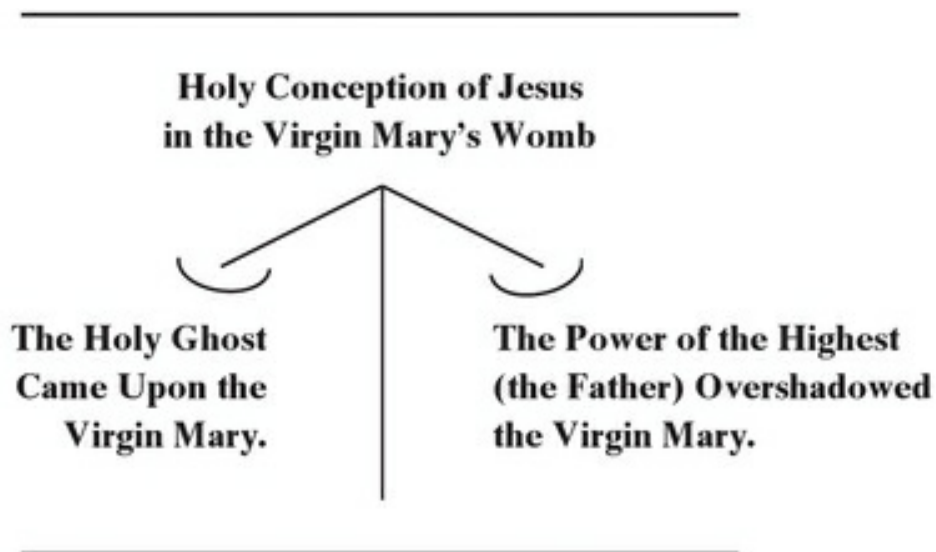
The Waters of Christ's Word bear Witness on the Earth that He has Supreme, Sovereign Power to wash and purge man's heart and will of all pollution and defilement, making man Christ-like in his nature.

The Waters of Christ's Word, the Perfection of Truth, are able to cleanse and wash away spots and wrinkles in the believer's attitude and disposition, making him like unto Christ's own Glorious Self.

C. The Blood of the LORD Jesus Christ, the Lamb, which Was Generated by the Miraculous Works of the Holy Ghost in the Virgin Mary's Womb, Bears Witness of His Almighty Overcoming Power over All of Lucifer's Wicked Stature.

And the angel answered and said unto her, *The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God* (Luke 1:35).

The Conception of Jesus in the womb of the Virgin Mary took place when (1) the Holy Ghost came upon her, and (2) the Power of the Highest of the Heavenly Father overshadowed her.



First, the Holy Ghost came upon the Virgin Mary. The Hebrew word for the expression *come upon* is *boh*,

meaning to enter, come in, gain, to have intercourse with. The Holy Ghost came into the Virgin Mary's womb with His Generating Power and, by His Miraculous Works, begot the Holy, Human, Redemptive Blood-Seed of Jesus Christ, the Lamb.

Second, the Power of the Highest (the Father) overshadowed the Virgin Mary, bringing in the Creative Blood-Seed of Jesus Christ, the Lamb. The Hebrew word for *power* is *gheb-oo-raw*, meaning valour, victory, mastery, might, mighty act, and strength. The Hebrew word for *Highest* is *El-yone*, meaning elevation, lofty, the Supreme One, Most High, the Highest, the Uppermost. This is a description of the Unbegotten Heavenly Father Who is the Eternal Source and Cause of all things and Who is the Supreme, Sovereign Master over all things.

Thus, through the Generating, Miraculous Works of the Holy Ghost and the Overshadowing Power of the Highest (the Heavenly Father), the Holy Redemptive Blood of Jesus Christ (the Human Lamb) and the Holy Creative Blood of Jesus Christ (the Divine Lamb) were united in the womb of the Virgin Mary.

In the beginning, before anything was created, God begot His only Son (The Son of God, the Word or Wisdom of God).

The LORD possessed me [Wisdom] in the beginning of his way, before his works of old. I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was. When there were no depths, I was brought forth; when there were no fountains abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth: While as yet he had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world (Proverbs 8:22-26).

God brought forth His only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ, from His Bosom and trained Him up, teaching and revealing to Him His Master Plan and Purposive Will. God, the Eternal Unbegotten Father, begot the Divine Creative Blood-Substance in His Son, the Divine Word and Lamb, out of which all things were created. God, the Unbegotten Father, Who is the Melchizedek, without Father, without Mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, offered up His Son.

FOR this Melchisedec, king of Salem, priest of the most high God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings, and blessed him; To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all; first being by interpretation King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace; Without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth a priest continually (Hebrews 7:1-3).

The Eternal Unbegotten Father offered up His Son as a Sacrifice from the foundation of the world in order to obtain His Creative Blood-Substance for the creation of all things.

And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world (Revelation 13:8).

Since only the Unbegotten Father and the Begotten Son existed from the foundation of the world, and since the Son of God was slain at that time, God the Father, the Priest Who was the Eternal Melchizedek, had to be the One to offer up His Son, His Wisdom-Word, in order to obtain the Word-Lamb's Creative Blood. All things were made *by Him and for Him*.

IN the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made (John 1:1-3).

Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created (Revelation 4:11).

The Scriptures reveal that God raised Jesus Christ *again* from the dead.

And while they abode in Galilee, Jesus said unto them, The Son of man shall be betrayed into the hands of men: And they shall kill him, and the third day he shall be raised again. And they were exceeding sorry (Matthew 17:22,23).

God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that *he hath raised up Jesus again*; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee.... But *he, whom God raised again*, saw no corruption (Acts 13:33,37).

Who was delivered for our offences, and was *raised again* for our justification (Romans 4:25).

The word *again* means to bring up into the former position or condition; once more; a second time; anew. Jesus Christ's Creative Blood was raised the first time, and His Redemptive Blood was raised, in this second experience, by His Father's Unbegotten Resurrection Power.

Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like *as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father*, even so we also should walk in newness of life (Romans 6:4).

Thus, the Blood is a mighty Witness in Earth of the Holy Ghost's Generating Power of Miraculous Works. Now that the LORD Jesus Christ possesses the Father's Unbegotten Resurrection Power, both in His Creative Blood and in His Redemptive Blood, He has all Power in Heaven and in Earth.

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, *All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth* (Matthew 28:18).

This is why the Creative Matter or Substance in the Creation never can be annihilated nor destroyed and brought to naught. It is impossible to destroy Jesus Christ's Resurrected Creative Blood. Even the scientists have discovered that created matter cannot be destroyed; it can only be forced to change form. The Resurrected Redemptive Blood of Jesus Christ has All Power over all of fallen Lucifer's evil forces.

And the great *dragon* was cast out, that old *serpent*, called the *Devil*, and *Satan*, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: *for the accuser of our brethren is cast down*, which accused them before our God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death (Revelation 12:9-11).

The Hebrew word for *overcome* is *naw-tsakh*, meaning to shine and gleam; to be splendid or illustrious in deed or position; to be pure, clear, true; to outshine; excel in vigour; to last and to endure; to surpass; to sprinkle and make wet.

Every time a believer, by faith, uses Christ Jesus' Blood (with the Brightness and Splendour of the Father's Unbegotten Glory in it) against the Dragon, the Serpent, the Devil, and Satan natures of fallen Lucifer, he prevails against God's archenemy; therefore, the Creative, Redemptive Blood of Jesus Christ bears Witness on the Earth, all over again, of its Supreme, Sovereign Power over Christ's enemies!

Thus, we have seen a small glimpse of God's Threefold Witness on the Earth: the Witness of the Father's Spirit; the Witness of the Water of God's Word — the Perfection of Truth in Christ Jesus; and the Witness of the Blood.

PART FOUR



**The Breastplate of the High Priest
with the Urim and the Thummim**

PART FOUR

The Governmental Witness Of The *Urim* And *Thummim* In The Breastplate Of The High Priest

The LORD always has given Witnesses by which man can know of a surety what God's Master Plan and Purposive Will is for him. Two of God's most notable Witnesses are those which God gave to Israel in the Breastplate of the High Priest in the Old Testament Mosaic Tabernacle.

*And thou shalt make the breastplate of judgment with cunning work; after the work of the ephod thou shalt make it; of gold, of blue, and of purple, and of scarlet, and of fine twined linen, shalt thou make it. Foursquare it shall be being doubled; a span shall be the length thereof, and a span shall be the breadth thereof. And thou shalt set in it settings of stones, even four rows of stones: the first row shall be a sardius, a topaz, and a carbuncle: this shall be the first row. And the second row shall be an emerald, a sapphire, and a diamond. And the third row a ligure, an agate, and an amethyst. And the fourth row a beryl, and an onyx, and a jasper: they shall be set in gold in their inclosings. And the stones shall be with the names of the children of Israel, twelve, according to their names, like the engravings of a signet; every one with his name shall they be according to the twelve tribes. And thou shalt make upon the breastplate chains at the ends of wreathen work of pure gold. And thou shalt make upon the breastplate two rings of gold, and shalt put the two rings on the two ends of the breastplate. And thou shalt put the two wreathen chains of gold in the two rings which are on the ends of the breastplate. And the other two ends of the two wreathen chains thou shalt fasten in the two ouches, and put them on the shoulder pieces of the ephod before it. And thou shalt make two rings of gold, and thou shalt put them upon the two ends of the breastplate in the border thereof, which is in the side of the ephod inward. And two other rings of gold thou shalt make, and shalt put them on the two sides of the ephod underneath, toward the forepart thereof, over against the other coupling thereof, above the curious girdle of the ephod. And they shall bind the breastplate by the rings thereof unto the rings of the ephod with a lace of blue, that it may be above the curious girdle of the ephod, and that the breastplate be not loosed from the ephod. And Aaron shall bear the names of the children of Israel in the breastplate of judgment upon his heart, when he goeth in unto the holy place, for a memorial before the LORD continually. And thou shalt put in the breastplate of judgment the *Urim* and the *Thummim*; and they shall be upon Aaron's heart, when he goeth in before the LORD: and Aaron shall bear the judgment of the children of Israel upon his heart before the LORD continually (Exodus 28:15-30).*

The Hebrew word for *judgment* is *mish-pawt*, meaning a verdict that is pronounced judicially, being either favourable or unfavourable. Judgment is a sentence or a formal decree of Divine Law that applies to individuals or a collective group, including the act, the place, the suit, the crime, and the penalty. God's Divine Judgment (*Mish-Pawt*) determines, with discretion, all verdicts in His Kingdom. Thus, Judgment (*Mish-pawt*) means God's Government over His Creation.

The Breastplate of the High Priest was double and open on all sides except the bottom. It was called the Breastplate of Judgment because it contained the mysterious Divine Stones or Figures called *Urim* and *Thummim*. The Breastplate with its *Urim* and *Thummim* was the means by which the High Priest sought a confirmation of God's Divine Judgments or Verdicts concerning His Master Plan and Purposive Will for Israel, which affected not only the welfare of the individuals within the community but also the entire community of Israel.

The Breastplate was made of a piece of cloth that was doubled over to form a pouch or a bag in which God placed the *Urim* and *Thummim*.

The foursquare Breastplate hung from the shoulder-stones of the ephod. It was chained to the curious girdle in such a way that, when the High Priest wore the curious girdle, he never was seen without the Breastplate of Judgment.

The distinguishing feature of the Breastplate was that it was doubled so that there was an outside and an inside. The *outside* was set with twelve precious stones, each engraved with a name of one of the twelve tribes of Israel. The twelve stones were arranged in gold settings in four rows, three stones in a row.

Then, *inside* the Breastplate, God placed two mysterious stones. In the Hebrew, these stones were known as the *Urim* and *Thummim*. The word *Urim* is a plural word, meaning Lights; the word *Thummim* is also a plural word, meaning Perfections. The flashing and leaping of the Lights and Perfections from the *Urim* and *Thummim* in the Breastplate of the High Priest caused the precious stones of the Breastplate to light up when God spoke His Oral Laws from His dwelling place upon the Mercy Seat, above the Ark of the Covenant, bearing Witness that it was God

speaking to him. Thus, Israel always had a sure Witness of what God's Master Plan and Purposive Will was for her.

When the High Priest needed to know God's Purposive Will for himself or for God's people, he would stand in the Holy Place by the Golden Altar, before the curtain of the Holy of Holies, to enquire of the LORD. God would answer him from the *Kabode*-Glory Cloud that was on the Mercy Seat, above the Ark of the Covenant, revealing His Master Plan and Purposive Will to which the *Urim* (Lights) and *Thummim* (Perfections) would bear Witness through the twelve precious stones.

For example, in Judges, chapter one, verse one, the High Priest asked the LORD, in behalf of Israel, "Who shall go up for us against the Canaanites, first, to fight against them?" On this occasion, the LORD said, "Judah shall go up: behold, I have delivered the land into his hand." Because these Words came from the LORD, the *Urim* and *Thummim* inside the Breastplate of the High Priest flashed and leaped forth, lighting up the precious stones on the outside, bearing Witness that it was, indeed, God's Voice speaking from the *Kabode*-Glory Cloud on the Mercy Seat, above the Ark of the Covenant, and that it was not the voice of Lucifer imitating the LORD's Voice.

Suppose, however, that fallen Lucifer had decided to sneak in and say, "Reuben shall go up first." Israel would have been defeated because she would have been fighting without the LORD's Divine Help. To prevent this kind of catastrophe, God gave the High Priest a sure Witness so that He would know whether it was the LORD speaking to him from the Mercy Seat or whether it was Lucifer, nearby, trying to imitate God's Voice. Should the High Priest hear words being uttered by fallen Lucifer, there would be no leaping inside the Breastplate and no lighting up of the precious stones on the outside; in other words, there would be no manifesting Witnesses of Lights and Perfections, either from within or without the High Priest's Breastplate. Therefore, the High Priest would discount that message of darkness because it would not have been accompanied by the flashing Light and Perfection Witnesses of the *Urim* and *Thummim* nor with the illumination of the precious stones. The darkness of the words would have declared that they were not from the LORD.

Everything that Israel had in the Old Testament Tabernacle, under the Old Covenant, is a picture of what Christians have today in the second, greater, and more perfect Tabernacle of Jesus Christ, under the New Covenant. Since, through the High Priest's Breastplate in the Old Testament, Israel had the sure Witness of God's Master Plan and Purposive Will, and since the New Covenant of the New Testament is called a "Better Covenant," believers today do have better, living Witnesses of God's Master Plan and Purposive Will in Christ Jesus.

The LORD Jesus Christ is a High Priest forever, after the order of Melchisedec. So, with Jesus Christ in the believer's heart, each believer has an opportunity to have a "Breastplate," if he will allow God to form it in him by His Quickened Word, as the believer grows in Christ's Spiritual Stature, and if he will allow God's Holy Spirit to use it.

Sometimes prophecies and interpretations are given in Churches by people who appear to be speaking in God's stead, but what they say is not accompanied by the living, flashing of the Spirit's Light Witness and the Perfection Witness of God's Word. Hence, this is a sure sign that their words are not being spoken by the Holy Anointing of the LORD's Spirit upon them, but rather from their own self-prophet.

The Witnesses of the *Urim* and *Thummim* were special Gifts from God, which He gave to Israel when she was in the Wilderness. However, they were especially for her after she had entered into Canaan's Land because there she knew the LORD as her Spiritual Husband in a Spiritual Marriage Relationship.

Because the LORD was her Spiritual Husband, Israel needed special confirmation of His Governance of her life and her affairs of life. The Witnesses of the *Urim* and *Thummim* were not used in Egypt because God did not give Israel the Mosaic Tabernacle and the Ministries of the High Priest until they were in the Wilderness phase of their journey toward Canaan's Land. These Witnesses were a special treasure for Israel, the LORD's Espoused Bride. And, later, they were for her use as His Spiritual Wife in Canaan's Land. God did not wait until Israel reached Canaan's Land before giving her a confirmed means of knowing His Master Plan and Purposive Will.

We have seen the Truth of how God works by a threefold Witness in governing His Creation. The *Urim* and *Thummim* inside the High Priest's Breastplate and the illumination of the twelve precious stones on the outside of it gave the High Priest a threefold Witness, always confirming that the LORD's Voice was speaking to him.

The Book of Judges contains a classic example of the use of the Witness of the *Urim* and *Thummim*, through which Israel was governed and guided to gain victory over the ungodly ones in her midst.

The nineteenth and twentieth chapters of Judges reveal that the Israelites were in a state of personal, civil, and religious confusion in the Land of Canaan. It tells a story of a Levite and his concubine who had stopped in the city of Gibeah to lodge for the night. A resident of the city offered the Levite the hospitality of his house and, according to eastern custom, obligated himself to protect his guest at all cost. As the evening wore on, certain perverted men of the city came to demand that the Levite be brought forth to them. When nothing could be said to divert the wicked

sons of Belial from their immoral intentions, the Levite's concubine was sent out to them. This was done in the hope that the men's thinking would be rechanneled by the sight of the woman and that they would be willing to satisfy their lustful appetites in a natural way, rather than continuing to call for perverted satisfaction, or that they would be repulsed by the sight of the woman and just go away.

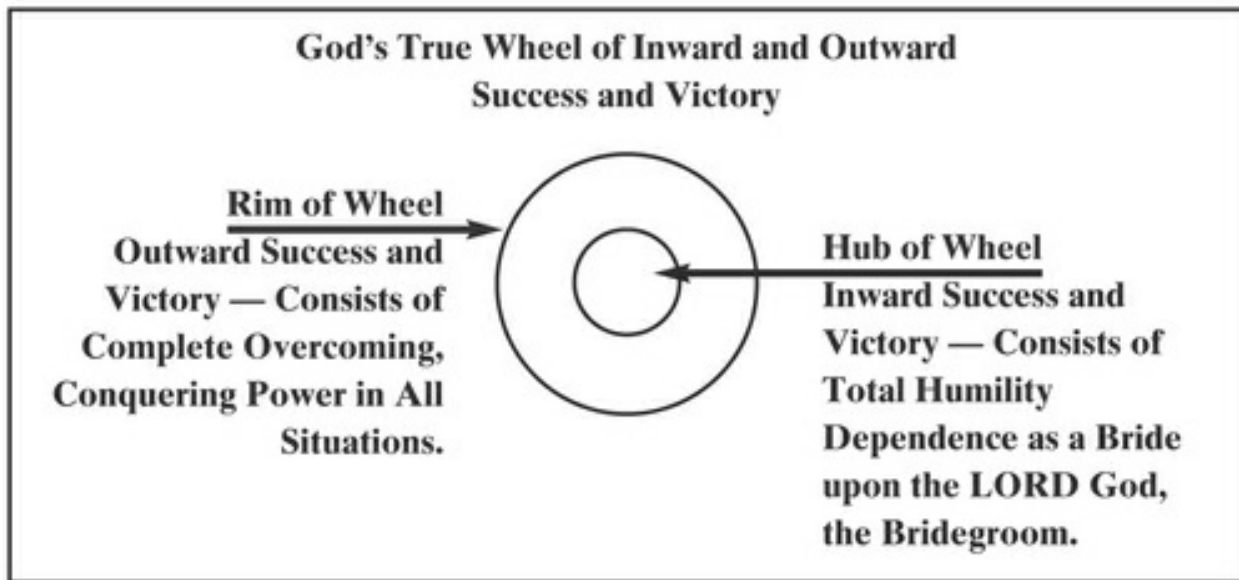
Although the men took the woman, they did not give up their cravings for unnatural, bestial acts. Their inhumane treatment of the Levite's concubine was apparent in every part of the woman's brutally abused corpse, which was found upon the threshold in the morning.

Upon returning to his own home, the Levite cut the marred body of his concubine into twelve pieces and sent a piece to each of the twelve tribes of Israel so that they could observe a visible witness of the atrocious sin committed by the sons of Belial who lived within the borders of the tribe of Benjamin. The men of Israel were angered by what they saw and vowed to punish the guilty ones. However, when they requested that these men be delivered up for punishment, the children of Benjamin took a stand to protect the sinners.

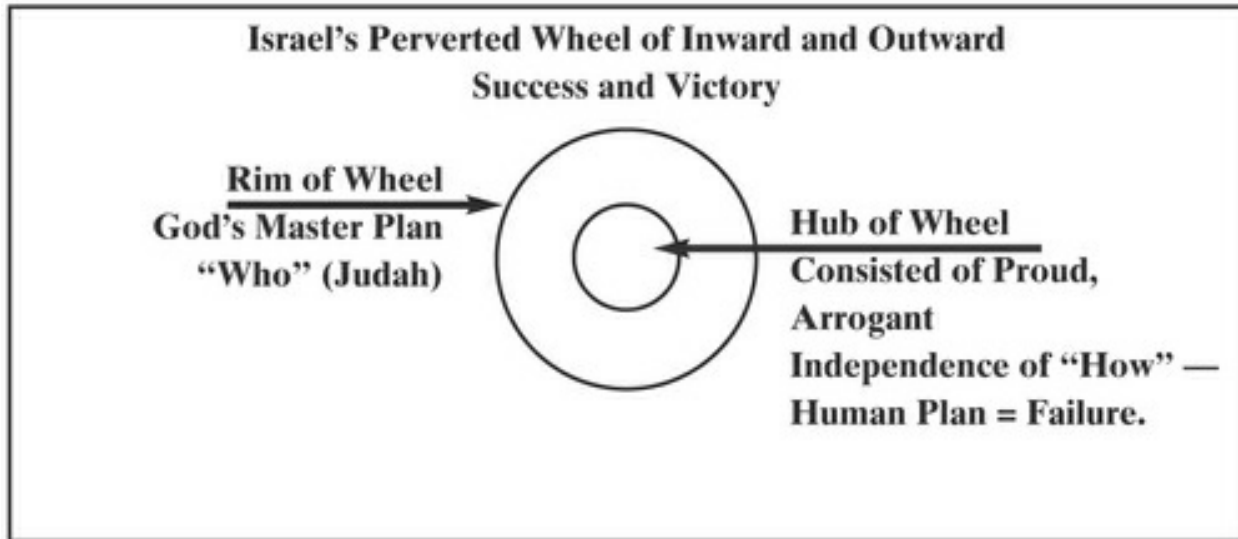
As a result of the Benjaminites' rebellion, the rest of Israel went to the High Priest, who wore the Breastplate containing the *Urim* and *Thummim*, to find out what God wanted them to do about the matter.

And the children of Israel arose, and went up to the house of God, and asked counsel of God, and said, Which of us shall go up first to the battle against the children of Benjamin? And the LORD said, Judah shall go up first. And the children of Israel rose up in the morning, and encamped against Gibeah. And the men of Israel went out to battle against Benjamin; and the men of Israel put themselves in array to fight against them at Gibeah. And the children of Benjamin came forth out of Gibeah, and destroyed down to the ground of the Israelites that day twenty and two thousand men (Judges 20:18-21).

Israel lost the battle because she was blind concerning the true wheel of inward and outward success and victory.

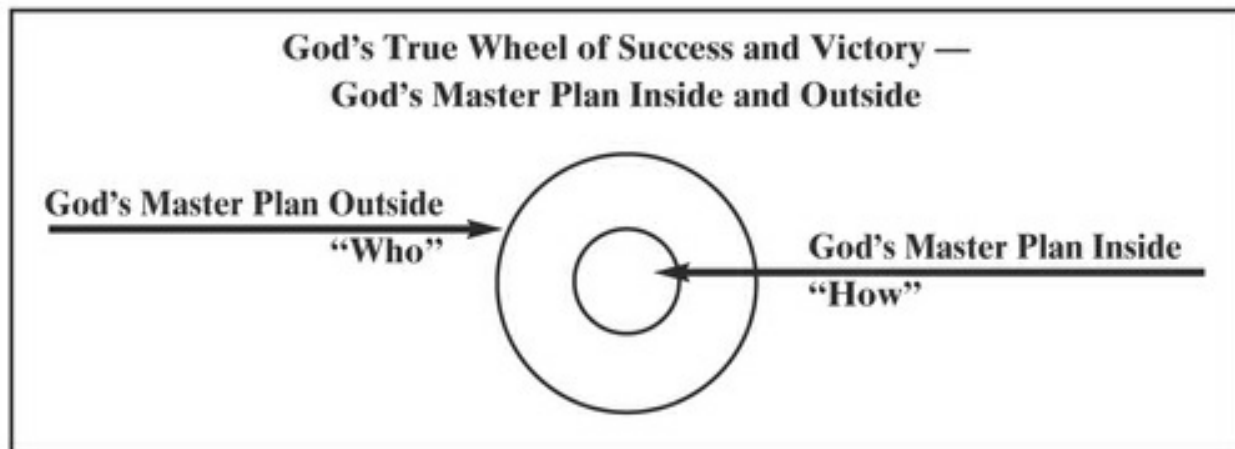


Because of Israel's ignorance, she failed to humble herself completely before the LORD God. She did ask *who* should go up to fight, but she did not ask for God's Master Plan of *how* the battle should be fought. Israel took God's *who* (Judah) and joined it to her own human master plan of *how*. Thus, she formed a perverted wheel, which had no power to conquer.



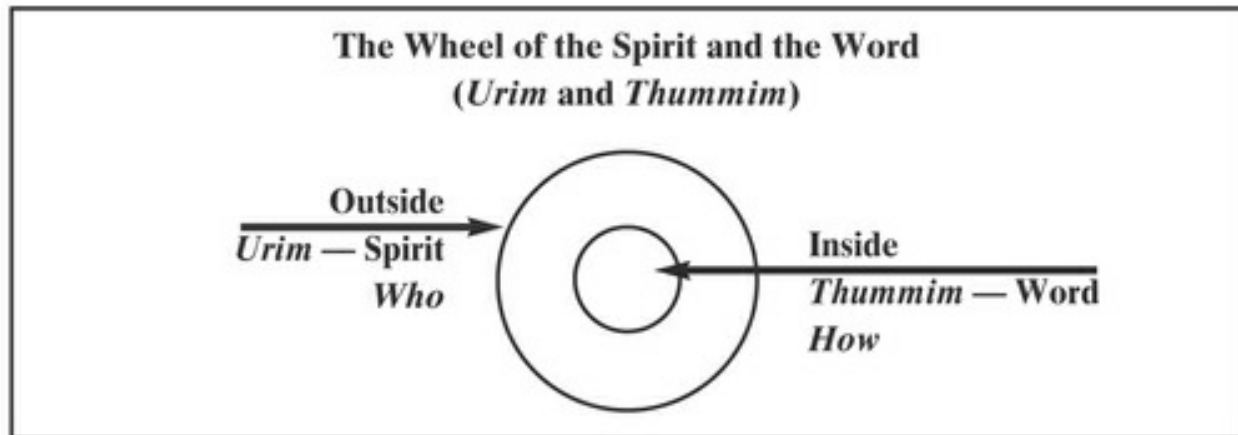
Israel could not be successful and victorious with the inside of her wheel filled with the corruption of perverted, arrogant human independence. The true wheel of success and victory consists of God's Master Plan being inside and outside.

We cannot punish someone else for acts of perversion while we are tolerating the existence, in our own carnal heart, of the corruption of perverted, arrogant human independence from God because both are against God.



The *how* of God's Master Plan is just as important as the *who* of His Plan. We cannot take His *who* and join it to our *how* and expect it to work; and, yet, this was what Israel did.

As Israel of old, many people, today, think that the Holy Ghost Witness, which is pictured by the *Urim* in the Breastplate of the High Priest, will work with just God's revelation of *Who*, without God's Master Plan that is revealed in His Word, which is pictured by the *Thummim*.



The Witness of God's Word on the inside and the Witness of His Spirit on the outside assure immediate inward and outward success and victory. Our carnal idea of success and victory is aimed at the external and visible. God's idea of success and victory, however, is aimed, first, at the inward (invisible) and, second, at the outward (visible). God wants spiritual success, first, and natural success second.

In our example in the Book of Judges, chapters nineteen and twenty, the LORD witnessed that Judah should go fight. Yet, they were defeated because they did not seek God's Will in *how* the battle was to be fought. On their first encounter, they lost 22,000 men in one day because their obedience to God was only partial. The men of Israel put themselves in array to fight the enemy, but their plan of *how* to fight the battle failed. Later, they learned that God's Plan included "liars in wait." This incident shows that doing God's Will, partially, results in outward suffering and loss.

The next verses record Israel's response on this occasion.

And the people, the men of Israel, encouraged themselves, and set their battle again in array in the place where they put themselves in array the first day. (And the children of Israel went up and wept before the LORD until even, and asked counsel of the LORD, saying, Shall I go up again to battle against the children of Benjamin my brother? And the LORD said, Go up against him.) (Judges 20:22,23).

Great suffering came to the Israelites when they moved in partial obedience to the revealed Will of God. Yet, all was not lost, for, through the outward defeat, they gained a broken spirit inwardly. This defeat worked together for their spiritual good, as a nation, causing them to come before the LORD, weeping out of a broken heart.

Israel's brokenness, however, was not great enough to cause them to set aside their own plan for victory. They enquired a second time whether to go up to fight. God said, "Go up." And, for the second time, they set themselves in battle array according to *their own plan* of *how* the battle should be fought.

While God wants a broken and contrite heart within us all, He is after more than that. Just as He had a purpose in leading the children of Israel through mortification and loss, so will He lead us into the way of suffering so that we might learn mortification of our independent, arrogant flesh, which projects its own master plan in the place of the Master Plan of God's Word. As we suffer the mortification of our flesh, we will gain a broken and humble spirit inwardly.

God's Word says, "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise" (Psalm 51:17). When we are touched in the inner depths of our heart, it causes a brokenness, and tears flow out. We should be ashamed to come before the Presence of the LORD with proud hearts and dry eyes. God loves our tears so much that He preserves them in a bottle and writes them in a book. "...put thou my tears in thy bottle: are they not in thy book?" (Psalm 56:8).

In the second battle, eighteen thousand men were lost as a result of Israel's partial obedience to God's second Witness. God's Will told them to fight the Benjaminites, but again, they joined, to God's Divine Will, their own plan of *how* to obtain the victory. Thus, we see more outward suffering and loss, when the revealed Will of God was joined to the plan of the human will. Fortunately, instead of letting the suffering and loss embitter them, they went before the LORD with more tears, more fastings, and more prayers. God was forming *inward* success and victory in them, which was preparing them for outward success and victory. Having gained inner success and victory over their blindness, which had caused them to ignore God's Master Plan, all the things pertaining to their outer success

and victory now followed.

Then all the children of Israel, and all the people, went up, and came unto the house of God, and wept, and sat there before the LORD, and fasted that day until even, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the LORD (Judges 20:26).

God allowed suffering and loss in order to bring Israel to the ultimate depths of humility in their own hearts before He gave them victory over their brethren, the Benjaminites.

As a result of their repentance, true humility began to be manifested among them. First, Israel wept. She bemoaned, bewailed, and mournfully lamented her helplessness. The feeling of contrition was far more intense than on the first occasion. Israel knew something had to be dreadfully wrong, when her purpose to punish a foul, immoral crime met with continual disaster.

Instead of leaning totally on the LORD, Israel had been trusting in her so-called righteous reason, in the superiority of her strength, and in her own human plan. She had not learned that true outward success and victory must be preceded by the inward success and victory that only total humility dependence on God brings.

God does not give success and victory when a righteous cause is joined to proud, vain independence of the carnal heart. God is not obligated to man to fight his battles for him when man uses his own plan of *how* to do it. Israel was trying to win over the outward perversion of Benjamin, while they, inwardly, had perverted God's Righteous Moral Cause by joining it to the plans of their own independent, perverted, proud hearts. Hitherto, they were so sure of their success and victory that they never asked God for His Blessing. They only asked, "Who shall go up first?" and, "Shall we go up?" But, then, they wept and sought God's favour because they saw how helpless they were when they used their own plan.

Second, Israel sat before the LORD. They sat in quietness, judging themselves before the LORD. They tarried and waited before the LORD until they felt their hearts were joined to the LORD through their humility dependence on Him to accomplish His Righteous Cause and Plan.

Third, Israel fasted. They "covered their mouths from food," displaying their intense desire to see God's Moral, Righteous Cause and Plan vindicated.

Fourth, Israel offered whole burnt sacrifices and peace offerings. The burnt offerings brought Israel into a higher realm of spiritual consecration to God the Father. As the sacrifices were consumed by the illuminating, purifying, life-giving Fire from the *Torah*, Israel enjoyed a new, fresh Marriage Union with God in her heart. The peace offering gave Israel a new, fresh grateful and thankful union of peace and reconciliation to God. At last, Israel was successful and victorious on the *inside*. Therefore, she gained the Blessing and Favour of God in her outward battle. She had the Infinite, Divine Promise of victory and God's Divine Window through which she could look and see "how" to obtain the victory through "liars in wait."

The LORD could not have given them the victory before they had experienced suffering because their victory would have been joined to their exalted, perverted pride. God will not bless one perverted will in order to destroy another perverted will. Israel hated the depths of perversion they saw in the Benjaminites, yet they clung to their own perverted "how" in a vain effort to overcome them. It would have been like saying that a serpent in one place should die but that a serpent in another place should be blessed and allowed to live. God's Justice and Righteousness demand that the serpents of sin die in all places.

In the perverted pride of their own strength and human plan, Israel would have reached out to claim the honour for the victory over Benjamin instead of giving God the Glory that He rightfully deserved. By weeping, waiting, fasting, and offering sacrifices before the LORD, Israel mortified their proud, inde superiority of strength and their own human plan that, had it been successful, would have caused them to revel in their own greatness. Then, out of their mortification came the victory.

Beloved, when we have to suffer before we gain *outward* success and victory, we can be sure that God is working a measure of success and victory *within* us so that we can lean in humility dependence on Him for *all* our victories.

And the children of Israel enquired of the LORD, (for the ark of the covenant of God was there in those days, And Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron, stood before it in those days,) saying, Shall I yet again go out to battle against the children of Benjamin my brother, or shall I cease? And the LORD said, Go up; for to morrow I will deliver them into thine hand (Judges 20:27,28).

The third time the children of Israel enquired of the LORD, they were commanded to go up to battle, and on this occasion, they had God's Promise of victory. Notice that God had said nothing about victory the first two times He had Witnessed for Judah to fight. They never asked for God's Blessing and Victory; they simply assumed that they

quickly would defeat the Benjaminites because of their superior strength in numbers and their own plan to punish Benjamin's wrongdoing.

So it is with us. We frequently jump to our own conclusions when the LORD speaks for us to do something; then, through our pride in our own strength, we join God's Divine Plan to our human plan. We assume that success and victory will be ours because we want to do a *right* thing; but we should remember that outward success and victory in the natural realm always follow the inward success and victory of having our heart lean in humility dependence upon the LORD until He has revealed *His* Plan for how we should do His Will. After the LORD has seen our surrender and desire to depend upon Him, we can expect immediate results in accomplishing God's complete Will.

God did not give His Promise of victory until Israel had met the conditions of inward success and victory, which they achieved by mortifying their fleshly, arrogant independence through fastings and prayer. Although Israel had the Witness of God's Spirit and Word as to His Directive Will, two thirds of their experience was for *inward* success and victory, through mortification of their fleshly, proud superiority of strength. Once they came to God in humility dependence on Him, His Strength entered their hearts, and His Understanding caused them to know "how" to get the victory. Thus, when Israel possessed the "who" and the "how" of God's Master Plan and Purposive Will, she gained the victory. Only one third of their experience was for *outward* success, victory, and blessing.

PART FIVE



**King David Getting the Witness of the *Urim*
and *Thummim* from the High Priest**

PART FIVE

The Revelation Of God's Purposive Will Through The *Urim* And The Revelation Of His Master Plan Through The *Thummim*

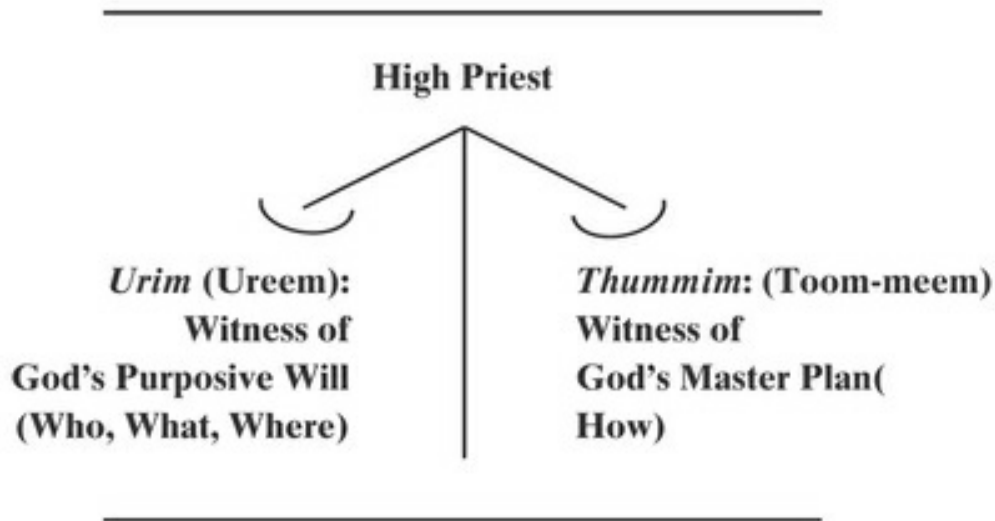
God's Government by the *Urim* and *Thummim* appears in the Old Testament in the shadow and type under the Old Covenant. Then, the fulfillment under the New and Better Covenant in Christ Jesus appears in the New Testament.

God used the *Urim* and *Thummim* to govern Israel in the Old Testament, through the Breastplate of the High Priest. The High Priest was a picture, shadow, and type of the LORD Jesus Christ Who has been made a High Priest forever after the Order of Melchizedek.

All Israel was governed by God's *Urim* and *Thummim*, which consisted of God's Divine Attributes: His Omniscient Knowledge, which He used to guide Israel's course and motion according to His Purposive Will and Master Plan; His Omnipotence, which He used to manage, direct, and regulate all things according to His Good Pleasure; and His Sovereign Omnipresence, which He used to rule as the Unbegotten LORD and Father, Who directs and controls the actions and conduct of His Creation by His Divinely established Moral Laws and natural Laws.

Through the Unbegotten LORD's Knowledge, Power, and Judgment, He rules by projecting His Purposive Will (His *Urim* — the *Who* and *What*) which leads to His Master Plan (His *Thummim* — the *How*). God's *Urim* reveals the *Who* or *What* of His Purposive Will, and the *Thummim* reveals the *How* of His Master Plan.

When it was Moses' time to die, God had him set Joshua as a military leader over His people, but Joshua was placed under the restraint of having to walk in obedience to God's Judgments, which were issued from the *Urim* and *Thummim* located in the High Priest's Breastplate.



I. The Ministry of the *Urim* Is Revealed in the Old Testament and in the New Testament.

And the LORD said unto Moses, Take thee Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay thine hand upon him; And set him before Eleazar the priest, and before all the congregation; and give him a charge in their sight. And thou shalt put some of thine honour upon him, that all the congregation of the children of Israel may be obedient. *And he shall stand before Eleazar the priest, who shall ask counsel for him after the judgment of Urim before the LORD:* at his word shall they go out, and at his word they shall come in, both he, and all the children of Israel with him, even all the congregation (Numbers 27:18-21).

Because of his spirit of wisdom, piety, courage, and his capacity for obedience to the LORD, Joshua merited God's Favour; thus, God chose him to become Israel's natural leader.

Moses ordained Joshua, giving him a public charge, and he instructed Joshua in the duties concerning his great and sacred office. Moses conferred honour and dignity and high esteem upon Joshua so that the people would have respect and reverence for him and obey him.

Moses stood Joshua before Eleazar, the High Priest, so that he could receive Divine Communications directly from God by means of the *Urim* and *Thummim*. Joshua was placed in the service of God's Sanctuary of the *Torah-Truth*. Eleazar was the chief representative of the *Torah-Truth* in the Sanctuary since he was the one who gave forth God's Judgments and Governance, spoken by the Voice of the LORD's Oral Law and Witnessed by the *Urim* and *Thummim*. God's Voice from the Mercy Seat, above the Ark, and the Witness of the *Urim* and *Thummim* were God's great Powerful Tools of Government, through which He ruled all Israel.

Israel could not eat of the Holy peace offerings without having had the Governmental Witness of the *Urim* and *Thummim* that it was all right for them to eat them. The peace offerings provided a Communion Table, where God and Israel feasted together. Part of the peace offering was burned upon the Brazen Altar, God's Altar-Table, so that the LORD could consume the Holy Smoke of the burning peace offerings as a sweet smelling savour in His Nostrils. The remaining portions of the sacrifices of peace were consumed by Israel in thanksgivings and gratitude, according to the Governmental Witness of God's *Urim* and *Thummim*.

And the Tirshatha said unto them, that *they should not eat of the most holy things, till there stood up a priest with Urim and with Thummim* (Ezra 2:63).

When Ezra and part of Israel returned from captivity in Babylon to rebuild the Temple, the Tirshatha or Governor forbade them to eat of the Holy offerings until God had raised up a Priest to whom He had given the Supernatural *Urim* and *Thummim*.

Later, when Nehemiah and another group of Hebrew captives returned from Babylon to repair the wall and the gates of the City of Jerusalem, they received the same command that Ezra and his group had received.

And the Tirshatha said unto them, that *they should not eat of the most holy things, till there stood up a priest with Urim and Thummim* (Nehemiah 7:65).

This second command to Nehemiah reveals the fact that God had not raised up a Priest with the *Urim* and *Thummim* just because the Temple was rebuilt. The wall and the gates of Jerusalem had to be finished before God would restore the Witness of the *Urim* of Lights of the Spirit and the *Thummim* of Perfections of God's Word. Later, Israel *returned* to commune with God at His peace offering Altar-Table, which confirmed that God had restored the use of His Governmental Witnesses of the *Urim* and *Thummim*.

God's Order of Governance of Israel

The LORD's Voice from the Mercy Seat Witnessed by the *Urim* and *Thummim*



The Supreme, Sovereign LORD God ruled all His people through His Oral Divine Decisions and Oral Judgments that were given from the Mercy Seat and Witnessed by the *Urim* and *Thummim* in the High Priest's Breastplate.

Since the Old Testament High Priest was a picture of the LORD Jesus Christ, we can expect to find the fulfillment of the *Urim* and *Thummim* in Jesus.

Jesus proclaimed that He is the Light (the *Oor*) of the world. *Oor* is the Hebrew root word for *Urim*.

Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, *I am the light [oor] of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life* (John 8:12).

He who follows the Witness (*Urim*) of Christ's Light shall not walk in the darkness or misery, woe, afflictions, and calamities which result from a person's following what he himself purposes to do. But, he shall have the Light and Life of God's Purposive Will that joins to the *Thummim* or Perfections of Christ Jesus, which is the revelation of the Father's Master Plan.

When Jesus announced that He is the Light (*Oor*), which also is the Name of the Messiah, He was declaring to Israel that He was her true High Priest. Daniel the Prophet also bore witness that Christ Jesus, the Light, the *Urim*, dwelled with the Father.

He revealeth the deep and secret things: he knoweth what is in the darkness, and *the light dwelleth with him* (Daniel 2:22).

Christ the Light dwelleth with the Father. God is Light, and Christ is His Son, which makes Christ the Light of Lights.

There is one natural sun that lights the Earth, giving life to natural seeds in the earth. There is *one Christ* Who illuminates the souls and spirits of men, giving them Light and bringing forth the Living Seeds of Truth that He has planted in them.

In the natural realm, God has two great lights that He uses to rule the day and the night. The sun rules the day, and the moon rules the night. In the spiritual realm, God the Father has given Jesus Christ, His great Sun of Righteousness, the following things: (1) the privilege of being the Judge of all things (John 5:22); (2) the experience of being vested with all Power and Authority in Heaven and Earth (Matthew 28:18); (3) the position of having all things under His Feet; and (4) of being the Head over all things to the Church (Ephesians 1:22).

Jesus Christ is the Light or *Urim* of the World. The Father has sent the Holy Ghost to teach, bring to

remembrance, and to guide believers into all the Truth of Jesus Christ, the Son of God or the Light (*Oor or Urim*) of the World.

But the Comforter, which is *the Holy Ghost*, whom the Father will send in my name, he *shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance*, whatsoever I have said unto you (John 14:26).

Howbeit when he, *the Spirit of truth*, is come, he *will guide you into all truth*: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and *he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you*. All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you (John 16:13-15).

The Father sent the Holy Ghost to teach, train, “learn,” and guide Christ’s Disciples to Jesus Christ, Who is the Governmental Light (*Oor — Urim*) of the World. Afterward, having been taught and trained by the Holy Ghost, they, in turn, can teach and train others to come to Christ’s Light. Before teaching others about Christ’s Governmental Light, we first must embrace His Governmental Light for ourself. Thus, we always can have Governmental Light from our Divine Owner and Master witnessing to us and showing us the way of His Purposive Will.

The Holy Ghost did not come to teach a new Light of Governmental Truth, but He came to bring Christ’s Disciples the remembrance of the things which Christ had taught them, which they neither comprehended nor understood about His Light of Judgmental Truth. The Holy Ghost also came to guide Christ’s Disciples into the Light of God’s Purposive Will, which always leads to the fulfilling of His Master Plan.

The Holy Ghost and Fire was sent to bear Witness of Jesus Christ, the Ruling Light of the World, and to guide Christ’s obedient sheep into all Light of the Father’s Purposive Will in Christ Jesus. However, a *disciple* must have a submissive and guidable spirit and a teachable disposition in order for the Holy Ghost to reveal Jesus as the Ruling Light of the *disciple*’s own life and the Ruling Light of the world.

God’s Word declares that God, the Unbegotten Father, is the Source of Infinite, Divine, Witnessing Light that He has begotten in His Son.

That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ: Which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; *Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto*; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen (I Timothy 6:14-16).

In Christ’s time, He will reveal the Unbegotten, Ruling, Witnessing Light of His Father.

Jesus Christ, as God’s Witnessing, *Urim*-Light of Truth, appeared unto Saul on the road to Damascus, giving him God’s Governing Light, which revealed His Purposive Will for Saul that day.

And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and *suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven*: And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, *Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?* And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, *I am Jesus* whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? *And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do* (Acts 9:3-6).

Saul’s will was changed by the LORD’s Light (*Urim*) Witness through Jesus Christ, the true High Priest. God’s Governing Light Witness changed Saul’s will so that it could be joined to the LORD’s Purposive Will.

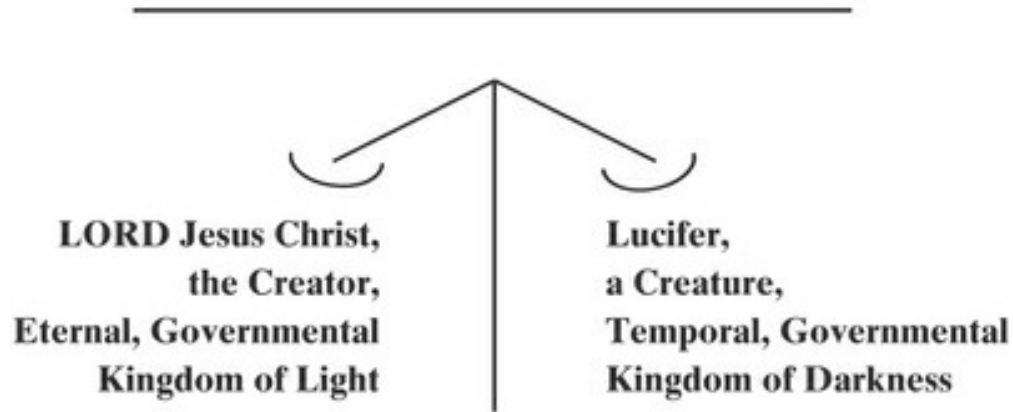
The Apostle Paul exhorted the Christians at Rome to put on the Witness of Christ’s Light (*Ore or Urim*) like an armour, which protects believers against the danger of taking the darkness of their own wills, by giving them the Light Witness or *Urim* of God’s Purposive Will.

The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us *put on the armour of light* (Romans 13:12).

Putting on Christ’s Light Witness, through the Holy Ghost Witness, is the best clothing we can put on. If we clothe ourself in the Father’s Purposive Will, the Holy Ghost will lead us to the Father’s Master Plan. The Light of the Father’s Purposive Will is the most splendid of all ornaments.

When the LORD God, the Father, sent His beloved only Begotten Son as the Light of the World, He exposed the darkness of the world.

There are just two Kingdoms in this present evil world: Christ’s Kingdom of Light and fallen Lucifer’s kingdom of darkness.



The Apostle Paul confirmed the existence of these two kingdoms: one of Light and one of darkness.

For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us (II Corinthians 4:6,7).

God, through Jesus Christ, allows His Eternal Governmental Light to shine forth in the midst of Lucifer's stolen, government kingdom of darkness, giving sinful man another chance to choose God's Governmental Light to be the Ruler of his life.

After man chooses Christ Jesus as his Governmental Light, God translates the penitent one into His Kingdom of Light.

Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: (Colossians 1:12,13;).

Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night. But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation (I Thessalonians 5:5-8).

What a High, Holy Privilege to be translated into Christ's Kingdom of Light and to have Christ as our *Urim* or Sovereign Light-Ruler so that we can walk under His Headship of Light, Love, and Knowledge instead of under Lucifer's finite headship of darkness, misery, woe, affliction, and ignorance.

God's Word commands His children to walk as children of Light under Christ's *Urim* Headship.

For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light... But all things that are reprov'd are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light. Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light (Ephesians 5:8,13,14).

If there were no possibility of God's children choosing to return to walk under Lucifer's headship of darkness in their thoughts, feelings, and actions, Christ would not have commanded believers to walk as children of Light.

Jesus Christ is the Owner and Master of the children of Light; consequently, He has every right to command them and to govern them as the Father's Living *Urim*.

When we, as children of Light, walk after our own headship, coming under the rule of fallen Lucifer, we become unfruitful in Christ's work; we cease to hear Christ's reproofs; we fall asleep spiritually so that we do not see Christ's Light; and, finally, we begin to take on spiritual death so that we no longer feel Christ's Governing, Guiding Light.

We must wake ourself from our spiritual sleep and death by making a new choice for Christ's Living

Governmental Light of His *Urim*; then, He will give us His new Guiding Light.

Jesus Christ continues revealing His Governmental Light in the darkness of our old heart until His Governmental Light, like a “*Day Star*,” is formed in our “lover” heart to lighten our spiritual days, continually, by His Prophetic *Urim-Light*.

We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, *as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:* (II Peter 1:19)

The Hebrew word for *hearts* here is *lay-bawb*. This is our “lover” heart. This is the same word for heart that Jesus used in Matthew 22:37, when He commanded us to *love* the LORD our God with all our heart (*lay-bawb*). We have sixteen minds or hearts, and the *lay-bawb* heart is one of them. It is the “lover” heart or mind that God formed in us for us to love Him, especially.

The Living *Urim-Light* in Christ Jesus is a Better Covenant, an Eternal “Shining” that never passes away. It is a more sure Prophetic, Governmental, Guiding Light than was the *Urim* under the Old Covenant. Consequently (as Peter said, in so many words), “we do well to *take heed* to this Eternal Governmental Light of Christ Jesus that shines into our old “lover” heart, exposing the sinful love and delight that we take in walking according to our own headship, which is under Lucifer’s direction.

Lucifer imitates Christ’s Ruling, Governing *Urim-Light*.

And no marvel; for *Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light* (II Corinthians 11:14).

Fallen Lucifer transforms or changes himself into a false image, which projects itself as a guiding light, in a vain effort to imitate Christ Jesus and, therefore, deceive the LORD’s children. When God’s children fall for Lucifer’s false image of light, they become mixtures of darkness and Light, which God forbids.

Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for *what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?* (II Corinthians 6:14).

God forbids the communion or sharing or mixing of the Governmental Light of His Purposive Will with the darkness of Lucifer’s stolen power, authority, and headship.

Thus, we see that God’s *Urim* is a guiding *Light* to lead us in His Will. The *Thummim*, God’s Governmental Witness of His *Word* under the Old Covenant and in the New Covenant in Christ Jesus, shows us the *how* of implementing the Father’s Master Plan.

II. The Ministry of the *Thummim* Is Revealed in the Old Testament and in the New Testament.

Along with the *Urim*, the *Thummim* also was placed in the Breastplate of the High Priest.

And thou shalt put in the breastplate of judgment the Urim and the Thummim; and they shall be upon Aaron’s heart, when he goeth in before the LORD: and Aaron shall bear the judgment of the children of Israel upon his heart before the LORD continually (Exodus 28:30).

And he put the breastplate upon him: *also he put in the breastplate the Urim and the Thummim* (Leviticus 8:8).

And of Levi he said, *Let thy Thummim and thy Urim be with thy holy one*, whom thou didst prove at Massah, and with whom thou didst strive at the waters of Meribah; (Deuteronomy 33:8).

And the Tirshatha said unto them, that they should not eat of the most holy things, till there stood up *a priest with Urim and with Thummim* (Ezra 2:63).

And the Tirshatha said unto them, that they should not eat of the most holy things, till there stood up *a priest with Urim and Thummim* (Nehemiah 7:65).

The Hebrew word *Thummim* (pronounced *Toom-meem*) means perfection of Truth or complete Truth and comes from the Hebrew word *tome*, meaning completeness, innocence, full, integrity, perfect, uprightly, whole, and simplicity.

The *Urim* and *Thummim* represented the Light and Perfections of God's Spirit and Word, through which He governed the Nation of Israel and its people, individually.

When Moses dressed Aaron in the Holy Garments of the Priesthood, and after he had girded him with the Ephod and the Breastplate, he put the *Urim* and *Thummim* in the Breastplate. Before Moses died, he blessed the tribe of Levi and prayed that the privilege of guarding God's Governmental *Urim* and *Thummim* might remain with the tribe of Levi, who had proven, in the wilderness, their unswerving loyalty to God's Divine Government, when Israel had made an idol in the form of a golden calf.

After Israel had possessed Canaan's Land, she sinned against God by serving the false idols of her neighbours; hence, she defected from her Living God. Consequently, God sent her into captivity in the land of Babylon, where she remained for seventy years. After Israel had repented, God led the remnant who were true to Him out of Babylon and back into Canaan's Land.

The Governor of Israel or the Tirshatha forbade Israel to eat of the most Holy things until God had raised up a Priest to whom He had given the *Urim* and *Thummim* once again. The two objects called the *Urim* and *Thummim*, which bore the Ineffable Name of the LORD, caused the stones in the Breastplate of the Priest to light up and bear Witness to God's Purposive Will and Master Plan. Thus, the privilege of eating of the LORD's most Holy Food in the Temple depended upon Israel's first obtaining the Witness of God's Governmental Rule over His Temple or His House in order to see that all things were done according to His Purposive Will.

Solomon's father, David, was a good example of one who walked after God's Headship through the integrity of the *Urim* Witness of God's Spirit and the *Thummim* Witness of God's Word. God let Solomon know that, as long as he walked after the integrity of the *Urim* and *Thummim*, his kingdom would be safe and secure. But, the ruin of his kingdom would be the certain consequence if he or his children defected from God's Governance and Headship, issued through the *Urim* and *Thummim*.

When the LORD appeared unto Solomon, the second time, He said these words:

And if thou wilt walk before me, as David thy father walked, in integrity [Thummim] of heart, and in uprightness, to do according to all that I have commanded thee, and wilt keep my statutes and my judgments; Then I will establish the throne of thy kingdom upon Israel for ever, as I promised to David thy father, saying, There shall not fail thee a man upon the throne of Israel (I Kings 9:4,5).

The word *Thummim* is translated, here in First Kings, as *integrity*.

The wise man in the Book of Proverbs also gave true encouragement, urging us to walk after the integrity or complete Truth of the *Thummim*.

BETTER is the poor that walketh in his integrity [Thummim], than he that is perverse in his lips, and is a fool (Proverbs 19:1).

The poor man who esteems the integrity of the *Thummim* of God's Headship better than the dishonest riches of this present world is eternally better off.

The Book of Proverbs also says that the *just* man walks in the integrity or complete Truth of God's Word Witness or the *Thummim*.

The just man walketh in his integrity [Thummim]: his children are blessed after him (Proverbs 20:7).

The blessings and goodness of the parent who walks in the integrity of the *Thummim* or God's complete Truth reaps a reward in his posterity. The parent who persists in walking after the Witness of God's Headship in the midst of testings, temptations, and trials will see blessings transmitted to his descendants. The Psalmist expressed his patient dependence upon God and upon the integrity of His complete Truth or *Thummim* which bore Witness to God's complete Truth.

Let integrity [Thummim] and uprightness preserve me; for I wait on thee (Psalm 25:21).

David's humble soul always depended upon the integrity of the *Thummim*, after which he walked in strong confidence and dependence.

David trusted in God to redeem him and to be gracious unto him because he walked after the integrity or complete Truth, received through the *Thummim*.

Before David was King, he was governed and guided by the Witness of the Integrity of the *Thummim* or complete Truth; and as the King of Israel, he walked by the skillfulness, understanding, and discernment that he received from

the *Thummim*.

So he fed them according to the integrity [Thummim] of his heart; and guided them by the skilfulness of his hands (Psalm 78:72).

David shepherded Israel by means of the Governmental Understanding that he received from the integrity or complete Truth of the *Thummim*. David declared that he would give heed to God's Perfect Guidance through His complete Truth or *Thummim*.

I will behave myself wisely in a perfect way. O when wilt thou come unto me? I will walk within my house with a perfect heart (Psalm 101:2).

David acknowledged that, as the ruler of God's people, he deliberately chose to walk in God's perfect Way of Government or according to the *Thummim*.

The Hebrew word for *Thummim* is translated as *uprightly* in the Book of Proverbs, chapter ten.

He that walketh uprightly walketh surely: but he that perverteth his ways shall be known.... The way of the LORD is strength to the upright: but destruction shall be to the workers of iniquity (Proverbs 10:9,29).

The wise man revealed that walking by the upright *Thummim* removes all doubts, hesitancy, and uncertainty, which enables the believer to walk in God's Master Plan with unshakable confidence and unswerving sureness.

Let us now examine a few verses about God's *Thummim* or Governmental Witness of His Word as it appears in the New Covenant in Christ Jesus.

Jesus described how the Governmental Power of the *Toom-meem* affects the body of the believer who walks in submissiveness to its authority. "The *light [lamp]* of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be *single [toom-meem]*, thy whole body shall be full of *light [ore]*" (Matthew 6:22).

If the eye or lamp of the body be single or filled with God's Governmental Truth of His Master Plan, then the whole body shall be full of Christ's bright, shining "*Ore*" Light of His Purposive Will. All the language of the body will reflect the Light and Perfection of Christ that abides within the heart.

If the eye of the heart is filled with the Light of Christ's Headship, the body will be doing good or righteous deeds that are motivated by obedience to His Headship. These righteous deeds will shine brightly before men, causing them to glorify our Father which is in Heaven.

The Hebrew root word for *toom-meem* is translated as *perfect* in the Book of First Corinthians.

But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away (I Corinthians 13:10).

When the Governmental Witness of God's Truth is born in our heart; then we have the necessary Guidance to lead us into higher heights and deeper depths in spiritual growth. God in His Mercifulness and Graciousness has sent the Gifts of the Spirit to help us through our beginning childhood state until we can grow up into a state of spiritual manhood in the Fullness of the Measure of the Stature of Christ Jesus, which is the Father's Master Plan. When a believer grows to maturity in Christ and is joined to His Governmental Witness of the complete *Toom-meem* Truth, he despises, rejects, relinquishes, and puts away childish, infantile thoughts of self-attention and self-pity, esteeming this childish folly as nothing.

The love for Christ Jesus, the Bridegroom, that is begotten by His complete Governmental Truth or His Father's Master Plan growing in our heart shall never fail nor pass away.

The Apostle Paul declared that prophecies shall fail, that tongues shall cease, that knowledge shall vanish away; but, the sixteen parts of the Father's Love or Master Plan in Christ Jesus, the *Toom-meem* Truth, shall never pass away.

Each member of Christ's Bride in the New City shall have that perfect *Toom-meem* Truth and Love and Light that always bear Witness to the Father's Master Plan and Purposive Will.

The Apostle Paul also established the necessity for having *all* Scripture so that the man of God may be perfect (*toom-meem* or *taw-meem*). Perfection is having all Truth or complete Truth.

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect [toom-meem or taw-meem], thoroughly furnished unto all good works (II Timothy 3:16,17).

God's Word is excellent because it is given by inspiration of His Holy Spirit. Therefore, the LORD's Word-Witness to us is dependable and true.

The validity of the Scriptures is proven in the following ways:

- by the Divine, Majestic flow of Truth;
- by the Truth, purity, and moral superiority of its Doctrine;
- by the Almighty Power of its convictions and reproofs in the hearts of men;
- by the Divine Wisdom that instructs a submissive heart in the paths of righteousness;
- by the harmony of the Truth that was given by the Spirit over the span of millenniums, through many different writers;
- by the abundant fulfillment of its many prophecies beyond any human foresight;
- by the multitude of miracles that have been wrought which prove its Divine Origin.

To perfect man's moral character is the aim and goal of all of Christ's *Toom-meem*. All of God's Word is for the man of God. All of God's Truth gives instruction to the man of God about the following things:

- God and His Son Jesus Christ;
- man's errors, faults, and shortcomings;
- God's Master Plan for man;
- a Christian man's duty to grow up unto the Fullness of the Measure of Christ's Stature;
- a believer's responsibility to share Christ's Truth with others;
- the right attitude for man to have in pain and in pleasure.

God's *Toom-meem* Truth in Christ Jesus inspires the heart, illuminates the soul, and sanctifies the affections. God's whole Purpose in His dealings with mankind is to put His Moral Truth, to the fullest, in those who will believe in Him so that they will have the complete *Toom-meem* Truth in them to govern and guide them in their thoughts, feelings, speakings, and deeds, just as the complete *Toom-meem* Truth filled Jesus Christ in the days of His earthly journey.

The Apostle James spoke about *Toom-meem* Truth when he said that the *perfect (toom-meem)* man is he who is able to bridle the whole body because he is able to bridle his tongue.

For in many things we offend all. *If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect [toom-meem] man*, and able also to bridle the whole body.

We all are offenders at one time or another. We all cause displeasure or resentment in another, either intentionally or unintentionally, by wounding his feelings or by a breach of his ownership of something. If we put off the flesh and put on Christ, we will take on the perfection (*Toom-meem*) of His Governmental Word, the Father's Master Plan; consequently, we will be able to control our tongue. We will be able to restrain our tongue from speaking offensive words that create resentment, anger, or displeasure in the heart of another. We will be able to refrain from speaking words that cause hurt feelings in the souls of others. If we refrain from spying out the faults of others and if we refrain from passing arrogant judgment upon them, we will find it easier to put Christ's Bridle of Truth (*Toom-meem*) upon our mouth.

As we look upon others through our fleshly discernment, we can count very offensive faults in others, when all the time, we are equally guilty. Remember, if we are self-justifiers of our offenses, we are self-deceivers. We must, by Christ's Governmental Word (*Toom-meem*) be gracious and long-suffering toward the human frailties and infirmities of others. We must take on Christ's Governmental Word (*Toom-meem*) so that we can overcome "tongue sins." We can prove that we are upright and perfect only through Jesus Christ's Governmental Word. Christ's Wisdom and Grace that enable us to rule over our tongue also will enable us to rule over the actions of our body.

We are mortal beings who are subject to trials and temptations which reveal our evil disposition; our evil inclinations of the heart; the internal employments of our mind; our evil communications out of our mouth; and our innumerable evil ways, which are evidenced in our actions in life.

We should bless the LORD Jesus Christ for saving us by His Grace and for being great in Long-suffering and Mercy toward us, as we constantly struggle to put off our unChrist-like flesh and put on the Governmental Truth of His *Toom-meem* or His Father's Master Plan.

However, we must remember not to be careless about our faults and failures just because He is Merciful, Gracious, and full of Long-suffering. Instead, we must be careful ever to press toward the perfection of His Governmental Truth or *Toom-meem*; for by so doing, we fulfill the Father's Master Plan.

There are three classes of tongue-sins of which we constantly need to beware:

(1) We need to beware of using our tongue to be *abusive* when we talk about others.

The person who commits this kind of tongue-sin takes great delight, great fleshly pleasure, in making the offender (himself) feel as if he is a valuable tool in God's Hand to be used to attack the sober, quiet type of person, pronouncing great judgment on him for his supposed errors and failures, even to bringing him to tears. The person who is guilty of lashing others with his abusive tongue counts his achievements as great, victorious, memorable acts. This kind of person has frozen compulsive anger, which causes him to vent his judgmental anger on quieter, sober people. Such a person never has given his tongue to Christ to control and restrain with His Judgmental Truth or *Toom-meem* from the Father's Master Plan.

(2) We also need to be careful lest we use our tongue to commit the tongue-sin of detracting from the merits of others.

Instead of humbling themselves before God and waiting for Him to exalt them, people guilty of this tongue-sin judge and censure the lives and deeds of others in a vain effort to lift up and exalt themselves. They end up in a vicious, devouring cycle because the more they censure others, the unhappier they become, and the unhappier they are, the more they censure.

(3) We must be especially careful not to use our tongue to lie to others. People with lying tongues are guilty of a vicious tongue-sin. Lying is a pernicious disease that consumes the soul of the liar, who detracts and adds to what he knows in order to be the center of attraction. These people destroy unity and harmony wherever they go.

The tongue is either one of the most helpful tools of life or one of the most unhelpful since it expresses the inward thoughts and feelings of the heart. If our speech is filled with Christ's Judgmental Truth or the Governmental *Toom-meem* from the Father's Master Plan, then it becomes a flowing stream of Life. If our speech is filled with self-pride, it becomes a river of death.

If we allow Christ to crucify and mortify our old heart, our mouth will be a wellspring, flowing with Christ's Living Truth; therefore, our mouth will bring Life to all who receive the Truth that flows from it.

Thus, we have seen just a few Scriptures, both in the Old Testament and in the New Testament, that reveal some Truth about God's *Toom-meem* Word-Witness.

The *Thummim* reveals the Father's Master Plan with which He desires to govern, control, and restrain our thoughts, feelings, and actions so that we may glorify Him by also doing His Purposive Will through the *Urim* of His Spirit Witness.

PART SIX



**Eliezer Taking the Thigh Witness When He Swore
to Abraham to Find a Wife for Isaac**

PART SIX

God's Third Witness — The Thigh Witness

We have seen that God governs by the Witness of His Spirit and Word. Now, we will see how God governs by His Miraculous Thigh or Loin or Seed or Works Witness.

The first revelation of God's Miraculous Works or Thigh witness was given through Abraham.

AND Abraham was old, and well stricken in age: and the LORD had blessed Abraham in all things. And Abraham said unto his eldest servant of his house, that ruled over all that he had, Put, I pray thee, thy hand under my thigh: And I will make thee swear by the LORD, the God of heaven, and the God of the earth, that thou shalt not take a wife unto my son of the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell: But thou shalt go unto my country, and to my kindred, and take a wife unto my son Isaac. And the servant said unto him, Peradventure the woman will not be willing to follow me unto this land: must I needs bring thy son again unto the land from whence thou camest? And Abraham said unto him, Beware thou that thou bring not my son thither again. The LORD God of heaven, which took me from my father's house, and from the land of my kindred, and which spake unto me, and that sware unto me, saying, Unto thy seed will I give this land; he shall send his angel before thee, and thou shalt take a wife unto my son from thence. And if the woman will not be willing to follow thee, then thou shalt be clear from this my oath: only bring not my son thither again. And the servant put his hand under the thigh of Abraham his master, and sware to him concerning that matter (Genesis 24:1-9).

The Hebrew word for *thigh* is *yaw-rake*, meaning to be soft, the thigh (from its fleshly softness), the generative parts; a flank, shank, side, body, loins, and side.

Abraham was old and well stricken in age when he commanded his servant Eliezer, the one in his house with the greatest authority over his house, to take an oath and to swear by the LORD God that he would not take a wife for his son Isaac from among the daughters of the Canaanites, but that he would go to his homeland and take a wife for his son Isaac from among his blood relatives.

This solemn oath was ratified by Eliezer's taking a Thigh or Loin Witness that he would faithfully carry out his promise to Abraham.

The giving of Eliezer's hand for his master's circumcised body to rest upon was a Witness that Eliezer would *work*, faithfully and diligently, to fulfill his master's plan and purpose concerning a wife for Isaac.

The Thigh or Loin Witness was a demonstration of giving all the strength and power of the hand to take care of the Plan and Purpose that had been brought to birth out of God's Loins by His Almighty, Miraculous Works. The Thigh Witness was a complete commitment by the servant that his hand would be joined, totally, to God's Almighty Works, so much so that his master Abraham also could rest completely in the works of his servant.

Because Eliezer's hand or works were joined, not only to Abraham's natural thigh but also to God's Miraculous Circumcision Work on Abraham's thigh or loins, Abraham could rest securely, knowing that God's Miraculous Works from His own Divine Loins of Regenerating Power would accompany Eliezer's work to secure the proper wife for Isaac.

Because of Eliezer's humble willingness to take both the oath and the Thigh Witness to work in union with God's Miraculous Regenerating Power in order to obtain a wife for Isaac, God sent Jesus Christ in Angelic Form before Eliezer to bless him in his work of securing the right wife for Isaac. Hence, Eliezer's heart was joined to Almighty God's Regenerating Power, which produced a great faith in his heart for the serious undertaking of finding a wife for Isaac. Hence, Eliezer, in faith, took ten camels for Isaac's bride to ride upon. When Eliezer arrived at the City of Nahor and rested at a well of water, he prayed that the LORD God, by His Regenerating Power, would cause the heart of the right daughter of a man to desire to give him water to drink.

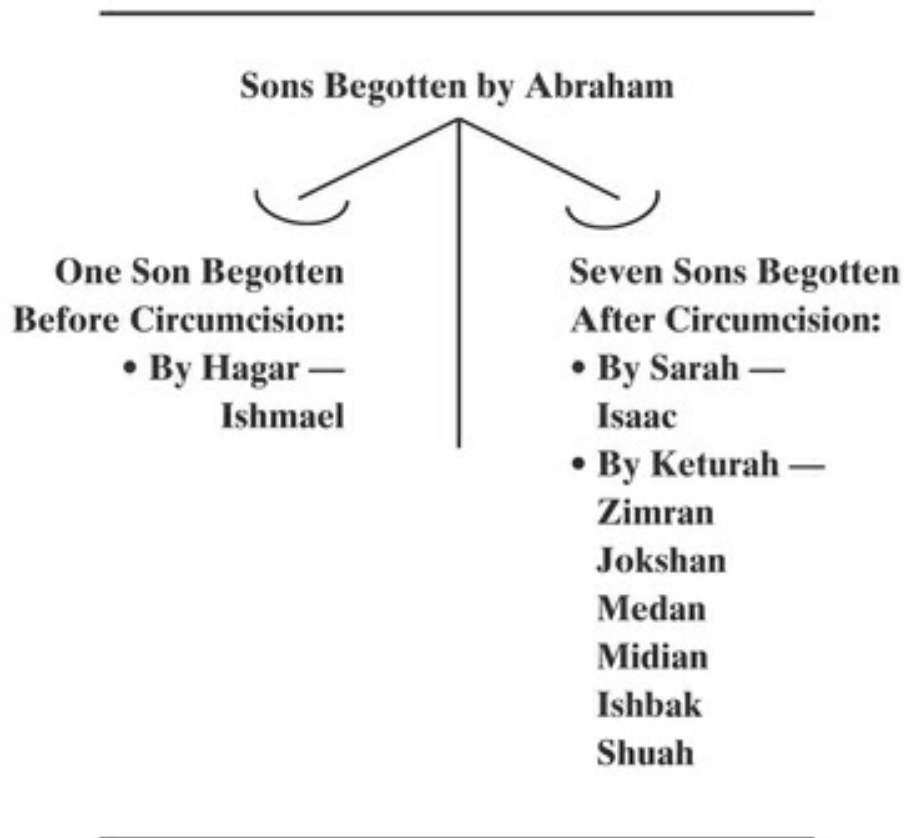
Eliezer prayed for a sign so that he would recognize Isaac's bride; therefore, the LORD God worked by His Regenerating Power, sending Rebekah, a blood relative, a fair virgin, who not only gave water to Eliezer but also to his ten camels. By His Miraculous Regenerating Power, God also worked in the minds and hearts of Rebekah's brother Laban, her father Bethuel, and her mother, not only to receive Eliezer but also to recognize that it was the LORD's Will for Rebekah to be Isaac's wife. Furthermore, God's Miraculous Regenerating Power worked, in Rebekah, a willingness to go to Canaan's Land to be Isaac's bride and also caused her to make the decision to go

immediately.

After Sarah had died, Abraham took Keturah to be his wife, by whom he had six sons.

THEN again Abraham took a wife, and her name was Keturah. And she bare him *Zimran*, and *Jokshan*, and *Medan*, and *Midian*, and *Ishbak*, and *Shuah*. And *Jokshan* begat *Sheba*, and *Dedan*. And the sons of *Dedan* were *Asshurim*, and *Letushim*, and *Leummim*. And the sons of *Midian*; *Ephah*, and *Epher*, and *Hanoch*, and *Abidah*, and *Eldaah*. All these were the children of Keturah. And Abraham gave all that he had unto Isaac. But unto the sons of the concubines, which Abraham had, Abraham gave gifts, and sent them away from Isaac his son, while he yet lived, eastward, unto the east country (Genesis 25:1-6).

God's Miraculous Regenerating Power continued to work through Abraham's loins, begetting six more sons. Hence, Abraham's inner and outer circumcised loins begat seven sons. He also had begotten one son before he was circumcised.



Abraham's sons by Keturah were sent to the East to people the Orient. They took Abraham's spiritual teaching, plus a few necessary gifts, with them. Isaac, however, remained in Canaan's Land with all his father's natural possessions, his spiritual treasures of Truth, and God's Promise that his seed would inherit Canaan's Land.

All these people from the loins of Abraham are a Thigh Witness of God's Miraculous Regenerating Work in the loins of Abraham.

And Rebekah lifted up her eyes, and when she saw Isaac, she lighted off the camel. For she had said unto the servant, What man is this that walketh in the field to meet us? And the servant had said, It is my master: therefore she took a vail, and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all things that he had done. And Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent, and took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her: and Isaac was comforted after his mother's death (Genesis 24:64-67).

The dedicated hand that has been joined to God's Miraculous Visible Works of the Thigh Witness and to God's invisible, regenerating, begetting Power of His Loins always is successful in accomplishing God's Master Plan and Purposive Will.

Jacob also received a Thigh Witness of God's Miraculous Working Power.

And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day. And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was out of joint, as he wrestled with him. And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me. And he said unto him, What is thy name? And he said, Jacob. And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed. And Jacob asked him, and said, Tell me, I pray thee, thy name. And he said, Wherefore is it that thou dost ask after my name? And he blessed him there. And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: for I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved. And as he passed over Penuel the sun rose upon him, and he halted upon his thigh. Therefore the children of Israel eat not of the sinew which shrank, which is upon the hollow of the thigh, unto this day: because he touched the hollow of Jacob's thigh in the sinew that shrank (Genesis 32:24-32).

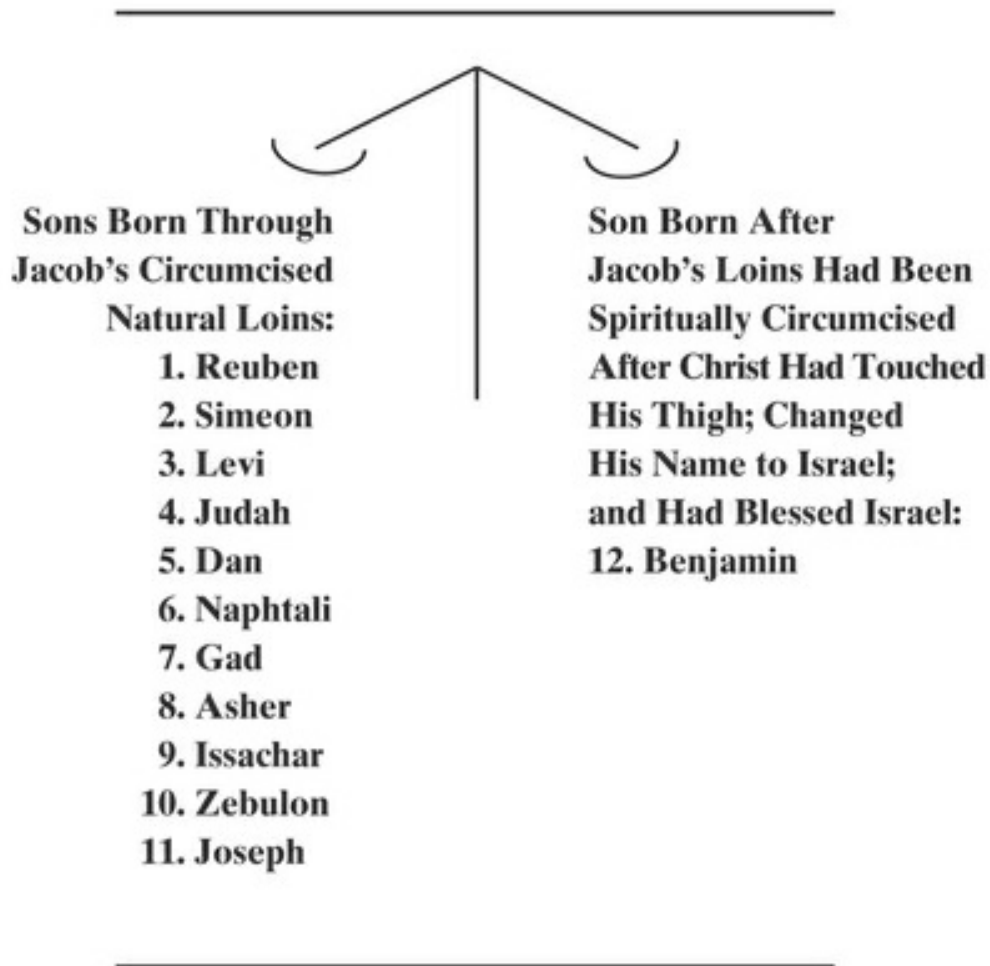
When Jacob returned from the land of Mesopotamia with his wives, children, and possessions, before he met his brother Esau, he was left alone to wrestle in prayer with Christ in an Angelic Form. Christ wrestled with Jacob to test the depth of his desire to hold on to the Promised Land and to be blessed by Christ so that he could receive God's Almighty Works of His Thigh Witness so that his thigh could be changed.

Jacob would not let Christ go until Christ had touched the hollow of his thigh or until He had blessed him or until He had changed his name to Israel, which means Prince of God.

Jesus Christ, in Angelic Form, wrestled with Jacob, and He touched his thigh or loins, imparting new Miraculous Regenerating Power through His Divine Work upon Jacob's thigh, through His Work of Blessing on Jacob's soul, and through the Work of Jacob's new name, Israel, upon Jacob's spirit.

Jacob halted or limped upon his thigh, which was a Thigh Witness of Christ's Miraculous Work upon his thigh or loins and his new name.

Later, Jacob had his twelfth, and last, son Benjamin. Jacob's twelve sons were the beginning of the family tree of the tiny Nation of Israel. Benjamin was the only son begotten from the Divinely touched loins of Jacob-Israel. The other eleven sons were begotten by Jacob's circumcised, but spiritually untouched, loins. The first eleven sons were begotten by Jacob's unchanged name because Christ, in Angelic Form, had not yet changed his name.



Jacob begot eleven sons in the land of Mesopotamia. These eleven sons came through a man named Jacob who was circumcised in the natural realm. Then, in Canaan's Land, after Jacob had been circumcised spiritually in his thigh, and after he had had his name changed to Israel, he begot Benjamin, who was the only one of his sons born in Canaan's Land. Thus, the twelve tribes of Israel were begotten from Jacob-Israel. Jacob-Israel passed his name, Israel, on to the Nation of Israel. Hence, the Miraculous Regenerating Power of God's Thigh or Loin Witness will be extended in the Nation of Israel throughout Eternity. God governs and guides His people and the circumstances of life by the Miraculous Regenerating Works that proceed from His Infinite, Divine Loins or Thigh.

In the Book of Genesis, the blessed loins or thigh of Jacob is again confirmed.

All the souls that came with Jacob into Egypt, which came out of his loins, besides Jacob's sons' wives, all the souls were threescore and six; (Genesis 46:26).

About sixty-six souls, who had come out of Jacob's loins (*yaw-rake*), went down into Egypt with him. When Jacob left the barren land of Canaan, he took all his family with him to Egypt, a land of plenty.

Jacob, the "heel catcher," was born holding on to the heel of Esau, who had stolen Jacob's birthright while they were in their mother's womb. He was removed from under *Esau's heel* to the exalted place of Israel. Israel was a prince, a champion with God and over men; hence, the next day after Jacob had wrestled and won the victorious blessing, bestowed by the Christ in Angelic Form, Esau could only surrender to the powerful Israel.

The LORD God's Thigh or Loin Witness of His Miraculous, Regenerating, Powerful Works is extended from generation to generation. It was passed from Abraham to Isaac, from Isaac to Jacob, and from Jacob to Israel.

God always has given His Miraculous Regenerating Power, from His Loins, to the man's loins who has been appointed to receive it, according to God's Purposive Will.

The loins or thighs of the Bridegroom's Spouse are described in the Song of Solomon.

HOW beautiful are thy feet with shoes, O prince's daughter! *the joints of thy thighs are like jewels*, the work of the hands of a cunning workman (Song of Solomon 7:1).

The joints or thighs of the Bridegroom's Spouse were like jewels. The Hebrew word for *jewels* is *khel-yaw*, meaning a polished jewel. *Khel-yaw* is from the Hebrew root word *khaw-law*, meaning to be rubbed, worn, make prayers, supplications, and travail. Christ's Spouse Bride had used the Miraculous, Regenerating Power of the LORD in her loins or thighs in prayer, supplication, and Travail, until her thighs were like rubbed, worn, polished stones because of constant use. The polished, jeweled thighs of Christ's Bride were a witness of her Eternal Works that had been brought to birth through spiritual prayers, supplications, and Travail to the LORD, which had caused the Bridegroom's cunning Hands to form visible works in answer to her spiritual Works of Travail.

After God miraculously had wrought His Master Plan and Purposive Will through Joseph, in Egypt, He also brought Jacob-Israel down to Egypt, the land of plenty, because of the great famine in Canaan's Land.

When the time drew near for Jacob-Israel to die, he demanded that Joseph, his son, swear to him and take a Thigh Witness that he would not bury him in Egypt.

Benjamin shall ravin as a wolf: in the morning he shall devour the prey, and at night he shall divide the spoil. All these are the twelve tribes of Israel: and this is it that their father spake unto them, and blessed them; every one according to his blessing he blessed them. *And he charged them, and said unto them, I am to be gathered unto my people: bury me with my fathers in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite, In the cave that is in the field of Machpelah, which is before Mamre, in the land of Canaan, which Abraham bought with the field of Ephron the Hittite for a possession of a buryingplace. There they buried Abraham and Sarah his wife; there they buried Isaac and Rebekah his wife; and there I buried Leah (Genesis 49:27-31).*

Joseph gave his oath to his father, and he also went through the ceremony of the Thigh Witness swearing, by God's Miraculous, Generating Works, that he would bury his father in Canaan's Land.

Jacob-Israel was buried in Canaan's Land with great pomp. His body was embalmed by the Royal Court's physician and carried to Hebron, and there Jacob-Israel rested with his ancestors in the Cave of Machpelah.

Jacob-Israel, the patient, preserving one, was buried with Abraham (the hero of faith) and Isaac (the quiet, humble peacemaker), as a witness that their seed was not to remain in a strange land but was to return to Canaan's Land.

God most certainly honoured Joseph's Thigh Witness to his father, Jacob-Israel, by miraculously working through His Almighty Name and Power to bring Israel, in due season, back to Canaan's Land.

The Hebrew word for *thigh*, *yaw-rake*, also is translated as *Shaft*, when referring to the Shaft of the Golden Candlestick in the Mosaic Tabernacle.

And thou shalt make a candlestick of pure gold: of beaten work shall the candlestick be made: *his shaft [yaw-rake], and his branches, his bowls, his knops, and his flowers, shall be of the same.* And six branches shall come out of the sides of it; three branches of the candlestick out of the one side, and three branches of the candlestick out of the other side: Three bowls made like unto almonds, with a knop and a flower in one branch; and three bowls made like almonds in the other branch, with a knop and a flower: so in the six branches that come out of the candlestick. And in the candlestick shall be four bowls made like unto almonds, with their knops and their flowers.... And thou shalt make the seven lamps thereof: and they shall light the lamps thereof, that they may give light over against it (Exodus 25:31-34,37).

Speak unto Aaron and say unto him, When thou lightest the lamps, the seven lamps shall give light over against the candlestick (Numbers 8:2).

The central Shaft or Thigh (*yaw-rake*) of the Candlestick was the "Loin" that gave birth, as it were, to the six branches that extended from the two sides of the Shaft. The Shaft or Loin part of the Candlestick always was *distinct* from its six branches or arms.

The Candlestick was made out of one piece of the finest gold, which represented the Infinite, Divine Wisdom of the Christ. The Shaft or Loin section of the Candlestick was adorned with twelve bowls, knops, and flowers.

The bowl was in the shape of an almond, which represents Christ's Wisdom that *hastens* to obey His Father's Master Plan and Purposive Will. The knop was in the shape of an apple, which represents Christ's Understanding. The crowning flower was in the shape of a fig flower, which represents Christ's Knowledge.

There were twelve bowls, knops, and flowers on the Shaft or Loin section of the Candlestick, which represent the first twelve Books of the Bible. Twelve is the number of Perfect Government. The Loin section or Shaft of the Candlestick represents the Perfect Governmental Power of Christ, the Divine Word, from which all other Divine

Truth is begotten.

Let us examine a diagram of the Shaft or the Loin section of the Candlestick that supported the Lamp of the Light of the Unbegotten Name of the Father, the LORD.

**THE FATHER,
THE UNBEGOTTEN LORD**

**THE ONLY
GOOD NAME**

**FLOWER — FEEDING
KNOP — RULING & REIGNING
BOWL — SERVICE**

**II KINGS
I KINGS
II SAMUEL**

**FLOWER — LIFE
KNOP — LIGHT
BOWL — SOWING & REAPING**

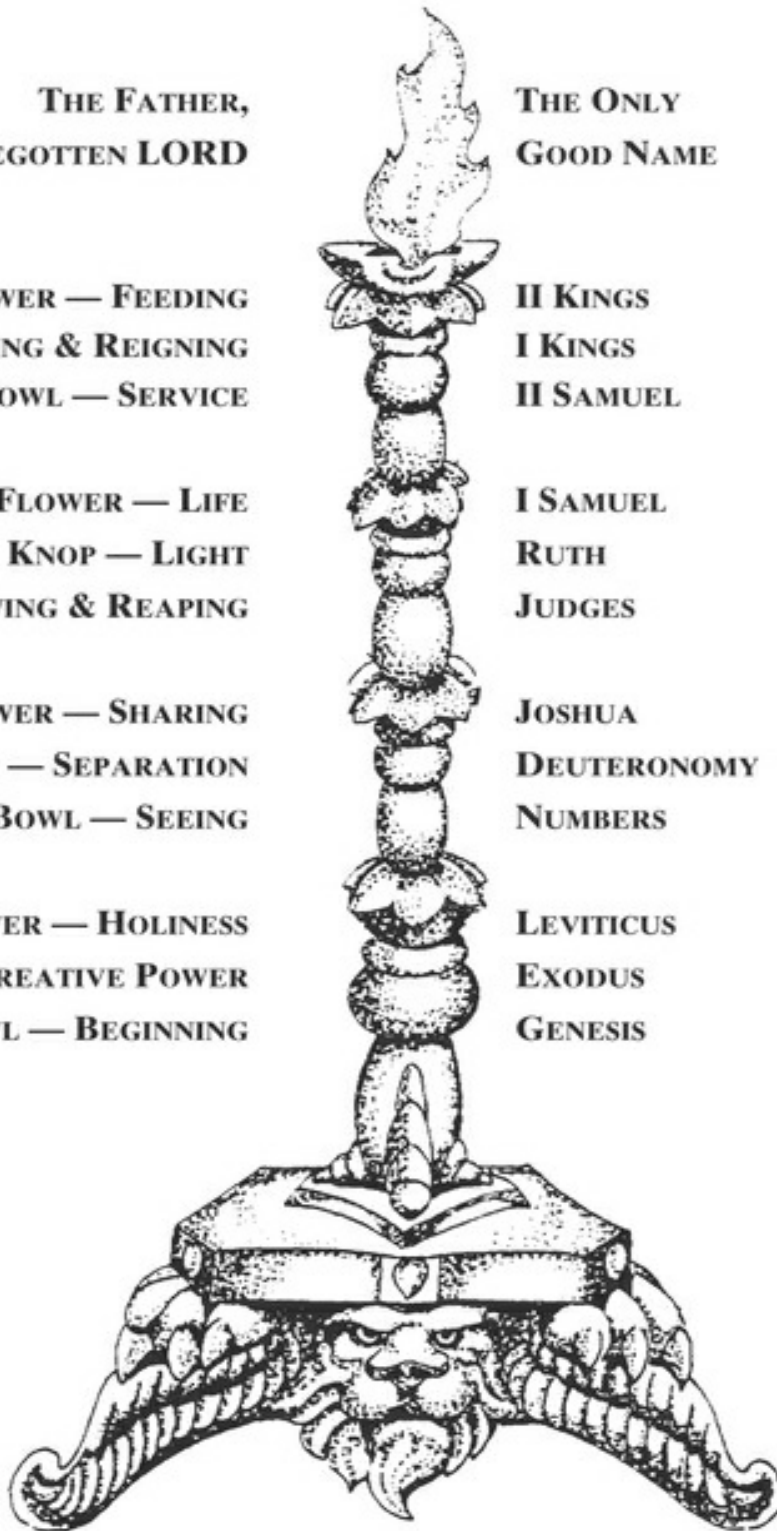
**I SAMUEL
RUTH
JUDGES**

**FLOWER — SHARING
KNOP — SEPARATION
BOWL — SEEING**

**JOSHUA
DEUTERONOMY
NUMBERS**

**FLOWER — HOLINESS
KNOP — CREATIVE POWER
BOWL — BEGINNING**

**LEVITICUS
EXODUS
GENESIS**



These twelve Books with their Principles of Truth represent the very Loins of Christ, the Divine Word, the Son of God Who gave birth, as it were, to the three branches on the right side of the Candlestick, with their twenty-seven bowls, knops, and flowers, which represent the remaining twenty-seven Books of the Old Testament, and to the three branches on the left side of the Candlestick, with their twenty-seven bowls, knops, and flowers, which represent the twenty-seven Books of the New Testament. Thus, we see that there were sixty-six bowls, knops, and flowers on the Candlestick, which represent the sixty-six Books of the Bible.

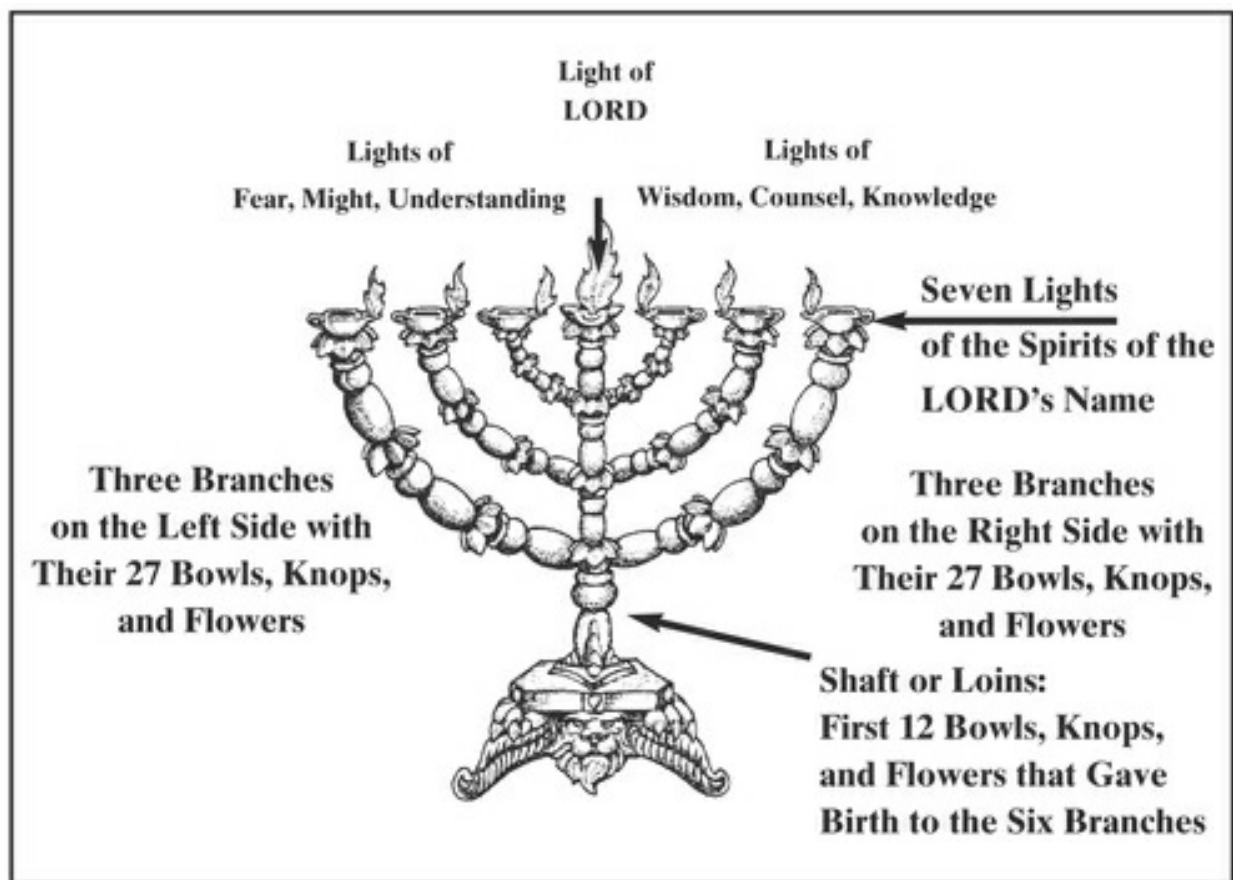
The Shaft or Loin section of the Candlestick and its six branches support the seven Lamps or Lights of the Spirits of the LORD's Name, as revealed in the Book of Isaiah.

And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; (Isaiah 11:2).

In the Book of Revelation, these Lamps of Fire are seen as the seven Spirits of God.

And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God (Revelation 4:5).

The complete Spirit of the LORD God is upon Christ, the Divine Son of God.



The Shaft or the Governmental Loins of the Candlestick is God's Regenerating, begetting Works Witness that the other fifty-four Books of God's Word follow. The twelve Books on the Shaft of the Candlestick are listed below:

1. Genesis — Beginning Principle
2. Exodus — Creative Power Principle
3. Leviticus — Holiness Principle
4. Numbers — Seeing Principle

5. Deuteronomy — Separation Principle
6. Joshua — Sharing Principle
7. Judges — Sowing and Reaping Principle
8. Ruth — Light Principle
9. First Samuel — Life Principle
10. Second Samuel — Service Principle
11. First Kings — Ruling and Reigning Principle
12. Second Kings — Feeding Principle

The Lamp of the Spirit of the LORD, the Tetragrammaton Name, also is a Loin or Thigh Witness that promises that the LORD will reveal, through His only Begotten Son, the other six Spirits of His Name: Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Might, Knowledge, and Fear of the LORD.

No one but the Eternal, All-knowing, Almighty God could create such a complete picture, shadow, and type of His Son as is revealed in the Mosaic Tabernacle and in its Candlestick.

God's Word also reveals the White-Linen-Loins Witness in the covering that was made for the loins or thighs of His Priests.

And for Aaron's sons thou shalt make coats, and thou shalt make for them girdles, and bonnets shalt thou make for them, for glory and for beauty. And thou shalt put them upon Aaron thy brother, and his sons with him; and shalt anoint them, and consecrate them, and sanctify them, that they may minister unto me in the priest's office. *And thou shalt make them linen breeches to cover their nakedness; from the loins even unto the thighs they shall reach:* And they shall be upon Aaron, and upon his sons, when they come in unto the tabernacle of the congregation, or when they come near unto the altar to minister in the holy place; that they bear not iniquity, and die: it shall be a statute for ever unto him and his seed after him (Exodus 28:40-43).

The LORD commanded that the nakedness of Aaron's and his sons' loins and thighs be covered by White Linen Breeches or shorts, as a Witness that their loins were clean, separated, and Holy unto the LORD. This White-Linen-Witness or Thigh Witness was absolutely essential and indispensable for Aaron and his sons' assumption of God's Priestly Order.

The Priests *could not serve* God's *Torah* and His *Sanctuary* without the Thigh Witness of the White Linen Breeches being upon their loins.

The wearing of the White Linen Breeches was a Thigh (Works) Witness of the Priests' devoted obedience to God's Purposive Will as revealed in His *Torah*. Meeting the LORD's Demands in this matter was necessary in order to satisfy Him and to draw near to Him.

The Thigh Witness of the White Linen Breeches was a picture of God's Moral High Calling of Moral Purity for Israel and for Christ's Bride concerning their sexual lives. The White Linen Breeches were a Witness of God's disapproval of any and every sexual transgression against His *Torah-Truth*. God desired that His Priests be near Him and serve in His Sanctuary with the Holy Character of guiltless purity, obeying His *Torah-Truth*. The White Linen Breeches girded the loins of the Priests so that they could do good, active, Holy Service to the LORD in His Sanctuary and not leave any room for unholy thoughts and deeds.

God's Glorious Anointing on the Sacred, Holy White Linen Breeches bore witness that it was His Regenerating, Miraculous Working Power that separated the Priests unto Himself for Service in the Sanctuary. Thus, the Priests were moral models for the whole Nation for Israel. This Truth, that God's Power was what kept them Holy, banished all proud conceit and all contemptibly, ignorant over-estimation of the Priests' worth which, alone, could never gain for them such a High, Holy, Privileged position with God in His Sanctuary. Without God's Regenerating, Miraculous Working Power, man remains helplessly unable to approach God's Holiness.

The Anointed White Linen Breeches were a secret Thigh Witness that God had, by His Manifold Mercy and Great Grace, made His Priests worthy to draw nigh to Him and to serve His *Torah-Truth* in His Sanctuary.

The LORD also gave a Sword Witness, upon the thigh of His warriors against, idolatry and idolaters.

And Moses said unto Aaron, What did this people unto thee, that thou hast brought so great a sin upon them? And Aaron said, Let not the anger of my lord wax hot: thou knowest the people, that they are set on mischief. For they said unto me, Make us gods, which shall go before us: for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him. And I said unto them, Whosoever hath any gold, let them break it off. So they gave it me: then I cast it into the fire, and there came out this calf. And when Moses saw that the people were naked; (for Aaron had made them naked unto their shame among their enemies:) Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Who is on

the LORD's side? let him come unto me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him. And he said unto them, *Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Put every man his sword by his side, and go in and out from gate to gate throughout the camp, and slay every man his brother, and every man his companion, and every man his neighbour. And the children of Levi did according to the word of Moses: and there fell of the people that day about three thousand men. For Moses had said, Consecrate yourselves to day to the LORD, even every man upon his son, and upon his brother; that he may bestow upon you a blessing this day* (Exodus 32:21-29)

While Moses was up on Mount Sinai, receiving the *Torah*- Truth, Israel coerced Aaron into making a golden calf. God sent Moses down the Mount to deal with their brazen, idolatrous behaviour, in which they were engaged in the very Face of God and His Devouring, Fiery *Kabode* Glory on Mount Sinai.

The Israelites were co-makers with Aaron of the golden calf. They furnished the gold, and Aaron made the idol calf. Moses was so morally angry that he took the "idol calf," which they had made, and burned it with fire and ground it to powder. Then, he mixed it with water and made the children of Israel drink it. When those who were guilty drank this water, the idolatrous image within them caused them to break out with God's plague because of their unfaithfulness to Him as their Espoused Bridegroom.

The "idolatrous-calf water" harmfully affected the guilty ones, leaving the innocent immune from the plague. The guilty ones' defection from God's Truth and their disloyalty to God's Truth evoked God's Punishment upon them for their sin.

Moses invited the ones on the LORD's side, who had had no share in the worship of the idolatrous calf, to come unto him. All the sons of Levi came to Moses. He, then, commanded them to put their swords on their thighs as a "Loin or Thigh Witness" that they were ready to avenge the LORD's Holy Name, Glory, and *Torah*-Truth by slaying the guilty sinners, even if they were their own relatives. These faithful soldiers, with their "Thigh-Witness Swords," took vengeance upon the idolatrous criminals. The loyal, true Levites did not spare even their nearest relatives.

As a reward for Levi's fidelity and zeal for the LORD and His Thigh-Witness Sword, the LORD gave the tribe of Levi the charge of His Sanctuary. The LORD blessed the tribe of Levi with the privilege of being His servants in His Sanctuary because they had, by their Thigh-Witness Swords, defended the LORD's Name, Glory, and *Torah*-Truth in His Sanctuary.

The Resurrected LORD Jesus Christ also bears witness with His Thigh which carries His Sword of Truth and the Name of KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

Gird thy sword upon thy thigh, O most mighty, with thy glory and thy majesty. And in thy majesty ride prosperously because of truth and meekness and righteousness; and thy right hand shall teach thee terrible things (Psalm 45:3,4).

And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. *And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS* (Revelation 19:11-16).

The Bridegroom Warrior is commanded to gird His Sword upon His Thigh as a Witness that He, by His Father's Miraculous, Almighty Power, will avenge His Father's Name, Glory, and *Torah*-Truth. He will ride forth on His White Horse of Faith with His White Linen Bridal Army, waging war successfully against all who oppose His Father and His Master Plan and Purposive Will. He is God's Anointed Champion, defending the Cause of Right.

The LORD Jesus Christ is Faithful and True to His Father's Covenant and Promise. He has Omniscient Knowledge of all the wicked plots and plans of all His enemies. He has Infinite, Divine Dominion in His Eternal Kingdom, and He wears many crowns. His Armour and His Vesture dipped in His Resurrected Blood are Witnesses that He already has overcome *all* powers of darkness. His Name is the Word of God. His Weapon of Warfare is His Sharp Sword of Truth proceeding out of His Mouth, with which He will smite all rebellious nations. He not only threatens them with the punishment in His Written Word, but as the Living Word, He will execute Judgment and Punishment that have been promised in His Written Word.

His Father's Ensign of His Almighty Power is written both upon His Vesture and His Thigh — KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. His Thigh Witness, proclaiming Him King and LORD, confirms His Supreme, Sovereign, Ruling Power. The Wisdom, Understanding, Knowledge, and Prudence, revealed in His Name of LORD (*Yod, Hay,*

Vaw, Hay), confirms His possession of the Power to overcome all His enemies.

This is a brief overview of the Principle of God's Miraculous, Regenerating Works of His Thigh Witness that confirms His Supreme, Sovereign Power to regenerate, to govern, and to guide by His Master Plan and Purposive Will in all things.

Through the Truth revealed in this book thus far, we have seen God's threefold Witness of His Purposive Will from Genesis to Revelation. We have seen the confirming Power of His Light Witness, His Perfection of Truth Witness, and His Miraculous, Regenerating Works Witness that confirms He is able to bring to visible birth that which His Light and Truth have witnessed in the invisible realm.

PART SEVEN

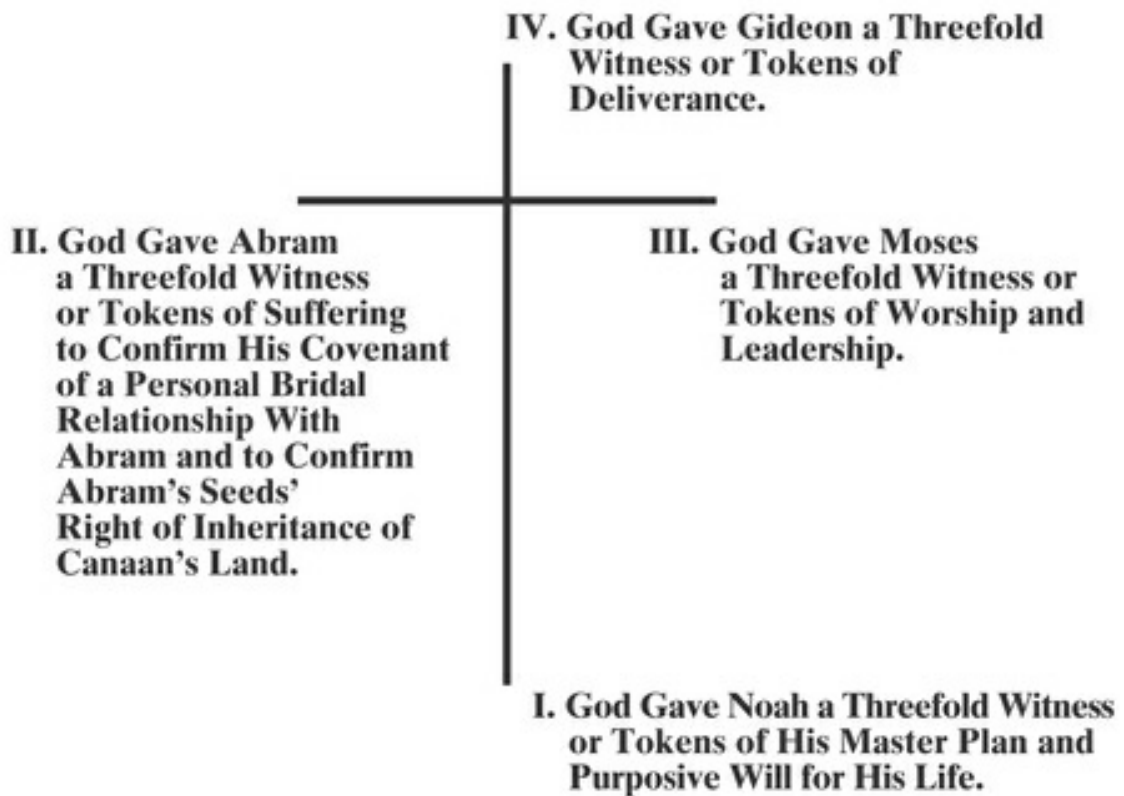


**God's Token Witness to Noah
of the Bow of Light in the Clouds**

PART SEVEN

Token Witnesses That God Gave To Noah, Abram, Moses, And Gideon To Confirm His Master Plan And Purposive Will For Their Lives

God gave four different individuals in the Old Testament — Noah, Abraham, Moses, and Gideon — special Witnesses or Signs and Tokens to confirm, governmentally, His Master Plan and Purposive Will for their lives, which is further proof that God works through a threefold Witness.



I. God Gave Noah a Threefold Witness or Tokens to Confirm His Master Plan and Purposive Will for His Life.

Noah was the first individual to receive a threefold Witness or Tokens of God's Master Plan for his life. The first of God's Witnesses to Noah came in the form of a Divine Command, when God told Noah to build an ark, which would house all His Creation that would come into Noah's Ark for safety and security during the time of God's Universal Judgment of a world steeped in wickedness and sin.

God's second Witness to Noah was His Divine Promise that He would send a flood or deluge to destroy all wicked life upon the Earth.

God's third Witness to Noah was His Divine Covenant Word, manifested by the bow in the clouds, which was

His Sign that never again would He destroy the Earth by a flood.

A. God Gave a Divine Command to Noah to Build an Ark, which Was a Witness to the Wicked Generation in Noah's Day.

And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth. *Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch.* And this is the fashion which thou shalt make it of: The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, the breadth of it fifty cubits, and the height of it thirty cubits. A window shalt thou make to the ark, and in a cubit shalt thou finish it above; and the door of the ark shalt thou set in the side thereof; with lower, second, and third stories shalt thou make it (Genesis 6:13-16).

Noah, whose name means rest, was an eminent Patriarch, the ninth in descent from Adam (Genesis 5:29). God proclaimed that Noah's following attributes were proofs of his spirituality:

- He was just, perfect, and walked with God (Genesis 6:9).
- He was a preacher of righteousness (II Peter 2:5).
- He was an eminent man of faith (Hebrews 11:7).

Noah is the second father of the human race, all the families of the Earth being in a direct line of descent from him.

In the days of Noah, the human race had degenerated to such a state of unusual violence and wickedness that the LORD was forced to destroy them in order to purify the Earth and to save the righteous remnant of people, namely, Noah and his family.

God, the Father of Lights, gave a Divine Command to Noah, which was a Light Witness to Noah, enlightening his understanding about God's intention to send a judgmental deluge which would submerge the Earth and the wicked people and animals of the Earth in a watery grave, destroying them all; therefore, Noah was to build an Ark or ship for the salvation of the believers and the good animals, both the clean and unclean, according to the Law, if they had not been defiled by wicked men. God, in His manifold Mercy and great Grace, gave Noah 120 "Light" years to build the Ark and to preach righteousness to the wicked inhabitants of Earth, giving them an opportunity to repent.

The "Father of Lights" not only enlightened Noah's understanding so that he could comprehend the coming disastrous deluge, but He also enlightened Noah's understanding to enable him to know exactly how to build the Ark so that it would float. Thus, all the appointed life safely housed within the Ark would be preserved.

Prior to God's great Universal Flood in Noah's day, the Earth had been watered by a mist coming up out of the ground (Genesis 2:6). Hence, mankind never had seen rain fall from the Heavens, nor had they ever seen a boat or a ship. Consequently, the construction of Noah's ark or ship aroused much curiosity, causing men to ask questions, which gave Noah an opportunity to warn them of God's coming Judgment. Noah's faithfulness to build the Ark in obedience to God's Divine Command was a true Witness to all the people of his day.

For 120 years, God let Noah tell people of His imminent Judgment; however, they scoffed, mocked, and blasphemed Noah, taking no heed to his warnings and his preaching of righteousness.

B. God's Divine Promise of the Coming Judgmental Deluge of Water upon the Whole Earth Was a Second Witness to the Generation of Noah's Day.

And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven; and every thing that is in the earth shall die. But with thee will I establish my covenant; and thou shalt come into, the ark, thou, and thy sons, and thy wife, and thy sons wives with thee. And of every living thing of all flesh, two of every sort shalt thou bring into the ark, to keep them alive with thee; they shall be male and female. Of fowls after their kind, and of cattle after their kind, of every creeping thing of the earth after his kind, two of every sort shall come unto thee, to keep them alive. And take thou unto thee of all food that is eaten, and thou shalt gather it to thee; and it shall be for food for thee, and for them. Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he (Genesis 6:17-22).

The Divine Promise of God's Word was filled with the Perfection of His Truth, which not only promised the coming Judgment but also performed the Judgment, as a Witness of God's Hatred for sinful wickedness.

Although Noah's generation rejected the Witness of God's Word about the deluge that would come upon the Earth, Noah continued faithfully working to provide a place of safety and salvation for the appointed creatures by building the Ark and by storing up sufficient food in the Ark, according to the number of guests to be taken aboard.

The same God Who makes the ox to know his natural master, owner, and crib also made all the animals, appointed for salvation in the Ark, to know Noah and the Ark, the LORD's divinely appointed master, owner, and crib.

God's Warnings and Threatenings, through Noah, were not idle tales; they were filled with the Perfection of God's Truth. That which God promised concerning the universal deluge, He performed at the appointed time. By Commandment of God, Noah took two each of the unclean animals and seven of the clean animals into the Ark, after he and his wife and their three sons and three wives had entered the Ark. These people and animals, alone, were saved from God's judgmental waters. All the rest of the creatures that were upon the land perished in the flood. The flood waters prevailed upon the Earth for 150 days (Genesis 7:24). At the end of that time, a wind from God dried up the flood waters, and the Ark rested upon Mount Ararat.

C. God Gave Noah a Witness or Token of a Bow of Light in the Clouds, which Displayed the Generating Power of His Miraculous Works, to Confirm His Covenant of Light and Life.

God's third Witness to Noah was a Covenant of His Rainbow Light or Miraculous Work in the clouds, indicating that He never again would destroy His Creative Life on Earth by a judgmental deluge.

Noah and his family members were the only human survivors of the great flood that God sent to destroy the world of wicked inhabitants who lived upon the Earth at that time.

After spending months in the Ark with all the animals, while surrounded by swirling flood waters, Noah and his family stepped out onto dry ground; and, the first thing Noah did was to build an altar and offer burnt offerings unto the LORD. Thus, Noah consecrated the newly cleansed Earth to the LORD for His Moral High Calling for future mankind.

When the sweet savour of Noah's sacrifices ascended into the LORD's Nostrils, the LORD looked down in Mercy upon His Creation, and He purposed that, for man's sake, He never again would destroy the whole world with a flood. God made a new Covenant of Light and Life with Noah that day, by His Miraculous Work in the clouds. To confirm His Covenant, God gave Noah a Witness or Token of Light that was to be a perpetual record for all future generations, establishing the certainty of His Word, His Promise, that He never again would destroy His created life with His judgmental flood waters.

And God spake unto Noah, and to his sons with him, saying, And I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed after you; And with every living creature that is with you, of the fowl, of the cattle, and of every beast of the earth with you; from all that go out of the ark, to every beast of the earth. And I will establish my covenant with you; neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth. And God said, This is the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations: I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth. And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud: And I will remember my covenant, which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh. And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth. And God said unto Noah, This is the token of the covenant, which I have established between me and all flesh that is upon the earth (Genesis 9:8-17).

God told Noah, in so many words, not to feel fearful whenever he saw a stormy thundercloud in the sky but to look for the bow of beautiful light that He would put in the cloud to bear witness of His Promise. When Noah saw the bow in the cloud, with its light flashing and leaping forth from its colourful shining, it would be a visible Witness or Token to him that God also would be looking upon His Bow of Light in the cloud and that He would be remembering the Covenant He had made with Noah, which was a Promise that He never again would destroy the Earth with a flood.

Likewise, believers do not have to worry when they see a storm cloud coming in the spiritual realm. The cloud may be as dark as midnight, and the winds may be whirling and raging, but believers must remember that the cloud is *not* the Witness or Token that God gave to confirm His Covenant of Life. It is the *Light* of the "Bow" of God's Miraculous Works in the storm cloud that we are to look upon, which also reminds God of His Covenant of Life in

Jesus Christ. Once we truly see that glorious flash of Light from the true Witness of God's Miraculous Works, making known to us His Master Plan and Purposive Will, our heart experiences great calm and certainty, even in the midst of the spiritual storm, because we know that God, Who cannot lie, has promised to preserve our life in Christ Jesus.

The world is full of people, including many Christians, who look at the storm clouds in their emotional, mental, and spiritual skies; therefore, they shake and tremble in fear. They grope and stumble through life because they never take their eyes from the storm clouds and put them on God's Miraculous Works in Christ Jesus. Very few, comparatively speaking, ever lift their eyes to look upon the Witness or Token of the LORD's Miraculous Works of Light that He has put in the midst of the dark clouds. However, there are some believers who have spiritual eyesight to see the Light of the LORD's Miraculous Works, as they leap and flash forth from the dark clouds of suffering, bearing Witness to them that they can walk on with the LORD in the Light and Life of His Covenant in Christ Jesus.

God allows His children to be in dark storm clouds of one kind or another in order to test them to see whether they will choose to look at the dark cloud or whether they will choose to look at the Witnesses or Tokens of the Miraculous Works of Light in Christ Jesus that He always places in the cloud. Those who look at the LORD's Witnesses of Light, Life, and Miraculous Works gain a new growth of faith, joy, and peace.

Our experience of coming before the LORD to ask Him to reveal the Mind of His Master Plan and Purposive Will for us is an act of trustful faith. When the LORD answers our inquiries as to His Plan and Purpose for us, the LORD's confirming Witnesses of His Glory-Light, Truth, and Miraculous Works give certainty, comfort, and consolation to our heart. We ask, "LORD, do You want me to do this, or do You want me to do that?" When the LORD answers, "Yes, I want you to do this," and we see the glorious leaping and flashing of the Father's Spirit of Light and the Word's Perfection of Truth that bear Witness to His Purposive Will, we think, "Oh, how glorious! How wonderful! Look at all the beautiful colours of the Light and the Truth." The danger, in this case, is that we may jump to the conclusion that we are ready to go out and start walking, immediately, in the Light and Truth of the LORD's Spirit and Word Witnesses. However, the LORD, first, must work keener eyesight in us so that we can discern the need for His Miraculous Work of spiritual growth that He must accomplish both in us and in our situation and circumstance. He, first, must bring about spiritual growth in us and moral order in our situation and circumstance in order to accomplish His Plan and Purpose that His Spirit and Word have Witnessed. Remember, between Noah's first and second Witnesses from God and his third Witness from God, one hundred twenty years had elapsed, teaching us that God must train us and prepare us before His complete threefold Witness is performed.

In the midst of the dark storm clouds that are in our spiritual sky, Christ's Spiritual Light and Truth must appear in order to reveal the deathly things in our flesh that must be crucified and mortified by Christ's Judgmental Flood Waters; then the LORD can reveal new realms of His glorious Resurrection Life to us. New life gives our spiritual legs added growth which lengthens them so that we can walk in the new place that God has Witnessed by His Spirit and Word. God knows that every person truly must be prepared in his spiritual growth and vision before walking by the Light and Truth of His Witnesses. We must learn to keep our eyes fastened upon the LORD's Witnessing Light or Token that He has given, rather than looking upon the dark storm clouds in our life.

God did not make the cloud to be the Witness or Token for Noah; He did not tell Noah to look at the cloud so that he would be comforted and encouraged in the time of storm. Instead, God commanded him to look upon the Rainbow of Light in the dark storm cloud so that he would be comforted by faith in God's Covenant Promise of Life and Protection from more deathly flood waters.

The third Sign or Witness to Noah of the LORD's Master Plan and Purposive Will was the confirmation of His Covenant through His promised Rainbow of Light that He put in the storm cloud, assuring Noah, all over again, that there would be no more overwhelming flood waters upon the Earth.

The believer who keeps his eyes upon the LORD's Witnesses of Light and Truth is able to see the LORD's Light and Life in the midst of every spiritual storm cloud in his life. Consequently, he always can stride forward and upward in his spiritual education and in his moral development.

The LORD may use dark storm clouds to show us new areas of our fleshly fears or new depths of our murmuring and complaining against the LORD's Plan and Purpose for us. We need to take our fears and distrust of the LORD's Merciful, Gracious Headship to the Cross of Calvary and to Christ's tomb for their crucifixion and mortification so that we can lay hold of new Life in Christ Jesus that will empower us to walk in the Light and Truth of His Witnesses or Tokens that we saw when we were in the LORD's Presence.

People who discount the veracity of the Witnesses of God's Spirit and Word are creating clouds of doubts, distrust, and suspicion that will hide, from them, the LORD's Witness of Light and Truth which He has given to His New Testament Church. The distrust that doubters display reveals the fact that they would rather look on the dark

clouds in their spiritual world, with carnal expectation of receiving the answers from them, than to trust God's Witnesses from His Spirit and Word. Thus, temporarily, they can feel comfortable by continuing on in the darkness and ignorance of their own wills, while they say that God never speaks to them in their dark clouds, or else they say that they are still waiting to see an answer from the LORD.

Just as the Witness for which Noah was to look was not in the storm cloud but in the rainbow of Light, so the believer, today, must look, in faith, to the flashing and leaping of the LORD's Witnesses of His Spirit and His Word that He has given to be the Tokens or the Confirmation of His Covenant of Life. The believer is not to look to the storm clouds of his situations and circumstances of this present world. They have no promise of hope in them. The Light of Hope and the Comfort of Truth are in God's Spirit and Word.

II. God Gave Abram a Threefold Witness or Tokens to Confirm His Master Plan and Purposive Will for His Life.



Abraham was the greatest and most venerable of the Patriarchs. The strongest point of his character was his unbounding trust and faith in God; hence, he was called the friend of God and the father of the faithful. Abraham's name means the "father of a multitude." God directed Abram (the name given to him by his family) to leave his country and kindred and go to a land which would be shown to him. God promised Abram, at the same time, to make him (1) a great nation; (2) blessed above all people; (3) great in name; and (4) through him, to bless all families of the Earth.

So, Abram left Mesopotamia and came to Canaan's Land, where God reaffirmed the Land of Canaan as being his and his seed's inheritance.

Nevertheless, years passed by, and Abram had no seed by Sarai, his true wife. After they were both old and past childbearing, the Almighty God appeared unto Abram and made a miraculous threefold Covenant with Abram and Sarai by changing their names and giving them the name of their miracle son-to-be. Their names were to be the following:

- Abram's name was to be changed to Abraham (father of a multitude).
- Sarai's name was to be changed to Sarah (the Princess);
- Isaac, Abraham's and Sarah's son, was to be conceived by the Generating Power of Miraculous Works of the Holy Spirit. Their bodies were to be changed from their old, dead condition and rejuvenated so that they could beget a son whose name was to be Isaac. This was accomplished through the Covenant of Inner and Outer Circumcision that God gave to Abraham.

From the days of old, God always has worked by a threefold Witness — from the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost.

A. God's Covenant with Abram Was Established when He Changed Abram's Name to Abraham.

When the LORD appeared to Abram as the Almighty God and entered into a Covenant with him to be his God and to give him Canaan's Land for an everlasting possession for his seed, He changed Abram's name to Abraham.

AND when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect. And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly. And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying, As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations. Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee. And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee. And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee. And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God (Genesis 17:1-8).

When the LORD appeared to reveal His Master Plan and Purposive Will to Abram, the Patriarch fell upon his face before Him. Abram was acknowledging the Holiness of the place, which was a foreshadowing of the time, later in Israel's history, when the High Priest would enter into the Holy Place of the Mosaic Tabernacle to ascertain the LORD's Mind concerning His Master Plan and Purposive Will for Israel.

However, before Almighty God appeared to Abram, the realization of God's Promise of Life and a seed, a son, to carry on his and his wife's life often must have appeared dim, distant, and hopeless. Nevertheless, when Almighty God, the Divine dispenser of benefits, appeared to Abram, he received the new name of Abraham. Abraham received the second *Hay* or "H" in the LORD's Tetragrammaton Name which consisted of the four Hebrew letters of *Yod, Hay, Vaw, and Hay*.

The *Yod* represented the Wisdom of the LORD's Name. The first *Hay* represented the Understanding of the LORD's Holy, Truthful Nature. The *Vaw* represented the Knowledge of the Glory and Power of the LORD's Name. The second *Hay* represented the Prudence or the Power that is in the LORD's Holy Name to choose good and to refuse evil.

Abraham prudently chose to trust and hope in God's Promise to him and to refuse the evil of doubts, fears, and mistrust concerning the LORD's Promise.

The change of Abram's name to Abraham signified the mission of Abraham's life and the life of his seed, which was to bring all nations and peoples under the Wings of God's *Kabode* Glory and the *Shekinah* Glory-Dove of God's Spirit.

Abram suffered many years of humiliation and grief because he was called to be the father of nations; yet, he was not the father of even one child by Sarai.

After Abram had suffered great humiliation, the All-Sufficient, Almighty God gave Abram a Token of His Invisible Covenant with him by giving him the exalted name of Abraham, the father of many nations.

B. God's Covenant with Sarai Was Established when He Changed Her Name to Sarah, the Princess.

And God said unto Abraham, As for Sarai thy wife, thou shalt not call her name Sarai, but *Sarah shall her name be*. And I will bless her, and give thee a son also of her: yea, I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of people shall be of her. Then Abraham fell upon his face, and laughed, and said in his heart, Shall a child be born unto him that is an hundred years old? and shall Sarah, that is ninety years old, bear? (Genesis 17:15-17).

Sarai was a companion to Abram's great grief and humiliation because they were childless. Yet, her exemplary faith is commended by the Apostles.

Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised (Hebrews 11:11).

Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement (1 Peter 3:6).

After Sarai had faithfully endured her season of grief and humiliation, God also gave her a Token of her union with His Invisible Covenant with Abraham by changing her name to Sarah.

God blessed Sarah, promising her power to conceive seed and, in due season, to become the mother of many nations. The Token of Sarah's blessing was the same as Abraham's — they both received one of the two letters called *Hay* or an "H" from the LORD's Tetragrammaton Name which consisted of the Hebrew letters of *Yod, Hay, Vaw, and Hay*. Sarah received the first *Hay* or Understanding of the LORD's Holy Name. The Understanding of the LORD's Holy Name gave her confidence to believe that she would be a mother of nations. The LORD's Name is so powerful!

C. Through the Covenant of Inner and Outer Circumcision that God Made with Abraham, and Through His Name, God's Generating Power of Miraculous Works Rejuvenated Abraham's and Sarah's Bodies. God also Covenanted with Isaac by Giving Him His Name, before Isaac's Conception and Birth, as a Token or Witness of God's Divine Choice for Isaac to Be the Bearer of the Seed of Promise of the Messiah, the LORD Jesus Christ.

Isaac was the Miraculous Works Witness of God's Performance of His Promise to Abraham and Sarah.

The *Hay* of Prudence in Abraham's name gave Abraham the Power of Choice to believe that God would perform His Promise unto him. The *Hay* of Understanding in Sarah's Name caused their bodies miraculously to return to their youthful state, supplying youthful blood in their loins; therefore, they were able to conceive a special son to inherit the Land of Canaan and the blessed Promises.

And God said, *Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son* indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.... But my covenant will I establish with *Isaac, which Sarah shall bear unto thee* at this set time in the next year (Genesis 17:19,21).

The Hebrew name for Isaac is *Yits-khawk*, meaning laughter. Miraculous Works that are generated by the Power of God's Spirit, according to His Purposive Will, always bring joy and laughter.

Isaac's name contained the *Yod* or the Humility Wisdom of the LORD's Tetragrammaton Name. The Wisdom of the LORD's Holy Name reveals the present Truth that now is, which is that the LORD is the Supreme, Sovereign Head over all things. The Nature and Power of the Holy *Yod* in Isaac's Name enabled him always to be a peacemaker, all the days of his life.

God's Invisible, Divine Covenant Blessings were reserved for Isaac, whose name means joy and laughter. God's Promises and His Performances of them bring joy and laughter to all who experience them. God repeated to Abraham, the second time, that Sarah would conceive the son that He had chosen to bear His Everlasting Covenant.

The conception and birth of Isaac was a third Witness, to Abraham, Sarah, and the whole world, of God's Miraculous Generating Power that had wrought a wondrous blood miracle in Abraham's and Sarah's old bodies. Isaac was the special son to whom God gave His Everlasting Covenant.

The Hebrew word for *covenant* is *ber-eeth*, meaning a compact, confederacy, a league, from the Hebrew root

word *baw-raw*, meaning to select, to feed, to render clear, choose, manifest, and to give meat. The Life of God's Invisible, Divine Covenant is completely independent of and completely detached from all external circumstances and causes.

God's establishing a Covenant with Abram and Sarai did not mean that He brought it into existence at that time. But, it means that God transferred something, which already was in existence, upon Abram, Sarai, and Isaac. God's Covenant was not dependent upon Abram's and Sarai's youth nor their old age.

God's Eternal Covenant of His Master Plan and Purposive Will have been from Eternity-Past; therefore, His Plans and Purposes cannot be thwarted by any present, outward circumstances and causes, in any age or time. Abram's and Sarai's old age could not prevent God's Eternal Covenant from being established and Isaac's being brought to birth to carry God's Everlasting Covenant.

After Almighty God had spoken with Abram, telling him about all the blessings and privileges of the Covenant, He told him that the Witness or Token of this Covenant was to be circumcision in the flesh of all the males in Abraham's family.

This is my covenant, which ye shall keep, between me and you and thy seed after thee; Every man child among you shall be circumcised. And ye shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a token of the covenant betwixt me and you. And he that is eight days old shall be circumcised among you, every man child in your generations, he that is born in the house, or bought with money of any stranger, which is not of thy seed. He that is born in thy house, and he that is bought with thy money, must needs be circumcised: and my covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant. And the uncircumcised man child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he hath broken my covenant.... And Abraham took Ishmael his son, and all that were born in his house, and all that were bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham's house; and circumcised the flesh of their foreskin in the selfsame day, as God had said unto him. And Abraham was ninety years old and nine, when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. And Ishmael his son was thirteen years old, when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. In the selfsame day was Abraham circumcised, and Ishmael his son. And all the men of his house, born in the house, and bought with money of the stranger, were circumcised with him (Genesis 17:10-14, 23-27).

So, at ninety-nine years of age, Abraham accepted the outward, visible Sign of the Covenant by circumcising his own flesh. As Abraham used the knife in the natural realm to cut away the foreskin of his old flesh, God used the spiritual knife of the Miraculous Generating Power of His Holy Spirit and Name to cut away the infirmities of Abraham's old age, restoring miraculous youth to his old body. Abraham's circumcision was a visible Witness of the LORD's Invisible Witness of His Eternal Covenant of Spiritual Circumcision.

Abraham also required that circumcision be administered to all the males in his household, including his son Ishmael who was thirteen years old at the time. All the menservants of Abraham's house — those who had been born in his house and those who had been bought with money — were circumcised along with him. Any man who was unwilling to suffer the pain of circumcision was to be cut off from his people because he would be breaking the LORD's Invisible Spiritual Covenant by refusing the visible Sign of the Covenant in his flesh.

We may think, erroneously, that the LORD's Witness is solely for the purpose of leading us to beautiful, glorious, exalting experiences on the pleasure side of the Scales. However, Abram and Sarai had to bear the shame, grief, and humiliation of remaining without an heir to the LORD's Covenant of Promise, which was that their seed would inherit Canaan's Land. God had said that all nations would be blessed in Abraham, meaning that he would be the father of nations; yet, Abram did not have one child by Sarai.

God gave the Witness to Abraham and Sarah through the two *Hays* that He gave them from His Tetragrammaton Name. He also gave them the third Witness or Token through the LORD's Inner and Outer Covenant of Circumcision, which brought the revelation of Isaac's name that was joined to the *Yod* of the LORD's Name. Isaac's name, conception, and birth were fruits of the Covenant of Circumcision. Abraham's experiences plainly show us, again, that the LORD's Witnesses also lead one to suffering and pain before exaltation and fulfillment are achieved.

Abraham's family had to bear the Witness or marks of circumcision and pain in their flesh in order to remain joined to God's spiritual Bridal family. Likewise, we must bear the Witness of Christ's nails of crucifixion in our fleshly nature and the Witness of the obedient Waters of His Name, Death, and Life, also, in our fleshly nature in order to remain joined to His Bridal family.

Circumcision in the natural realm is painful and humiliating, even when it is administered to an infant. Abraham and his servants were grown men; therefore, the circumcision was more painful; it rendered them weak and helpless.

The same Principle applies in the case of Christ's spiritual circumcision of the heart. Having the flesh of the foreskin of the heart and the human will cut away is painful suffering. Separation from the world and the procreative power of the fleshly will is painful, but it is the only Witness or Token that the LORD accepts as a sign that a person

is worthy of knowing Him in a personal relationship and that he is worthy of entering into the fruitfulness of spiritual Canaan's Land or the Prize of being in Christ's Bride.

When Jesus was in the country of the Gadarenes, He met and delivered a man from a legion of devils, which had him bound. The LORD allowed these devils to enter into a herd of swine, which immediately ran violently down a steep place and perished in the sea (Mark 5:1-13).

Some may ask, "Was it God's Will for all those hogs to drown? After all, raising and selling hogs was how those people made a living." Yes, of course, it was the Will of God. Jesus always did the Will of His Father. He was circumcising the Gadarenes, spiritually, by cutting off their natural possessions, trying to see if they would be willing to accept the painful separation from their possessions in order to enter into a Covenant Relationship with Him. They chose to reject the Witness or Token of circumcision; therefore, they cast Jesus out of their coasts (Mark 5:14-17). Thus, they let it be known that they would rather have their earthly hogs than to have a Living, Eternal Relationship with the Son of God through suffering painful circumcision.

On the painful side of the spiritual Scales, the LORD brings us to experiences of suffering so that He can start cutting off our fleshly swine. Hogs represent a fleshly spirit in man that loves to get down and root in someone else's dirt. Our fleshly spirit loves to wallow in the muck of worldly pleasures and in the mire of self-pity.

Man has a fleshly, unclean, hog-like spirit that pretends to have a split hoof, as it were (because clean animals, according to God's Laws, had a split hoof and chewed a cud). Thus, this unclean spirit pretends to love the LORD and His separations, but its unclean mouth has no Holy "cud" of God's Word to chew upon; instead, it feeds upon the unclean things of the world.

Remember, God brings us to painful experiences in order to see if we are willing to give up our unChrist-like attitudes and dispositions and if we are willing to give up our attachments to the things of this world that cause us to be like swine that desire to feed at a mucky, miry trough, instead of at Christ the Master's clean crib of spiritual corn.

Unfortunately, many people make the same unwise choice as was made by the Gadarenes who besought Jesus to leave their country because they had lost their swine. People may not literally say, "Jesus, get out of my life," but their rejection of every opportunity He gives them to enter into His Humility Light of self-denial and separation, through letting His circumcising Name work in their hearts, puts Jesus at a distance, just as the Gadarenes rejected Jesus when they asked Him to go away. These people may continue to be carnal Christians; but, until they are willing to accept Christ's Witness or Token of circumcision of their hearts, they will not enter into the delightful joy of a living, personal relationship with the LORD Jesus Christ, nor will they enter into the fruitfulness of their inheritance in spiritual Canaan's Land.

In his writings, the Apostle Paul revealed the invisible circumcision of Christ Jesus' Name that takes place when we are buried with Him (in His precious Name of LORD Jesus Christ) in His watery grave through Water Baptism. After we have taken on the LORD Jesus Christ's Circumcising Name in Water Baptism, we return daily, by faith, to His Circumcising Name that is found in the Waters of His Word, allowing the Truth to cut away the hard foreskin of our heart and will, and also allowing it to cut away fleshly wrath, doubts, and rejections from our hands and feet so that we can lay hold of new realms of prayer in the Holy Ghost; new heights and depths of Christ's Light of Truth; and new lengths and breadths of the Strength of His Faith that overcomes the world and all that is in it. Having surrendered to the LORD's Circumcising Name, we are prepared to walk by His new Judgments or Verdicts, as pronounced by the Witness of the Holy Ghost (*Urim*) and the Word (*Thummim*).

The sincere, honest believer who aspires to be in the Bride of the LORD Jesus Christ will choose to allow the Name of the LORD Jesus Christ to circumcise him, daily; that is, to cut away the fleshly foreskin of his heart and his will. This Witness of Christ's Suffering and Separation is the Token that God looks for in the ones who will dwell eternally in the New City with His beloved Son.

III. God Gave Moses a Threefold Witness or Tokens to Confirm His Master Plan and Purposive Will for His Life.

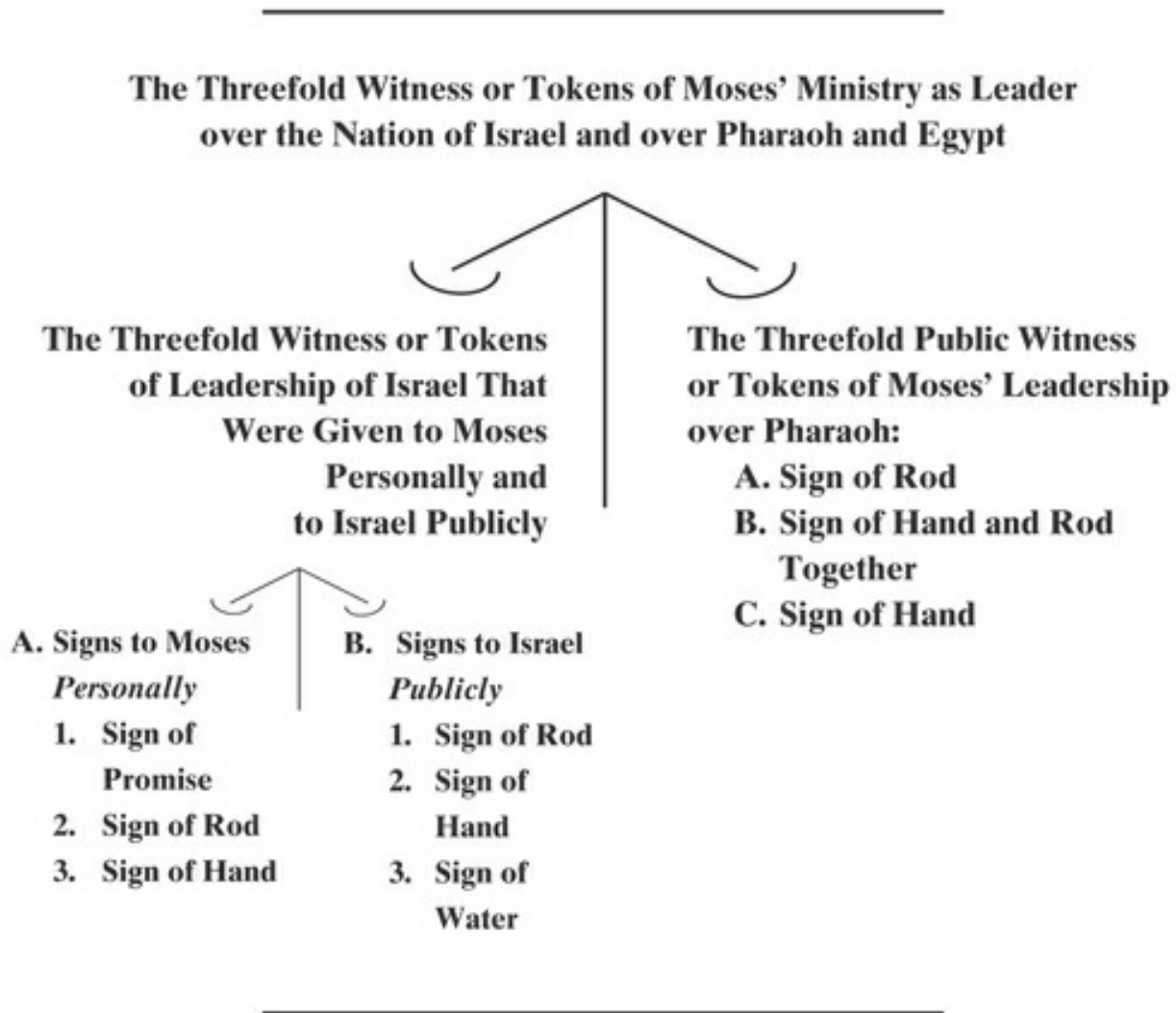


Although Pharaoh's daughter took the baby Moses from the bulrushes, where he had been hidden because of Pharaoh's command that all Hebrew male babies were to be killed by the midwives, and although Pharaoh's daughter called Moses her son, God miraculously made it possible for Moses to be nursed by his own Jewish mother until he was probably five years old, since having a wet nurse was the custom in those days. This provided Moses's mother time to teach him about God's Promise to deliver the Israelites out of the hand of the Egyptians and to free them from their cruel bondage.

One day, after Moses had become an adult, he went out among the Hebrews and saw an Egyptian smiting a Hebrew — one of his brethren. In defense of the abused Hebrew, Moses smote the Egyptian, killing him; then, he hid his body in the sand.

When Moses went out the second day, he saw two Hebrews striving together, so he asked the one who had done the wrong this question, “Wherefore smitest thou thy fellow?” To this, the man replied, “Who made thee a prince and a judge over us? intendest thou to kill me, as thou killedst the Egyptian?”

Fearful that his evil deed would become widely known, Moses fled from the land of Egypt and from the face of Pharaoh. He settled in the land of Midian, dwelling there for a period of forty years. While living in Midian, Moses married their Priest’s daughter. Then, one day, while he was on the backside of the desert, tending the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, he came to the Mountain of God — Mount Horeb. Here Moses received the first of the witnesses of God’s Master Plan and Purposive Will for his life.



A. The Threefold Witness or Tokens of Moses’ Leadership of Israel Were Given to Moses, Privately and Personally, and to Israel, Publicly.

God gave Moses a personal threefold Witness about his future leadership of Israel, first, at the burning bush, when God told Moses about Israel’s future place of worship on Mount Horeb; second, when Moses’ Rod was turned to a serpent and back into a Rod; third, when Moses’ hand was turned into a leprous hand and, then, restored whole again. These were private Witnesses or Tokens that God gave Moses to confirm His Master Plan and Purposive Will for Moses’ life.

After this, God sent Moses to Israel, where He publicly gave Israel the first Witness about Moses’ ministry of

leadership over them. Moses' Rod was changed into a serpent, then, back into a Rod. They received a second public Witness when Moses' hand was made leprous and, then, was made whole again. A third public Witness was given to Israel by Moses when the water that he took from the Nile River became blood when he poured it upon the ground.

God also gave a threefold Witness to Pharaoh and the Egyptians of Moses' divinely appointed leadership and ministry of Power and Authority over them.

These three Signs were given in the following ways:

- through the Rod of God upon which God put His Omnipotent Name that Moses used to perform wonders;
- through the Union of Moses' and Aaron's hands with God's Rod that performed other Miraculous wonders;
- through Moses' hand that was stretched toward Heaven, bringing terrifying darkness over all the land of Egypt.

1. God Gave Signs or Tokens to Moses, Personally and Privately.

God gave Moses three Witnesses, personally and privately, that he was God's chosen leader for the Nation of Israel, to bring them into the land that had been promised to their father Abraham.

a. A Personal, Private Witness or Token Was Given to Moses about Israel's Future Place of Worship on Mount Horeb.

The account of the first Witness or Token that God gave to Moses was about Israel's spiritual worship, as a Nation, on Mount Horeb. The account of this first token Witness is recorded in the third chapter of the Book of Exodus.

NOW Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb. *And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush:* and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed. And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt. And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I. And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet; for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground. Moreover he said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God. And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows; And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites. Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto me: and I have also seen the oppression wherewith the Egyptians oppress them. Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt. And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt? And he said, Certainly I will be with thee; and *this shall be a token unto thee, that I have sent thee: When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon this mountain* (Exodus 3:1-12).

Although Israel's redemption through blood, Fire, and Water began in Egypt, God had planned that the revelation of the *Torah-Truth* and Israel's experience as the "people of the *Torah-Truth*" would begin at Mount Horeb.

The day would come when Moses would see Israel receive the *Torah-Truth* and become the people of the *Torah-Truth* who would worship the LORD. This event was to be a *personal* Token or Witness to Moses that God, indeed, had called him to be a leader of God's people and a leader over God's enemies.

Moses had a life-changing experience at Mount Horeb. The LORD Christ had not yet come to Earth in a Human Body; therefore, when He spoke to Moses from the heart of a flame of fire out of the midst of a thorn bush, He appeared in an Angelic Form.

The lesson behind the LORD Christ's appearing in the center of the flaming Fire, which was in the center of the thorn bush, is to teach us that when we are surrounded by the thorn bushes of life we will not be consumed because the LORD Christ will be in the midst of our thorny situations with us, ministering His Sanctifying, Redeeming Fire of Life to us.

The LORD Christ, in the center of the flames, was the Living *Torah-Truth* begotten out of the Father's Unbegotten Flames of Godliness, Holiness, and Truth. God uses the Power of His Flames in Christ Jesus for the

Purpose of penetrating, refining, purifying, quickening, enlivening, enlightening, and warming our “lover” heart.

If we give our heart and life to become fuel for God’s Flames of Fire of Godliness and Holiness, by nourishing and feeding them in our heart, we will become the bright, flaming torch that Christ desires; then, we can lighten the darkness of those round about us.

When Moses turned aside to see why the bush was not consumed, the LORD called to him and told him to take off his shoes because he was standing on Holy Ground.

The LORD shared with Moses His burden for His children, the Israelites, who were suffering under their Egyptian taskmasters’ afflicting hands. In response to their cries for deliverance, God called Moses to go bring the children of Israel out of Egyptian bondage and lead them forth unto Mount Horeb and, thence, on into the Promised Land of Canaan.

God promised to be with Moses when he brought the people out of Egypt, and the Witness of His Presence or the Token of it would be that He would be with him while he was bringing all Israel to worship and serve Him upon this very Mountain, Mount Horeb, where He had appeared to Moses.

Moses, in his day, was like a lot of Christians today. In the beginning, from the very first day that he went among the Hebrews in his youth, he falsely imagined that he was spiritually ready to start fulfilling God’s Purposive Will in his life by delivering the tiny Nation of Israel from the hand of its painful persecutors, through his own prideful, redeeming hand.

However, when Moses went out under his own headship, asserting his own proud redemptive will, in his own time, he met with failure. As soon as there was serious opposition to his mistimed carnal leadership, he ran away to the land of Midian. Since he had failed in his own prideful effort to redeem the Israelites, he decided that God was not with him; therefore, he assumed God could not use him. Only after spending much time alone did Moses come to realize the Truth — that apart from God’s Plan, Purpose, and Time, he could do nothing by himself.

Nevertheless, when God was with him and when the appointed time came, Moses was able to do God’s Purposive Will in leading His people out of bondage and in holding the place of leadership *over* God’s enemies until they were destroyed.

At the designated time, the LORD’s personal Witness to Moses confirmed Moses’ true calling as God’s leader of His people when Moses brought God’s people out of Egypt to Mount Horeb, where both Moses and all the Israelites worshipped the LORD, received the *Torah*-Truth, and where they became the “people of the *Torah*.”

The Witness of the LORD’s Presence is something believers can experience, now, before they grow to spiritual maturity in the Stature of the LORD Jesus Christ and enter into His Spiritual Canaan’s Land.

It is so easy to take God’s Presence for granted. In fact, the reason that so many worship services are dead is because the people feel no special gratitude for the LORD’s Invisible Presence in their midst. Since they feel cold and dead, they assume God’s Presence is not in their midst. They neither see nor feel anything new or exciting about God’s House. However, if all who feel cold and dead in God’s House would repent of their cold, dead, and ungrateful attitude, they soon would feel the Witness of the LORD’s Presence.

The LORD’s Presence is exciting and thrilling! Moreover, His Presence is a Witness or Token that He which hath begun a good work in a believer’s heart and life will finish it! The same LORD Christ Who used Moses to bring His people forth out of an earthly Egypt has the Power and the Presence to lead His children, today, out of the spiritual Egypt of this world and into His Spiritual Canaan’s Land.

Believers who say, “Oh, I’ll never make it to Spiritual Canaan’s Land; my flesh is too big,” are speaking blasphemy against the Light of Christ’s *Urim*-Spirit and the Perfections of His *Thummim*-Word. Which is greater — a person’s flesh or the LORD’s Presence?

The Presence of the Eternal God, the Creator, continues to live and function in spite of all our opposing flesh, now, and it continues after the fleshly creature is dead and gone. Thus, every time we feel the LORD’s Presence, it is a fresh Witness, if we will believe it and receive it, that the LORD is with us; therefore, the LORD will finish the good Work that He has begun in our heart and will. Every time we go to God’s House and feel God’s Presence, it is a Witness that we *can* make it all the way to Christ’s Spiritual Canaan’s Land!

In addition to the personal Witness or Token of Worship on Mount Horeb that the LORD gave Moses, God gave him two more personal signs.

b. A Second Personal, Private Witness or Token from God to Moses Was that of His Own Shepherd’s Rod upon which the LORD Put His Holy Name.

God gave Moses a second personal Witness, through Moses' shepherd's rod, upon which God put His Name. This is recorded in the fourth chapter of Exodus.

AND Moses answered and said, But, behold, they will not believe me, nor hearken unto my voice: for they will say, The LORD hath not appeared unto thee. And the LORD said unto him, What is that in thine hand? And he said, A rod. And he said, Cast it on the ground. And he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from before it. And the LORD said unto Moses, Put forth thine hand, and take it by the tail. And he put forth his hand, and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand: That they may believe that the LORD God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath appeared unto thee (Exodus 4:1-5).

What a history of miracles awaited Moses' Rod that had God's Name on it! Moses' Rod was the second private, personal Witness of his God-given Leadership of Israel. His Rod did Miracles in Egypt. When Moses' Rod was stretched out over the Red Sea, it divided the waters into icy walls, making a way for the children of Israel to pass over on dry land. In the Wilderness, Moses' Rod smote the flinty Rock, causing streams of water to gush forth. And, when the Amalekites fought against Israel, the prevailing power of Moses' Rod won the victory.

When Moses' shepherd's rod became God's Rod, it was a powerful, private, personal Witness to Moses that God had chosen him to be the leader of His people.

This second personal Sign that God gave to Moses (On this occasion, it was the Witness of the Rod upon which God placed His Name,) was necessary because Moses had great fear that his message of freedom would not be received nor believed by the Israelites. God's private, personal Witnesses to Moses served to calm and soothe his fears.

A rod is a symbol of governmental authority and power. When Moses threw his rod down in obedience to the LORD's Command, it became a serpent. Thus, Moses received a vision of his own prideful rod of power which had the nature of an evil serpent because it did not have the LORD's Name upon it. In fear, Moses fled from the rod, as he had fled when the consequences of using his own rod of redemption became known, after he had smitten and killed the Egyptian taskmaster. He realized that he could not lead God's people with his own prideful rod of redemption that had an evil, serpentine nature because it was in rebellious opposition to God's Plan, Purpose, and Time for Israel's deliverance. Moses did not want to touch his evil rod any more until God told him to pick it up by the tail. Moses obeyed God's Command, and his evil serpent-rod became a sanctified shepherd's rod upon which the LORD God could place His Holy Name, making it a shepherd's Rod of great Power and Authority. This time, with the Name or Nature of God upon Moses' shepherd's Rod, it was a mighty Rod, a great Weapon through which God wrought miracles in Egypt and opened up the Red Sea for the children of Israel to cross over on a dry Path and a frozen Way into the Wilderness. The changed nature of Moses' shepherd's Rod was a private, personal Witness or Token to him that he could lead God's people as long as he used God's Rod of Power and Authority, according to His Purposive Will.

God, in His Faithfulness, allows every good leader to see his prideful human power and authority for what it is — serpentine in nature. Then, after the believer allows the LORD to regenerate, convert, conform, and transform the nature of his rod into a Rod of God, it is not only a private, personal Witness of God's Power, but it also becomes a useful tool in the Hands of God, as a public Witness to God's people that the leader is under God's Governance and Guidance.

c. The Third Personal, Private Witness or Token that God Gave to Moses Was His Hand Being Joined to God's Power.

And the LORD said furthermore unto him, Put now thine hand into thy bosom. *And he put his hand into his bosom: and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous as snow.* And he said, Put thine hand into thy bosom again. *And he put his hand into his bosom again; and plucked it out of his bosom, and, behold, it was turned again as his other flesh.* And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe thee, neither hearken to the voice of the first sign [*oth* — a signal, a flag, beacon, monument, omen, prodigy, evidence, mark, miracle, sign, token], that they will believe the voice of the latter sign (Exodus 4:6-8).

When Moses put his hand into his bosom and took it out again, as the LORD commanded him to do, he discovered that his hand was leprous with that most malignant disease.

The Hebrew word for *bosom* is *khake*, meaning to inclose within or in the midst. This taught Moses that his hand had been performing works that had proceeded from a leprous heart, from within.

God used this demonstration to show Moses the leprous condition of his proud heart and his prideful, ministering

hands. After God had cleansed Moses' heart within, He bade Moses to return his leprous hand to his bosom. Then, in obedience to the LORD's Command, Moses put his hand back in his bosom, and the Sanctifying Power of his clean heart cleansed his leprous hand. Therefore, when he withdrew his hand, he found that his hand had been made completely whole.

Again, God had done another miraculous, wonderful Work, making Moses' leprous heart and hand completely clean and whole. God proved to Moses, privately and personally, that He was able to cleanse Moses' corrupt and prideful heart and ministering hands so that they could be useful tools in God's Divine Service.

God's leaders cannot expect to lift up Holy hands and worship a Holy God or to lead God's people in Holy worship to Him if their hearts are defiled with the leprosy of sinful pride.

Before a leader's ministry can be truly efficacious, efficient, and effective for the LORD, he has to be made aware of the leprous condition of his own heart and hands, which minister according to his own sinful purposive will. Once a leader receives a vision of his sinful, proud heart and will that corrupt the motives, desires, and intents of his mind, he must choose either to remain unclean and corrupt or allow God to cleanse his prideful heart and will that govern the hands of his ministry. He must obey the LORD, as Moses did, in order to see two important things: his own sinful, leprous heart and hands; and, God's Divine Cleansing Power that can work a miracle on his sinful, leprous heart and hands, cleansing them and making them whole.

God uses clean hands to be a Witness of His Divine Cleansing Power so that the sanctified believer can lift up Holy hands to God in praise and worship; lift up hands that are free of wrath and doubting; and lift up hands that have been cleansed and made free of pride.

Holy hands are given as a private, personal Sign, a Token, a Witness that a leader has allowed the LORD to work with His Divine Cleansing Power within the leader's own heart and will. Then, with this miraculous private, personal Witness of clean hands, God's chosen leader can publicly and powerfully direct His people in the way that the LORD shows him to lead them, as Moses was led in the beginning of Israel's journey through the Wilderness.

2. Moses' Threefold Public Witness to Israel Proved that God Had Called Him to the Place of Leadership of the Nation.

After Moses' three private, personal Witness experiences between God and himself, he went forth to Israel with three God-given public Witnesses to give to Israel, thus confirming his Call from God to minister as their leader.

a. Moses' Shepherd's Rod with God's Holy Name on It Was a Public Witness.

And Moses told Aaron all the words of the LORD who had sent him, and all the signs which he had commanded him. And Moses and Aaron went and gathered together all the elders of the children of Israel: And Aaron spake all the words which the LORD had spoken unto Moses, and did the signs in the sight of the people. And the people believed: and when they heard that the LORD had visited the children of Israel, and that he had looked upon their affliction, then they bowed their heads and worshipped (Exodus 4:28-31).

Moses publicly demonstrated, to Israel, the Witness of God's Almighty Power by turning his Rod into a serpent and back into God's Rod.

b. Moses's Hand — Thrust into His Bosom, Drawn out with Leprosy, Thrust Back into His Bosom, Drawn out Clean and Whole — Was a Public Witness to Israel.

This was Moses's third private, personal Witness between God and himself, but it was Moses' second public Witness before Israel of His God-given Ministry to them and his leadership of them.

c. The Sign of Water Turned to Blood Was a Public Witness. (Later, Israel Was Given the Sign or Token of the Lamb's Blood upon Their Houses.)

And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe thee, neither hearken to the voice of the first sign, that they will believe the voice of the latter sign. And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe also these two signs, neither hearken unto thy voice, *that thou shalt take of the water of the river, and pour it upon the dry land: and the water which thou takest out of the river shall become blood upon the dry land* (Exodus 4:8,9).

On this occasion, God gave Moses a third public Witness or Token to confirm his leadership before His people, which was the miraculous Sign of water being turned into blood. This blood Sign was a Witness that God had sent Moses to deliver His people. It was a Witness that God's people soon would be leaving Egypt and starting their journey toward the Promised Land or Canaan's Land. The public blood Sign to Israel was a public Witness to them of the new life that God soon would minister to them privately, in the midst of her bondage, affliction, and slavery, through the Lamb's Passover Blood.

God gave Moses these three public Signs — the Rod, the hand, and the water changed to blood — to confirm to His people that He, indeed, had called Moses to be the leader who was to bring His people out from their bondage in Egypt.

Later, God also gave Israel another private blood Sign through the Passover Lamb's Blood, which they were to put upon the lintel and posts of the door, in the nighttime, which was a Token or Witness to the LORD to pass over and abide on that house, thus preventing the destroying Death Angel from entering and slaying their firstborn son.

And thus shall ye eat it; with your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall eat it in haste: it is the LORD's passover.... And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt (Exodus 12:11,13).

After Moses had performed these three public Witnesses or Signs in the sight of the people, they believed that God had visited them and that He had looked upon their affliction; therefore, they bowed their heads and worshipped the LORD.

These three Witnesses — the Rod, the cleansed hand, and the blood — were sent to Israel to confirm and to convince them of God's Divine Commission of Moses' leadership.

These three Signs or Witnesses were unspeakably glorious, miraculous, and instructive. Moses' Rod was changed into a serpent, then, back into a Rod; Moses' hand became leprous, then was made whole again; water which Moses poured on the ground was changed into blood upon dry ground, and the blood of the passover lamb was a witness to the LORD to pass over and prevent the death Angel from destroying their firstborn sons, as He was destroying the Egyptians' firstborn sons.

After these Witnesses and Signs were given, it was Moses' responsibility to lead the people, according to God's Master Plan and Purposeful Will; and it was the people's responsibility to follow Moses, their leader whom God had called, chosen, anointed, and set before them.

God still gives miraculous Witnesses, Signs, and Tokens to confirm the calling, the authenticity, and the authority of His chosen and anointed leaders. When God sends anointed leaders, in any generation, to direct His people onward, upward, and forward in the Stature of the LORD Jesus Christ, He expects His people to follow His appointed leaders.

Those who foolishly rise up against any of God's appointed and anointed leaders (as did Korah, Dathan, Abiram, and On, when they challenged the leadership of Moses and Aaron) will be made to realize, painfully, sooner or later, that they have been fighting against God's Master Plan and Purposeful Will. Unfortunately, these rebellious ones may not discover the Truth until it is too late for them to repent, just as it was too late for Korah, Dathan, Abiram, and On to repent after the LORD had caused the Earth to open her mouth and swallow up all that pertained to Korah and his followers.

B. God Gave a Threefold Public Witness of Moses' Ministry and His Leadership over Pharaoh.

God's public threefold Witness or Tokens to Pharaoh and the Egyptians of His Judgments through Moses, His spiritual leader were as follows: the Rod; Moses and Aaron's hands joined to the Rod; and Moses' hand stretched toward Heaven.

1. The Rod with the Name of the LORD God upon It Swallowed the Egyptians' Rods.

And Moses and Aaron went in unto Pharaoh, and they did so as the LORD had commanded: and Aaron cast down his rod before Pharaoh, and before his servants, and it became a serpent. Then Pharaoh also called the wise men and the sorcerers: now the magicians of Egypt, they also did in like manner with their enchantments. For they cast down every man his rod, and they became serpents: but Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods (Exodus 7:10-12).

The Rod Witness of the LORD's Holy Name miraculously became a serpent and, then, turned into a Rod again. The sorcerers of Egypt also turned their rods into serpents. But, the Wisdom of the LORD's Name upon His Rod turned the sorcerers' rod-serpents back into rods again. Then God's Rod swallowed up the sorcerers' rods, bearing witness that the Wisdom and Power of the LORD's Holy Name is able to swallow up all the opposing powers of darkness.

2. The Rod with the Name of the LORD God upon It Was Joined to Moses' and Aaron's Hands to Minister Five Witnesses, Proving that God Is the Supreme, Sovereign God.

There were five times that the Rod and the hands of Moses and Aaron ministered Witnesses of God's Judgments on Pharaoh and the Egyptians.

And the LORD spake unto Moses, Say unto Aaron, Stretch forth thine hand with thy rod over the streams, over the rivers, and over the ponds, and cause frogs to come up upon the land of Egypt (Exodus 8:5).

The Egyptians had invaded and embittered every facet of the lives of the Israelites when they were slaves. Israel's homes, private chambers, and sleeping and eating places were all afflicted by the Egyptians. Since the Egyptians had sown seeds of affliction upon Israel, they reaped affliction through the frogs, caused by Almighty God.

The Power of Aaron's sanctified hand and the Power of the LORD's Name on the rod changed the timid nature of the frogs that lived in cold, dark, secret places, separated from human beings, so that they became God's brave "soldiers" that boldly marched up to Pharaoh's home and into all the homes of the Egyptians — into their private chambers, their beds, and their eating places, to torment and afflict them. God gave Pharaoh and the Egyptians a Witness, through the Rod and Aaron's hand, of His Supreme, Sovereign Power over Egypt.

God again used the public Witness of the Rod and Aaron's hand to bring lice out of the dust of Egypt as a Token of His Supreme, Sovereign Power over Egypt.

And they did so; for Aaron stretched out his hand with his rod, and smote the dust of the earth, and it became lice in man, and in beast; all the dust of the land became lice throughout all the land of Egypt (Exodus 8:17).

The dust here refers to the topsoil, the fertile soil, the humus. The Almighty Power of the LORD's Name on the Rod, used by Aaron's hand, caused the very land of Egypt to rise up against the Egyptians by becoming filled with lice. The Egyptians' had sown affliction upon God's people, so they reaped affliction from the LORD God through lice that He gave. Lice are parasites, which feed on the sweat and blood of other creatures.

The Power of the LORD's Name on the Rod, through Aaron's hand, changed the nature of the productive dust into destructive lice that crawled, seeking out man and beast to bite, to suck their blood, and to afflict them with great pain. God's Judgmental Public Witness proved His Supreme, Sovereign Power over Pharaoh and Egypt.

God again used the Witness Rod, through Moses' sanctified hand, to give Pharaoh and the Egyptians a new Witness of His Supreme, Sovereign Power by sending thunder, hail, and fire.

And the LORD said unto Moses, Stretch forth thine hand toward heaven, that there may be hail in all the land of Egypt, upon man, and upon beast, and upon every herb of the field, throughout the land of Egypt. And Moses stretched forth his rod toward heaven: and the LORD sent thunder and hail, and the fire ran along upon the ground; and the LORD rained hail upon the land of Egypt (Exodus 9:22,23).

In the beginning, God Promised only hailstones to fall upon man, beast, and the herbs of the field. However, because of the hardness of the Egyptians' hearts, God sent thunder, hail, and hail with fire in the midst of the hailstones. Through this miraculous, wondrous Witness, God proved that He was the Supreme, Sovereign Ruler over the climactic character and weather conditions of the country of Egypt.

The Egyptians had sown their thunderous, terrifying voices, when they stood as cruel rulers over God's people; hence, they reaped God's Thunder. They had sown their cold, merciless stones by casting their hard, harsh words upon the heads of the Hebrew slaves, so they reaped God's Hailstones upon man, beast, and the herbs of the field. They had filled some of the centers of their hard, merciless, stony words with their fiery flames of delight in afflicting God's people; consequently, they reaped God's Judgment of Hailstones whose centers were filled with God's Divine, Destructive Fire.

The Judgment from God's public Witness Rod of His Name and Moses' clean hand proved God's Almighty

Power over all Creation, both in Heaven and in Earth.

God again commanded Moses to join his hand to the Rod of the LORD's Powerful Name — this time to bring up locusts on the land of Egypt.

And the LORD said unto Moses, Stretch out thine hand over the land of Egypt for the locusts, that they may come up upon the land of Egypt, and eat every herb of the land, even all that the hail hath left. And Moses stretched forth his rod over the land of Egypt, and the LORD brought an east wind upon the land all that day, and all that night; and when it was morning, the east wind brought the locusts. And the locusts went up over all the land of Egypt, and rested in all the coasts of Egypt: very grievous were they; before them there were no such locusts as they, neither after them shall be such. For they covered the face of the whole earth, so that the land was darkened; and they did eat every herb of the land, and all the fruit of the trees which the hail had left: and there remained not any green thing in the trees, or in the herbs of the field, through all the land of Egypt (Exodus 10:12-15).

Through the Power of the LORD's great Name on the Rod, locusts were called up as a great army to invade the land of Egypt. The locusts were invited by God to the land of Egypt to finish devouring all green life that had escaped His Judgment of Hailstones, Fire, and Thunder. The locusts were a Witness of the LORD's Supreme, Sovereign Control over *all* life.

The Egyptians had afflicted God's people by restraining their "life's bread"; therefore, they reaped God's Judgment upon all their green life in the Earth. God called these contemptible insects to fulfill His Purposive Will by eating the very bread out of the mouths of the Egyptians. God proved, again, through His Witness Rod in Moses' hand, that He is the Infinite Master and Owner of *ALL LIFE*. He owned the locusts and their life and the life of all green things in the Earth.

3. Moses' Sanctified Hand Was Stretched toward Heaven to Minister Darkness to the Egyptians, Bearing Witness that the LORD God Is the Sovereign, Omniscient Ruler over All Light and Darkness.

And the LORD said unto Moses, Stretch out thine hand toward heaven, that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, even darkness which may be felt. And Moses stretched forth his hand toward heaven; and there was a thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days: They saw not one another, neither rose any from his place for three days: but all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings (Exodus 10:21-23).

Darkness was the last Judgmental-Plague Witness that Egypt experienced, which was sent through Moses' hand that had been cleansed from its leprous condition as a Witness of God's Almighty Cleansing and Healing Power. The plague of darkness was God's most all-embracing Witness of all the Witnesses given to Pharaoh and the Egyptians. The darkness affected each person, in every way — spirit, soul, and body. The darkness completely cut off every person from fellowshiping anyone else. It kept every person from having access to his possessions, and prevented every person from using his hands and feet to obtain the necessities of life.

The darkness chained every man to the place in which he happened to be. The darkness of misery, woe, and affliction was felt in every part of each person's being. They were astonished and terrified by everything they touched. They were imprisoned by chains of darkness as a Witness of their Eternal Judgment unless they repented unto the LORD God for their sinful rejection of Him. They had held God's people in chains of slavery, so they reaped chains of darkness. They also had rebelled against the Light of God's Word from Moses and Aaron and had loved and embraced darkness; hence, God punished them with darkness so that they could gain empirical knowledge of the true nature of darkness.

Thus, we have seen the threefold public Witness of God to Pharaoh and the Egyptians through the following means:

- the Rod with the LORD's Name upon it;
- the Rod joined to Moses' and Aaron's hands;
- Moses' hand stretched toward Heaven.

So, God gave Moses, Israel, Pharaoh, and the Egyptians special Witnesses or Tokens to confirm His Supreme, Sovereign Rulership, Master Plan, and Purposive Will for their lives.

IV. God Gave Gideon a Threefold Witness or Tokens to Confirm His Master Plan and Purposive Will for His Life.

God gave Gideon a threefold personal Witness or Tokens of His Divine Commission to deliver Israel from the bondage of the Midianites, Amalekites, and the children of the East. He also gave a Witness to Gideon's small army that they would be victorious in the battle.

God called and chose Gideon to bring deliverance to His oppressed people, who were being greatly impoverished by the Midianites, the Amalekites, and the children of the East. When an Angel appeared to him, Gideon was hiding by the winepress, threshing his wheat for fear that the fierce, tyrannical enemies of Israel would see him.

And there came an angel of the LORD, and sat under an oak which was in Ophrah, that pertained unto Joash the Abi-ezrite: and his son Gideon threshed wheat by the winepress, to hide it from the Midianites. *And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him, and said unto him, The LORD is with thee, thou mighty man of valour.* And Gideon said unto him, Oh my Lord, if the LORD be with us, why then is all this befallen us? and where be all his miracles which our fathers told us of, saying, Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt? but now the LORD hath forsaken us, and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites (Judges 6:11-13).

The Hebrew word used for *thresh* indicates that Gideon was using a stick to beat out his grain, separating it from the chaff. He was not using oxen to thresh the wheat, which was the usual procedure of threshing. Because the enemy would have readily seen such an obvious method of threshing, Gideon hid in order to thresh his grain secretly.

At this time in Israel's history, her two main enemies were the Midianites and the Amalekites. The Hebrew word for *Midianite* means strife and to strive. The meaning of their name reveals that the Midianites had created a lot of strife for the Israelites. As soon as an Israelite had raised a crop to maturity, for example, the Midianites would move in and take it from him. (This is why Gideon was threshing his grain secretly; he did not want the Midianites to come in and carry it away.) Or, they would come in and take away the Israelites' sheep, oxen, and asses.

Thus, the Midianites represent the striving spirit of the flesh that was constantly against the Spiritual Man to try to steal his spiritual, mature growth and his spiritual sacrifices and possessions.

The word for *Amalekite* means dweller in the valley. The Amalekites represent the low, sad, sorrowful spirit of depression of the flesh that loves (1) to oppress God's people in order to prevent them from shouting gratitude to Christ Jesus for His great Salvation; (2) to prevent them from praising God the Father for His Love in giving the unspeakable, precious Gift of His only Begotten Son for the world's Salvation; and (3) to prevent them from lifting up the LORD's Holy Name that is full of Mercy, Grace, and Truth.

Israel's crossing over into Canaan's Land did not mean that all her battles had been won. It did not mean that she could put her armour away. The very opposite was true. There were plenty of enemies to overcome in the Land of Canaan, even after Joshua had fought and destroyed many of the wicked inhabitants of the land, which helped Israel possess the Promised Land.

After Joshua had died, God raised up other anointed leaders to help Israel drive out her enemies so that she could continue possessing the land.

A. God Gave a Personal Threefold Witness to Gideon to Show that He Truly Had Been Called to Deliver Israel from the Oppression of Her Enemies.

When it was time for Gideon to deliver Israel from the hand of the Midianites, God sent the LORD Jesus Christ in Angelic Form to reveal God's Master Plan to Gideon. Gideon secretly threshed wheat out of sight of his enemies — in the night — so God made Gideon a mighty man of valour, a "thresher of his enemies" in the night.

Gideon in his poverty-stricken condition, and in his earnest desire to be hospitable, brought a present of meat, bread, and broth to the LORD. The LORD Christ commanded Gideon to offer his meat, bread, and broth upon a rock, as an offering to God. The LORD Christ caused Supernatural Fire to ascend out of the rock and consume his sacrifice.

God's Supernatural Fire was a Token, a Sign, or Witness that Gideon's sacrifice was acceptable to the LORD. God turned Gideon's meat, bread, and broth into an offering made by Fire — into a sweet smelling savour in the LORD's Nostrils. The LORD Christ in Angelic Form was not an earthly man who needed natural meat, bread, and broth, but He was the Son of God, Who was to be served and honoured by sacrifice. In due season God's Son would

come to Earth, making Himself the Eternal Sacrifice for man's sins.

1. The First Personal Witness or Token Was God's Supernatural Fire that Consumed Gideon's Sacrifice.

When the Angel of the LORD told Gideon to go forth and save Israel from the hand of the Midianites, Gideon asked for a Witness, a Sign, or a Token that it was indeed the LORD speaking to him and not a spirit from fallen Lucifer. So, the LORD gave Gideon his first personal Witness, which was a Sign of Supernatural Fire from the rock that consumed Gideon's sacrifice, confirming his Call to be a deliverer of God's people.

And the LORD looked upon him, and said, Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent thee? And he said unto him, Oh my Lord, wherewith shall I save Israel? behold, my family is poor in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house. And the LORD said unto him, Surely I will be with thee, and thou shalt smite the Midianites as one man. And he said unto him, If now I have found grace in thy sight, then shew me a sign that thou talkest with me. Depart not hence, I pray thee, until I come unto thee, and bring forth my present, and set it before thee. And he said, I will tarry until thou come again. And Gideon went in, and made ready a kid, and unleavened cakes of an ephah of flour: the flesh he put in a basket, and he put the broth in a pot, and brought it out unto him under the oak, and presented it. And the angel of God said unto him, Take the flesh and the unleavened cakes, and lay them upon this rock, and pour out the broth. And he did so. Then the angel of the LORD put forth the end of the staff that was in his hand, and touched the flesh and the unleavened cakes; and there rose up fire out of the rock, and consumed the flesh and the unleavened cakes. Then the angel of the LORD departed out of his sight (Judges 6:14-21).

The low, depressed opinion that Gideon had of himself caused him to feel that he was the least in his father's house. Not only was his family a poor family from the tribe of Manasseh, but the tribe to which Gideon belonged was the smallest of the twelve tribes of Israel at the time they had crossed into Canaan's Land.

God looked with favour upon all the humble conditions of Gideon, who was the least in his father's house, whose father's house was the poorest in their tribe, and whose tribe was the smallest of the twelve tribes in Israel. God always chooses to pour His Might and Power through the most humble ones; thus, God receives all the Glory for His wondrous Works.

The humble Gideon brought his offering of meat and bread and broth to the Angel of the LORD, Who was Christ in Angelic Form. The LORD Christ received Gideon's sacrifice and told him to put his offering upon a rock, the rock being an altar that represented Christ, the Rock of Truth. After Gideon obediently had put the meat and bread of his offering upon the rock and had poured out the broth, as he had been instructed to do, the LORD Christ extended His Hand, touching Gideon's offering with His Staff. Then, God sent His first personal Witness to Gideon! Supernatural Fire rose up out of the rock, consuming Gideon's offering.

The Supernatural Fire that God sent to consume an offering, always was a Witness of His acceptance of the offerings that represented Christ Jesus, under the Old Covenant.

Likewise, when we present our body to God the Father, through Christ Jesus, He sends His Personal Witness to us of His acceptance of our offering by sending the Supernatural Fire of the Holy Ghost to consume our love and zeal for Him. He also sends His Fiery Witness to inflame our heart and will so that all fleshly enemies will be driven out of our heart and will.

The fleshly, depressing Amalekites cause us to have a mean opinion of ourself, making it difficult for us to believe that we have been called and chosen by God to grow to maturity in the Spiritual Stature of the LORD Jesus Christ, where we can know Him in a spiritual Bridegroom-and-Bride Relationship. So, when we go to God's House, we should pray, "LORD, if You truly have called me to be in the Bride of Christ, then give me a Witness, a Sign, a Token by sending Your Supernatural Holy Ghost Fire to fall upon me as I give myself to You as a living sacrifice." God always answers this kind of sincere praying. When the Holy Ghost Fire falls on us, we will know, without a doubt, that God has called us to obtain Christ's Eternal Treasure and Prize of being in His Bride.

As we find our heart offering fiery praises to the LORD, God will permit us to feel the Fire of His Spirit burning in our own heart. He also will open our spiritual eyes to see the effects of the Fire of His Spirit that is burning in the hearts of other believers round about us, as they shout and dance before the LORD. It is easy to believe the LORD's Witness of Fire when it abides in our own heart and when we see it abiding in the hearts of others. How great is the LORD's Sign of His Holy Fire!

After the Fire had fallen on Gideon's offering, he built an altar unto the LORD and called it *Jehovah-shalom*, meaning the LORD our Peace. In obedience to the instructions of the LORD, he also threw down the idolatrous altar

that his father had built to Baal, and he cut down the grove that was by the altar. Upon the rock from which the Fire came, Gideon built another altar unto the LORD, and, upon it, he sacrificed his father's prized young bullock that he had been saving for Baal's altar. This righteous act required great courage on Gideon's part because the prized bullock was a dedicated animal to Baal that his father had been keeping up for seven years, fattening him until he reached the peak of his growth so that he could offer it as a sacrifice to Baal.

Gideon had to tear down the idolatrous altars *within* the house of Israel before he could go forth to fight the idolatrous Midianites and Amalekites and their altars *without* the house of Israel.

Likewise, we, too, must fight the idolatrous images *within* our own heart and will before fighting the "Midianites" and the "Amalekites" that attack from *without*. We must tear down the idol-images to which we have been bowing in worship in our own heart and will. This can be done only after we have experienced having the Fire of the Holy Ghost consume our sacrifice of praise and worship to the true and Living God, the LORD Jesus Christ. Only the fiery zeal of the LORD can give us the moral courage that we need to begin using our Sword of Truth to slay the idols that are at our own doorstep — in our own heart and life — just as Gideon did in his own father's house.

When the Supernatural Fire of the LORD is burning in our heart and will, it is a Witness that God is with us and that we can conquer the inner enemies in our own household and the outer enemies in spiritual Canaan's Land.

When the morning light came and the idol-worshipping men of the city saw Baal's altar and grove cast down and the prized bullock offered upon the LORD's Altar, they were ready to kill Gideon. However, Joash, Gideon's father, had the wisdom to recognize the Truth in his will. If Baal was the powerful god that they claimed him to be, he could plead for himself and defend his own altar. On the other hand, if he were not a god — if he could not hear their prayers and if he could not speak life-giving words — then it was useless to shed blood for a false god that had no power and no life-giving breath.

We may think that we are not idolaters simply because we do not bow down to a visible idol. But, we fail to take into consideration the many false images that we create within our own mind and heart and that we bow down to, daily, as we worship our false images, which cause us to tell ourself, "I cannot go on for God. It is too hard to walk in the Crucified Way." This is one idolatrous mental image that has defeated many believers by causing them to bow at its shrine. There is a whole "grove" of other false mental images that are being worshipped, today, by God's people who are unlearned and untaught concerning the flesh and the Pride of Revelation, Redemption, and Satisfaction that reside in the corrupt will of every person's carnal self or old man.

The very fact that our nation now is tolerating and even supporting deeds of gross immorality is proof that God's people have wandered far from the righteous Moral Principles upon which this nation was founded. Through the years, as they have become more and more like the world, believers have been less and less inclined to deal with the "altars" of their false gods that they have set up as their governors and guides in the form of lawless mental images that have led them far from Christ's Separation from the world and His Holiness unto the LORD God. Unless believers want their children and grandchildren to grow up to be idol-worshippers of the flesh, the world, and fallen Lucifer, they need to pray and seek God sincerely until He sends His Supernatural Fire and empowers them with a burning zeal to take a stand for the Truth in this day of moral decadence!

Later, when the enemy armies had gathered together and had pitched their tents in the valley of Jezreel, preparing to fight against Israel, Gideon asked for a second personal Witness or Token to be joined to the first personal Witness of the Supernatural Fire that he had received, which would reconfirm that God, indeed, had called him to deliver His people from the Midianites and the Amalekites.

2. The Second Personal Witness or Token Was a Wet Fleece and a Dry Ground.

The wet fleece and the dry ground comprised the second personal Witness or Token that God gave to Gideon to confirm that he had been given a Divine Calling to deliver God's oppressed people.



God's Second Witness to Gideon Wet Fleece and Dry Ground

Then all the Midianites and the Amalekites and the children of the east were gathered together, and went over, and pitched in the valley of Jezreel. But the Spirit of the LORD came upon Gideon, and he blew a trumpet; and Abiezer was gathered after him. And he sent messengers throughout all Manasseh; who also was gathered after him: and he sent messengers unto Asher, and unto Zebulun, and unto Naphtali; and they came up to meet them. And Gideon said unto God, If thou wilt save Israel by mine hand, as thou hast said, *Behold, I will put a fleece of wool in the floor; and if the dew be on the fleece only, and it be dry upon all the earth beside, then shall I know that thou wilt save Israel by mine hand, as thou hast said.* And it was so: for he rose up early on the morrow, and thrust the fleece together, and wringed the dew out of the fleece, a bowl full of water (Judges 6:33-38).

After Israel's enemies — the Midianites, the Amalekites, and the children of the East — had pitched their tents in the Valley of Jezreel, in preparation for their battle with Israel, the Spirit of the LORD came upon Gideon, and he blew the trumpet call to war. In response, 32,000 men of Israel came to him. However, Gideon did not look pridefully and confidently, with dependency, upon his great army to gain the victory against Israel's enemies; rather, he sought a further Witness from God by asking that his fleece be wet and that the ground be dry round about the fleece. Gideon was completely aware that if the LORD was with him, he would win any battle, regardless of the great strength of the enemy.

Gideon's fleece presents us with a picture of the Nation of Israel. At one time Israel, who possessed the Waters of Truth of God's Moral Law, was like a "wet fleece" among the other nations of the world because other nations were like parched dry land, spiritually. Israel possessed the Waters of God's Word of *Torah*-Truth and Spirit, while the rest of the nations were spiritually dry. However, after Israel, as a nation, had rejected the LORD Jesus Christ as her Messiah, God's Living Water of *Torah*-Truth and Life, she became a dry fleece. Then, God sent His Apostles and Disciples to the whole world with Christ's Gospel, which is the Water of Life; and, they moistened all the Earth with Christ's Waters of Truth.

First, God allowed the *wet* fleece to be a second personal Witness to Gideon, confirming that he was to go forth under the LORD's Headship, with the Waters of Truth of His Moral Law, and bring deliverance to His people. The important thing to remember is this: *the condition of the wet fleece was not the determining factor in Gideon's gaining the victory. The deliverance of Israel was wrought solely by Gideon's faith in God's Glorious, Omniscience, and Almighty Power!* The wet fleece was merely a second personal *Witness* to Gideon that God had called him and chosen him and that He would be with him in his fight against Israel's enemies to liberate oppressed Israel. God used the wet fleece as a Witness to Gideon in confirming his calling so that he could go forth with strength, faith, courage, and assurance under the LORD's Glorious, Powerful Headship to bring deliverance to Israel.

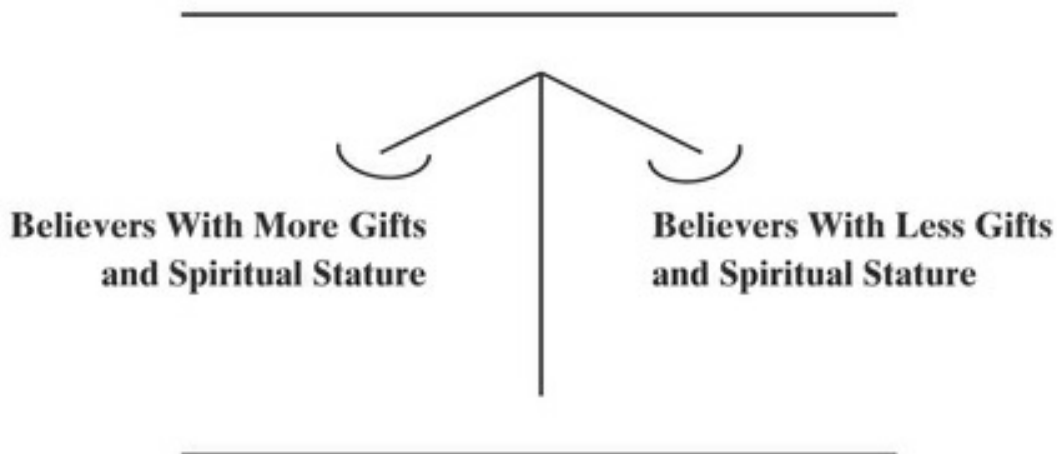
There is a great spiritual lesson for us to learn from Gideon's "wet fleece." When our soul and spirit are like a wet fleece, filled with the Water of Christ's Word, we must exercise great diligence in remaining humble and grateful *before* God and keep our trust *in* Him. We must also be faithful in continuing to drink from the Living Waters of Christ's Word and the Holy Spirit so that our soul and spirit may continue to remain a wet fleece before the LORD as a Witness of our personal relationship with Him. The temptation, when our soul and spirit are saturated or "wet" with God's Word, is to feel pridefully smug and self-righteous as we look around at others who, by comparison, seem dry because they are in a spiritual winter season of suffering, humiliation, and trials.

If we pridefully compare our spiritual moisture with the dry of others, we will cut off the flow of Christ's Waters of Truth to our own soul.

The Apostle Paul spoke against this unwise behaviour.

For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with *some that commend themselves*: but they, *measuring themselves by themselves*, and comparing themselves among themselves, are *not wise* (II Corinthians 10:12).

The Apostle Paul forbade the Christians to compare or measure themselves with themselves. He instructed them that this class of works was definitely unwise.



Those who have attained more from God's Mercy and Grace are tempted to forget the origin of their blessings. Hence, this makes them, in their mental measurements, become haughty toward those who have less. Then, they take unmerciful pride in the power and authority which they possess. On the other hand, if those who have less compare themselves with others who surpass them, spiritually, they feel that God is unfair and that they have been cheated. If we compare ourself to others, from either side of the Scales (whether we have more or less), we become ungrateful for God's Goodness and Blessings to us, whether our blessings are great or small. We should be humbly grateful and pleased, exhibiting thankful appreciation for any measure of Christ's Graces and Gifts that we have received, seeing that we are sinners saved by His Grace; therefore, we are unworthy of even the smallest of His Graces and Gifts.

Let us not compare ourself with those who *seem* to have less, and let us not compare ourself with those who seem to have more, lest we become unjustly haughty and proud or unjustly depressed and inferior in our heart and mind.

Remember, man looks on the outward appearance, but God looks on the heart!

If we are proud and not humbly grateful for Christ's Water of Truth, God will change our spiritual season, allowing the fleece of our soul to be dry and our brother's fleece to be wet, in order to break our prideful comparison of ourself to others.

After wringing a bowl of water out of his wet fleece, Gideon persisted in seeking a further personal Witness and assurance that God was going to use him to deliver His people from the Midianites, the Amalekites, and the children of the East. Hence, Gideon's new request was that the LORD would make the ground wet and the fleece dry.

3. The Third Personal Witness or Token Was a Dry Fleece and a Wet Ground.

In his two requests concerning the fleece and the ground, Gideon asked for the impossible, apart from God. In his first request, it was impossible, naturally speaking, for the dew to fall only on the fleece, while the ground remained completely dry round about it. Likewise, in Gideon's second request, it was impossible, naturally speaking, for the dew to fall upon all the ground, while his fleece remained dry.



**God's Third Witness to Gideon
Wet Ground and Dry Fleece**

Gideon was not being distrustful toward God. He only desired a threefold Witness from God that represented a testimony from the Father, the Word (Son), and the Holy Ghost concerning his military High Calling to deliver Israel.

Hence, God was marvelously patient with Gideon, a mortal man. He already had given Gideon his first personal Witness of Supernatural Fire, which had risen up out of a rock and had consumed his offering; and He had given him a miraculous second personal Witness of a wet fleece lying on the ground that was totally dry all around the wet fleece. Yet, Gideon pressed the LORD for one more personal Witness or Token so that he would have his threefold personal Witness.

And Gideon said unto God, Let not thine anger be hot against me, and I will speak but this once: let me prove, I pray thee, but this once with the fleece; let it now be dry only upon the fleece, and upon all the ground let there be dew. And God did so that night: for it was dry upon the fleece only, and there was dew on all the ground (Judges 6:39,40).

Gideon's soul now was filled completely with God's threefold personal Witness of Supernatural Fire, of Fleece Water and of Ground Water, confirming that he, indeed, was Called, chosen, and empowered by God to deliver His oppressed people from the cruel hand of their enemies. Gideon received each of God's personal Witnesses to him with grateful humility until he had a complete personal Witness from the Divine Trinity, confirming his ultimate victorious success over Israel's enemies.

It is not always so with God's people today. When God's people do not understand His Spiritual Principles and Methods of working with them, they become angry and discouraged; therefore, they give up their spiritual battle against the world, the flesh, and the Devil.

Anyone can shout when the fleece of his soul is wet with the new, fresh dew of Truth upon it. Anyone can be filled with gladness and rejoicing when the blessings of fresh dewdrops of God's Spirit are pouring in upon the fleece of his soul. The real test for us comes when the fleece of our soul is all dry, seemingly, and our LORD appears to be so far away. Many people look at the dry fleece of their souls and get angry with God.

If the "fleece" of our soul were always wet, we would cease to be sincerely appreciative of the Water of God's Word and Spirit. We would take the wet fleece of our soul for granted. Then, later, our pride would cause us to consider that we actually deserved the Water of God's Word and Spirit upon the fleece of our soul because of our own greatness.

However, a dry fleece will strengthen Christ's Faith in our heart, if we hold on to God's Word of Promise through our night seasons or our spiritual winter seasons.

A time of dryness in our life does not mean that God has forsaken us or that God still will not accomplish His Purposive Will in our life. The dry fleece, like the wet fleece, is a personal Witness or Token from the Divine Trinity that God will do what He has promised to do.

Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ: (Philippians 1:6).

It is impossible for us to *begin* Christ's good Work of Grace in our heart, and it is impossible for us to *maintain* Christ's Grace and cause it to grow. If we recognize this Truth in our will, we will speak the Truth in our heart, saying, "That He which hath begun a good work in me will perform it."

We were dead in trespasses and sins in the beginning. As a dead man, we were unable to raise ourself up in Christ's Resurrection Life. So, when we enter a new winter season and our soul is a dry sponge, we must exercise the same trustful confidence in Jesus Christ that we had in the beginning, which is that He is able to raise up the dead, making us alive, of which we are witnesses from our experience of Salvation.

As long as we remain in our imperfect state in our mortal body, there is yet more work of Christ's Grace to be wrought in our heart and will.

Jesus Christ began it, and He will perform it!

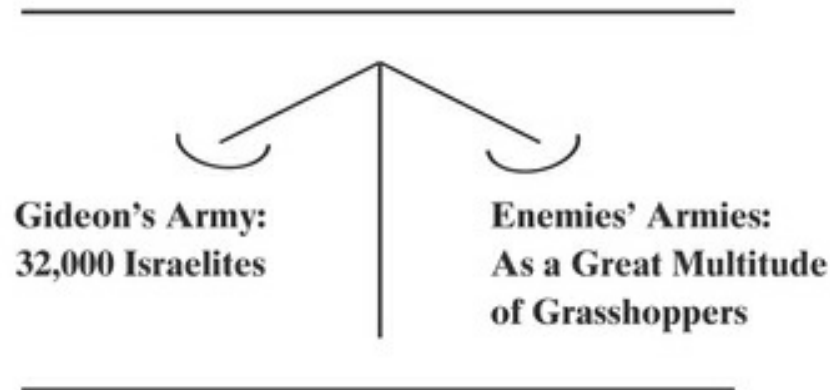
I am confident and well persuaded that He will not forsake me, but that He will finish and, then, one day, crown the Work of His nail-scarred Hands!

B. God's Public Witness or Token Assured Gideon's Small Army of the Victory over Their Enemies.

God, in His great Mercy, went beyond Gideon's asking for a threefold personal Witness and gave him a public Witness through a dream that one of his enemies had. This dream that God presented to Gideon, publicly, through

others, strengthened and encouraged Gideon to fight the battle.

Before the LORD gave this public Witness to Gideon, He had to purge and circumcise the great army that Gideon had assembled to fight against the Midianites, Amalekites, and the people of the East who were encamped in the valley, as thick as grasshoppers for number. The picture was this: Israel's army was very small, just 32,000, while the armies of the enemies were like a great multitude of grasshoppers, almost innumerable!



God, in His Wise Master Plan and Purposive Will, decreed that Gideon's army was *too large* to fight the enemies; therefore, God began to reduce it. Because Gideon's army was very small (like their captain, Gideon), while their enemy was very large, God would receive all the Glory when the victory was won.

THEN Jerubbaal, who is Gideon, and all the people that were with him, rose up early, and pitched beside the well of Harod [meaning fountain of trembling]; so that the host of the Midianites were on the north side of them, by the hill of Moreh [meaning archer; also teacher and teaching; also early rain], in the valley. And the LORD said unto Gideon, The people that are with thee are too many for me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel vaunt themselves against me, saying, Mine own hand hath saved me. Now therefore go to, proclaim in the ears of the people, saying, Whosoever is fearful and afraid, let him return and depart early from mount Gilead. And there returned of the people twenty and two thousand; and there remained ten thousand (Judges 7:1-3).

God's Just Judgment decreed that Gideon's army was too large. If the army had gone out in full force and had overcome the enemy, they proudly would have taken all the credit for it and never would have given all the Glory to God. So God told Gideon to let the fearful ones go home.

By God's making a great reduction in the size of Gideon's army, before He gave the victory over the enemy, the coming victory could be attributed only to God's Divine Intervention. Because the LORD was going to *give* Israel the victory, He needed only a few faithful, loyal ones to accomplish His Purposive Will. Nothing restrains the LORD from saving by many or by few (I Samuel 14:6). On this occasion the LORD desired that His people understand that victory would not come by human numbers, human might, nor human strength of arms! Only by God Almighty's Divine Power and God Almighty's Divine Intervention would their Salvation be possible.

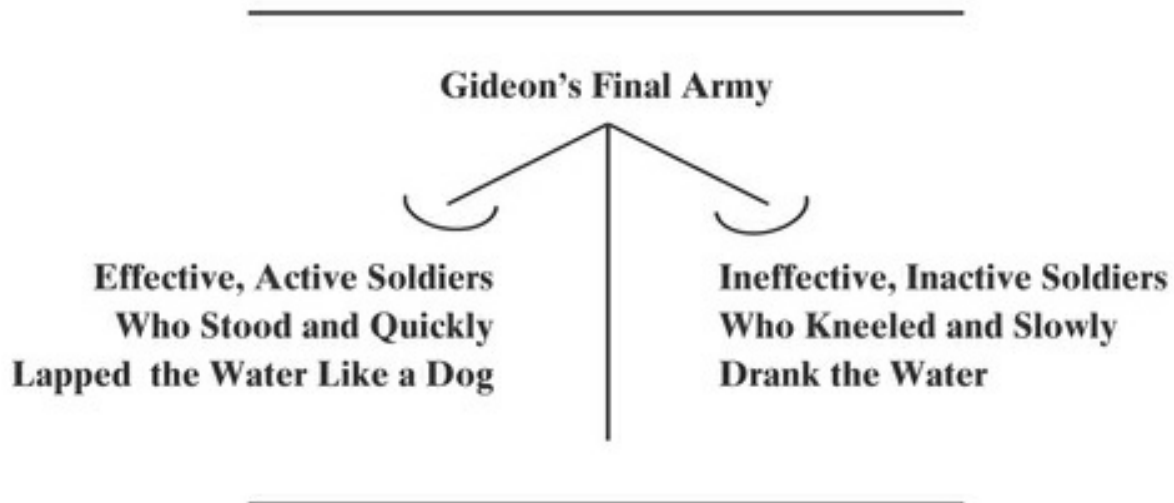
It was appropriate that Gideon's army was pitched by the well of *Harod* because its name means fountain of trembling. That many of them were trembling was evidenced by the fact that 22,000 of them took advantage of the first opportunity they were offered to return home, even though their leaving amounted to a public confession of cowardice.

The army still numbered 10,000, which was a formidable number. Still there were too many! God told Gideon to bring them down to the water, where He would put them to a further test so that He could reduce Gideon's army down to only 300 men.

And the LORD said unto Gideon, The people are yet too many; bring them down unto the water, and *I will try them for thee there*: and it shall be, that of whom I say unto thee, This shall go with thee, the same shall go with thee; and of whomsoever I say unto thee, This shall not go with thee, the same shall not go. So he brought down the people unto the water: and the LORD said unto Gideon, *Every one that lappeth of the water with his tongue, as a dog lappeth, him shalt thou set by himself*; likewise every one that boweth down upon his knees to drink. *And the number of them that lapped, putting their hand to their mouth, were three hundred men*: but all the rest of the people bowed down upon their knees to drink water. *And the LORD said unto Gideon, By the three hundred men that lapped will I save you, and deliver the Midianites into thine hand*: and let all the other people go every man unto his place (Judges 7:4-7).

God purposed to *try* the 10,000 soldiers remaining in Gideon's army. The Hebrew word for *try* is *tsaraph*, meaning to remove dross from a precious metal by smelting; hence, God purposed to remove the unfit elements so that His Master Plan could be implemented.

God had to cut Gideon's army down to a small number so that the battle would be won only by having complete faith in the LORD. The test that determined who was chosen and who was rejected was the men's act of kneeling. Those who took time to kneel and slowly drink were indolent, which showed their dislike of working. They were inclined to avoid work. But, those who stood and quickly lapped up the water like a dog were energetic, which showed that they were very active and that they efficiently worked in an energetic manner or in a way to exert sufficient strength and power to overcome all resistance.



Before the army was ready for the noise of the victorious trumpet, the LORD tested them by their manner of drinking water. God told Gideon, in so many words, "Watch how this army drinks and set apart the ones who stay alert and watchful, the ones who stand and take the water up in their hand, noisily lapping it like a dog. The ones who kneel down, assuming a relaxed, comfortable position, drinking their water slowly and quietly, send them home."

The LORD took just the 300 "noisy lappers" and won a great victory over the multitude of Midianites, the Amalekites, and the people of the East.

Likewise, if we are not willing to make a little noise in the Spirit for the LORD, we are not going to be able to stand when it is time to proclaim His Word with a loud trumpet-voice. If we are spiritually indolent, we will dislike the noise of the Water of God's Spirit and Word when it goes forth like the sound of many waters and like the sound of a mighty trumpet.

God proved Gideon's army by noise. The "noisy minority" were chosen to experience being a part of the moving of God Almighty's victorious Power over their enemies. God still uses the spiritual noise of praise to prove who desires to be in the LORD's spiritual army today. Those who want to hear God's Word in its heights and depths must be willing to allow His Spirit to offer noisy praise in God's Ears.

When Gideon's 300 chosen, "noisy lapping" men were ready to go to battle, they held their trumpets and their pitchers in their hands, which concealed their lights, and while they waited, God arranged for Gideon to overhear a dream that a man in the enemy's camp had dreamed. Hearing this dream strengthened Gideon's hand for the battle because this was a public Witness or Token from the LORD that Gideon, indeed, was called to deliver Israel from the oppression of the Midianites, the Amalekites, and the people of the East.

So the people took victuals in their hand, and their trumpets: and he sent all the rest of Israel every man unto his tent, and retained those three hundred men: and the host of Midian was beneath him in the valley. And it came to pass the same night, that the LORD said unto him, Arise, get thee down unto the host; for I have delivered it into thine hand. *But if thou fear to go down, go thou with Phurah thy servant down to the host: And thou shalt hear what they say; and afterward shall thine hands be strengthened to go down unto the host.* Then went he down with Phurah his servant unto the outside of the armed men that were in the host. And the Midianites and the Amalekites and all the children of the east lay along in the valley like grasshoppers for multitude; and their camels were without number, as the sand by the sea side for multitude. *And when*

Gideon was come, behold, there was a man that told a dream unto his fellow, and said, Behold, I dreamed a dream, and, lo, a cake of barley bread tumbled into the host of Midian, and came unto a tent, and smote it that it fell, and overturned it, that the tent lay along. And his fellow answered and said, This is nothing else save the sword of Gideon the son of Joash, a man of Israel: for into his hand hath God delivered Midian, and all the host. And it was so, when Gideon heard the telling of the dream, and the interpretation thereof, that he worshipped, and returned into the host of Israel, and said, Arise; for the LORD hath delivered into your hand the host of Midian (Judges 7:8-15).

In spite of the three previous personal Witnesses from God to Gideon that had provoked great trust in him toward the LORD, he still displayed an understandable hesitation to fight since he never before had led a troop of soldiers into battle. His army also was very small, ill-armed, untrained, and inexperienced in warfare, while the enemy was like a great swarm of grasshoppers for multitude, well-armed, trained, and experienced in warfare. Nevertheless, with God on Gideon's side, his minority became an Infinite Majority. So it is with us. When God is on our side, the Devil and all his cohorts cannot defeat us!

It is exciting to see how perfectly the details of God's Word fit together. The Midianites, the Amalekites, and the people of the East were encamped over on the north side, the cardinal point of the compass where the Table of Shewbread was located in the Mosaic Tabernacle in the Wilderness. There were twelve loaves of Shewbread arranged in two rows, with frankincense (representing faith) on top of each row of Bread on the north side. Since Gideon's battle was to be won by faith, on the north side, then, in the enemy's dream, God pictured Gideon as a barley cake that took victory over his enemies. Barley was a humble grain used by the poor to make their bread, which was a fit picture of Gideon and his small, poor army.

In the dream, the man in the enemy's camp saw a barley cake come tumbling into the camp of the Midianites, the Amalekites, and the people of the East. The barley cake did not come rolling smoothly, on its circular edge; it came *tumbling* in, which means to fall, dance, jump, doing somersaults, and handsprings. God revealed to the enemy that Gideon, like a humble, lowly barley cake, would come tumbling into their camp like a wheel falling on its flat surface, first on one side, and then on the other.

Gideon was so encouraged by the enemy soldier's dream, which he had overheard when the soldier told it to his friend, that he returned to his camp with a determined decision to attack the enemy at once.

Gideon's faith and courage was undaunted by the tremendous number of enemies that lay in the valley like a multitude of grasshoppers, and Gideon also was undaunted by the enemies' multitude of camels that were as numerous as the sand on the seashore.

Gideon's God-given strategical plan was simple but effective.

And he divided the three hundred men into three companies, and he put a trumpet in every man's hand, with empty pitchers, and lamps within the pitchers. And he said unto them, Look on me, and do likewise: and, behold, when I come to the outside of the camp, it shall be that, as I do, so shall ye do. When I blow with a trumpet, I and all that are with me, then blow ye the trumpets also on every side of all the camp, and say, The sword of the LORD, and of Gideon. So Gideon, and the hundred men that were with him, came unto the outside of the camp in the beginning of the middle watch; and they had but newly set the watch: and they blew the trumpets, and brake the pitchers that were in their hands. And the three companies blew the trumpets, and brake the pitchers, and held the lamps in their left hands, and the trumpets in their right hands to blow withal: and they cried, The sword of the LORD, and of Gideon. And they stood every man in his place round about the camp; and all the host ran, and cried, and fled. And the three hundred blew the trumpets, and the LORD set every man's sword against his fellow, even throughout all the host: and the host fled to Beth-shittah in Zererath, and to the border of Abel-meholah, unto Tabbath. And the men of Israel gathered themselves together out of Naphtali, and out of Asher, and out of all Manasseh, and pursued after the Midianites. And Gideon sent messengers throughout all mount Ephraim, saying, Come down against the Midianites, and take before them the waters unto Beth-barah and Jordan. Then all the men of Ephraim gathered themselves together, and took the waters unto Beth-barah and Jordan. And they took two princes of the Midianites, Oreb and Zeeb; and they slew Oreb upon the rock Oreb, and Zeeb they slew at the winepress of Zeeb, and pursued Midian, and brought the heads of Oreb and Zeeb to Gideon on the other side Jordan (Judges 7:16-25).

Gideon's army, surrounding the sleeping enemy on three sides, sent forth a sudden burst of light when they broke their 300 clay pitchers; and they accompanied the light with the victorious blast from 300 trumpets. And, God's Omnipotent Power and Presence came down in the blackness of the night, spreading terror, dismay, and paralyzing amazement in the midst of the enemy's camp.

Gideon attacked the enemy camp at the beginning of the middle watch, before the eyes of the sentries had adapted to the night; therefore, their sight was unable to penetrate the darkness. At this point, Gideon and his 300 humble soldiers blew their trumpets and broke in pieces their clay pitchers. In their left hands, they held their flaming torches that had been concealed in the clay pitchers; and in their right hands, they held their trumpet horns. The

blinding light and the deafening sound of the trumpets and the voices of Gideon's army were magnified by God Almighty's increasing the *Light* and *Sound* of the trumpets and the voices as Gideon's army cried "The sword of the LORD, and of Gideon." Thus, the Light and Sound from Gideon's small army divinely created such confusion in the enemies' camp that Gideon had no need to attack because the enemies ran, cried, and fled in mass fright. The incredible confusion that small Gideon and his small, noisy army created in the enemies' camp won the battle without further action on Gideon's part. The news of Gideon's miraculous victory spread to the other northern tribes who joined in the victorious pursuit of the enemies.

Likewise, spiritual victory for us does not always come in a smooth, dignified manner. Sometimes the wheel of our beings falls flat, on one side or the other, and we have to get up and start over again. As usual, the Devil tells us that we are not getting anywhere, but this is not the Truth. Our battles are spiritual battles of faith. So, if we will become "broken clay vessels" in prayer, allowing Christ's Light of Truth to shine forth, and if we will "blow the trumpet horn of Truth" that is found in the First Commandment, which proclaims, "I am the LORD thy God," we will make the Sword of Truth our Sword, too, and we will win the battle, regardless of the size of our flesh, the world, and the Devil. So, if we just keep tumbling, getting up, and going forward in God's Purposive Will, we eventually will tumble into the enemy's camp with enough strength of faith and humility to overcome the enemy. Then, we can come forth with true deliverance, as Gideon and his army did.

Sometimes God gives us the privilege of standing up straight and tall with His Power, while we tread demons and devils underfoot. At these times, we can shout, praise God, rejoice, feel strong and spiritually mature. However, there are other times that we obtain the spiritual victory over our flesh, the world, and the Devil, not on the exalted side, but on the humility side, as Gideon did. On the humility side of the battle, we are nothing but a small, helpless barley cake. We must depend completely upon the LORD and upon His Light of Truth, His Trumpet of Truth, His Sword of Truth, and His Powerful, Omnipresent Truth, trusting Him to confuse the enemy and cause them to run, cry, and flee.

When we win our battles by trusting completely in the LORD's Power to win for us, we are able to give the LORD more gratitude and more humility praise, while we remain a humble, helpless barley cake. When we find ourself in a *helpless* situation, our helplessness in the situation is the LORD's public Witness to us that He Himself will create a miraculous victory for us! Let us, therefore, wholeheartedly tumble our way to His victory.

When we have gained the victory by standing up tall and straight with God's Power, our fleshly tendency is to think that we have helped God get the victory. Consequently, our gratitude to the LORD is tainted with the breath of the pride of our own strength in the battle. However, when we have been completely helpless and without any strength to win the spiritual battle and when we have had to tumble all the way into the camp of the enemy with no carnal weapons, but with only God's Light, Sound, and Sword of Truth, we have no doubt about Who has given the victory. All the gratitude and Glory, then, goes to God!

Remember, neither Gideon nor anyone in his small, humble army had a natural sword. They had only trumpets and pitchers, with lamps inside, and God's Spiritual Sword, His Word of Truth, which He put into Gideon's hand to deliver His people.

The Apostle Paul also bore Witness that our weapons of warfare are spiritual and not carnal.

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) (II Corinthians 10:3,4).

The Work of Growth in Christ's Spiritual Stature in the hearts of men and the Work of His Ministry is a spiritual warfare against the flesh, the world, and the Devil. His Warfare is against spiritual enemies and for spiritual purposes. Christ's Warfare is against the flesh to crucify and mortify it with its affections and its lusts. Christ gains His Spiritual Victory by His Powerful Spiritual Weapons of Truth and by the humility of His Wisdom. Christ's Victories are not won inwardly by human strength and force of carnal arms. Christ wins by His Powerful Convicting and Convincing in man's conscience and by the Powerful Persuasion of His Spirit. His Weapons are Divine, Almighty, and Powerful!

Gideon's small, humble three-hundred-man army used some of the most unwarlike weapons in history: a trumpet to hold in the right hand and a clay pitcher with a lamp inside to hold in the left hand. Yet, when Gideon led this strangely equipped army out to battle, marching under God's Headship and looking in faith for Him to go before them, God wrought a great and mighty deliverance for the Nation of Israel.

God used Gideon, a public "barley cake" who upheld the LORD's mighty Sword of Truth; the noise of 300 trumpets; and the unified noise of 300 human voices as they all shouted, "The sword of the LORD, and of Gideon."

He also used the shining light from 300 broken, clay pitchers, but what glorious victory was wrought! What a Mighty God we serve!

Yet, if Gideon had not chosen to accept and believe the personal Tokens or Witnesses that God gave him — the Supernatural Fire out of the rock, the wet fleece and dry ground, the dry fleece and the wet ground, and the public Witness of the enemy's dream of the barley cake — he would have continued to hide from the enemy while threshing his wheat with a stick.

The same Principle is true of Noah, Abraham, and Moses. They, too, had to trust in God's Witnesses the same way that Gideon trusted in them. They all had to accept God's Witnesses and Tokens, believing that He would fulfill His Word and, therefore, confirm His special Calling on their lives.

God still uses the Witness Principle to rule over His people. He bears Witness by His Spirit and by His Word to lead, govern, and guide His sincere people. It is the responsibility of New Testament believers to accept and believe the Witnesses of God's Spirit and Word and Works, just as it was the responsibility of Old Testament believers in Moses' day, to accept and believe the Witness of the *Urim* and *Thummim* or His Spirit and Word that produced victorious works.

Thus, we have seen God's threefold Witnesses to Noah, Abraham, Moses, and Gideon in the Dispensation of the Old Testament.

May the LORD bless this study of His Word to your heart and may you, through greater understanding, learn to submit your heart and will to be ruled and guided by the Witness of God's Governing Light.

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A. God's Covenant with Abram Was Established when He Changed Abram's Name to Abraham.

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C. Through the Covenant of Inner and Outer Circumcision that God Made with Abraham, and Through His Name, God's Generating Power of Miraculous Works Rejuvenated Abraham's and Sarah's Bodies. God also Covenanted with Isaac by Giving Him His Name, before Isaac's Conception and Birth, as a Token or Witness of God's Divine Choice for Isaac to Be the Bearer of the Seed of Promise of the Messiah, the LORD Jesus Christ.

[III. God Gave Moses a Threefold Witness or Tokens to Confirm His Master Plan and Purposive Will for His Life.](#)

A. The Threefold Witness or Tokens of Moses' Leadership of Israel Were Given to Moses, Privately and Personally, and to Israel, Publicly.

1. God Gave Signs or Tokens to Moses, Personally and Privately.

a. A Personal, Private Witness or Token Was Given to Moses about Israel's Future Place of Worship on Mount Horeb.

b. A Second Personal, Private Witness or Token from God to Moses Was that of His Own Shepherd's Rod upon which the LORD Put His Holy Name.

c. The Third Personal, Private Witness or Token that God Gave to Moses Was His Hand Being Joined to God's Power.

2. Moses' Threefold Public Witness to Israel Proved that God Had Called Him to the Place of Leadership of the Nation.

a. Moses' Shepherd's Rod with God's Holy Name on It Was a Public Witness.

b. Moses's Hand — Thrust into His Bosom, Drawn out with Leprosy, Thrust Back into His Bosom, Drawn out Clean and Whole — Was a Public Witness to Israel.

c. The Sign of Water Turned to Blood Was a Public Witness. (Later, Israel Was Given the Sign or Token of the Lamb's Blood upon Their Houses.)

B. God Gave a Threefold Public Witness of Moses' Ministry and His Leadership over Pharaoh.

1. The Rod with the Name of the LORD God upon It Swallowed the Egyptians' Rods.

2. The Rod with the Name of the LORD God upon It Was Joined to Moses' and Aaron's Hands to Minister Five Witnesses, Proving that God Is the Supreme, Sovereign God.

3. Moses' Sanctified Hand Was Stretched toward Heaven to Minister Darkness to the Egyptians, Bearing Witness that the LORD God Is the Sovereign, Omniscient Ruler over All Light and Darkness.

[IV. God Gave Gideon a Threefold Witness or Tokens to Confirm His Master Plan and Purposive Will for His Life.](#)

A. God Gave a Personal Threefold Witness to Gideon to Show that He Truly Had Been Called to Deliver Israel from the Oppression of Her Enemies.

1. The First Personal Witness or Token Was God's Supernatural Fire that Consumed Gideon's Sacrifice.

2. The Second Personal Witness or Token Was a Wet Fleece and a Dry Ground.

3. The Third Personal Witness or Token Was a Dry Fleece and a Wet Ground.

B. God's Public Witness or Token Assured Gideon's Small Army of the Victory over Their Enemies.