

## CHAPTER FIVE - PART ONE

### OLD TESTAMENT EXAMPLES

Abiding in God's Word can be proven difficult especially when we experience trials and suffering. We may want to turn back and leave the uneasy, unpopular, narrow path for the comfortable, yet chaotic, familiar life of the world. Can I say that this is not the right choice to make?

*But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul. (Hebrews 10:39)*

The Lord says if we endure, our rewards will be great in heaven (**Matthew 5:11, 12**). The Old Testament has numerous valuable testimonies of believers who were faithfully obedient to God. No matter what the cost or what the circumstances were, they were determined to stay faithful to God and to be obedient to His commands. They did this because they *believed everything He said and their eyes were fixed on a future inheritance in His kingdom, a much grander life yet to come*. They loved God with all their heart, soul and mind. God was their first love. This unconditional love and willing trust is that which pleases God. This is *faith* — believing what God has to say about a matter (The Greek word [Strong's #G4102] for "faith" is *pistis* meaning "assurance, belief, reliance upon Christ for salvation; believing in the truthfulness of God"). But not all believers were faithfully obedient to God or endured until the end. This is what ultimately determines who will be the bride of Christ and who will not.

### SECTION 1—GENESIS TO RUTH

#### *Example 1) Adam and Eve* **Genesis 2:21**

After God created the earth (**Genesis 1:1**) and subsequently brought it into a ruined state because of Satan's sin (**Genesis 1:2**), He then restored the earth (**Genesis 1:3-25**) prior to man's creation with the specifically stated purpose of man having dominion over the earth (**Genesis 1:26**). Within these plans,

man was created a little lower than the angels as he must prove himself worthy to replace the incumbent ruler, Satan. And man was not made to rule alone. God made a “helper” for man, a woman. The Woman was taken out of the body of Adam. God caused a deep sleep to come upon Adam, and then He opened his side, took a small portion of his body, a rib, out of which He made Eve, Adam's bride. When Eve sinned, having been deceived by Satan in accordance to her disobedience to God's Word, Adam cleaved unto his wife as *one flesh*, as a complete being. At this juncture, it would be correct to say that Adam *partook of sin* to effect Eve's redemption, with a view to both one day partaking of the tree of life together (**1 Timothy 2:14**). Adam, as a type of Christ (**Romans 5:14**), was obedient to the commands of God, who remained with his bride and took on her sin.

This is representative of Jesus Christ who was put to sleep (died on the Cross and took on our sins) before His side was also pierced to form the bride. All of the Church make-up the body of Christ, but only a certain few who will be found worthy will be taken out of the body (Church) to form the bride of Christ. And this follows the pattern of Eve being taken out of the body of Adam and becoming his bride. It presents a clear picture that only a selected group out of the body of the Church will qualify to be the bride of Christ. Therefore, Christ will also have a “helper” to rule with Him (**Hebrews 3:14**), as He would have to pattern the very thing that God established in the beginning, before the foundation of the world.

However, the consequence for man's sin is made clear in **Genesis 2:17**:

*“...but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”*

There were two specifically stated trees in the Garden of Eden, the tree of life and the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Both trees produced fruit. The distinction between them was in the consequence of eating from them. The tree of life produced life having to do with rulership and the other produced death. The tree of life was offered to provide Adam and Eve wisdom to be able to rule over the earth. The tree of knowledge of good and evil was more closely aligned with Satan, who became wise in his own eyes rather than being mindful of the things of God. Yet the woman went against God's commandments and instead followed the devil's advice when he said, “*You will not surely die.*” (**Genesis 3:4**)

So what died that day? The three parts of man were affected. Their spirit died, their soul became corrupted because of sin, and their body began to decay. This required action on God's part to deal with that death. Man no longer possessed the image and likeness of God because of their sin. Since God has no sin, they were no longer considered having the full likeness of Him. We see this in **Genesis 5:3**:

*And Adam lived one hundred and thirty years, and begot a son in his (Adam's) own likeness, after his (Adam's) image, and named him Seth.*

This is when God's plan of redemption came into effect. He clothed Adam and Eve's body with the coats of skin from animals, requiring *death and shed blood* (**Genesis 3:21**) as they had lost the covering of glory previously wrapping their bodies. In relation to man's redemption, no difference exists today from that which existed in the Garden of Eden almost 6,000 years ago.

Christ is the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world, to effect the Father's plans and purposes in respect of rulership. This is the reason Christ had to die in the flesh, *as death and shed blood* has always been God's means to satisfy man's redemption, otherwise there could be no redemption (**Hebrews 9:22**). Because of Christ's death, the spirit is reborn in the life of the believer; however the soul and body remain unredeemed until a future day. The salvation of the soul, a present work that will be realized in the future, requires *death and shed blood* as well, but now it is death in relation to the individual, or the "old man." And the salvation of the body has to do with a future adoption, as first-born sons, which deals part with the salvation of the soul and will be realized at the Judgment seat of Christ.

Even today, Satan deceives many using the same temptation: "*You will not surely die*" (**Genesis 3:4**). Christians need to realize that although their spirits will never die (Christ's finished work at Calvary), their soul and body does have that capability in the age to come. The good news is that Christians who overcome their present life can save their soul and body for the age to come. Overcoming is accomplished when Christians align themselves with the wisdom of God rather than that of the world, the flesh and the devil. In the age to come, *overcomers* will be glorified in the image and likeness of God.

**Example 2) Cain and Abel**  
**Genesis 4:1**

The account of Adam's sons, Cain and Abel, portray an example of the man of flesh and the man of spirit. One was disobedient and the other faithful to God. Cain was the first-born with all rights of first inheritance, but he worshipped God through his own will and efforts rather than according to the will of God. Abel was faithfully obedient to the will of God and gave the correct offering.

*By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks.*  
**(Hebrews 11:4)**

Both were to bring a “first-fruit” or “firstborn” offering to the Lord. Abel’s offering was a sacrifice of “*the firstborn of his flock and of their fat*” (**Genesis 4:4**). His sacrifice was acceptable to God because of His faithful obedience, and he was therefore declared righteous (**Hebrews 11:4**). Cain, however, offered his sacrifice apart from faith, on his own terms, without following God’s instructions. This example has to do with the salvation of the soul, which requires one to follow God by faith; i.e., simply believing God’s Word and faithfully obeying His Word. In doing so, the result will be works executed through the power of the Holy Spirit and not through fleshly desires.

Cain typifies Israel, who also is God's first-born son, who not only had the promises of the land, but also the heavenly promises of the kingdom. However, Israel refused to abide in God's commandments, refused the offer of the heavenly kingdom and also refused the substitute Lamb of God, Jesus Christ. Cain allowed sin (the flesh, the world and the devil) to control his actions and therefore God did not accept him. Abel was accepted by the Lord to be the seed by which Christ would come.

Out of anger, Cain killed his brother who was innocent of any crime. This was Satan’s first attempt to interrupt the arrival of the Seed of the woman. In the same way, Israel killed his Brother, Jesus Christ, who committed and knew no sin. Therefore, Cain was cursed because of his sin, and so was

Israel. But God forbade anyone to kill Cain and forbade anyone to exterminate the nation of Israel, because He alone will deal with Israel in the future and His plans and promises will come to pass to restore and redeem them. Cain's portion of his inheritance was to be an earthly one. Likewise, the nation of Israel in the Millennium will have an earthly inheritance.

The blood of Abel crying out from the ground (a cursed ground) is representative of the blood of Christ *speaking better things than that of Abel* (Christ, who died and shed His blood, able to redeem not only man but also to ultimately redeem the ground from which Abel's blood had cried (**Genesis 4:10; Hebrews 12:24**). After Abel died, Adam and Eve bore Seth, who would replace Abel as the seed by which Christ would come.

*And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and named him Seth, "For God has appointed another seed for me instead of Abel, whom Cain killed." And as for Seth, to him also a son was born; and he named him Enosh. Then men began to call on the name of the Lord. (Genesis 5:25, 26)*

Like Cain and Abel, Christians are being tested today. Only those who are faithfully obedient to God's Word will actually obtain their offered inheritance. Christians are first-born sons of God with all rights of primogeniture to inherit the kingdom of heaven. Will we choose to be like Abel or Cain? Will we be faithful to God's commands, die to self, and allow the Holy Spirit to work through us until the end? Or will we be like Cain, refusing to do God's will and instead choosing to do what's right in our own eyes. Cain was a believer, but he allowed Satan to control his body of flesh. Cain lived for the world and not for God. Therefore, he was overcome by the world, the flesh and the devil. Abel, on the other hand, did not conform to the world but loved God, so that it showed by his obedience to God's commands.

We also love God *if* we keep His commandments, allowing the Spirit to work through us. Do not be deceived. Unconditional love for Him is not based on our warm and fuzzy feelings (because they do change day to day!). If we think feelings for God are all we need, then we will be deceived into thinking we can do whatever we want. The Word says you do not love the Lord if you do not keep His commandments. This is the love that God wants, that we

keep His commandments and abide in Him (His Word) and He in us (His Spirit in us). We must abide in His Word daily.

*“As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love.” (John 15:9, 10)*

*“For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.” (1 John 5:3)*

*“I am the vine, you are the branches, He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.” (John 15:5, 6)*

"Abide" is the Greek word (G3306) "meno" which means "to continue; to endure; to remain." If we remain in His Word and act accordingly on a daily basis, then we are producing good works for the saving of our soul. But if we do not abide in His Word, then we are cast out at the Judgment Seat, where our works will be tested through fire and will be burned. We will suffer loss outside the kingdom during the Messianic Era. Without Him, without His Word, we cannot produce any good works. *Good works* are those according to His Word, done through the power of the Holy Spirit.

### **Example 3) Enoch**

#### **Genesis 5:21**

*And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him. (Genesis 5:24)*

Very few words are mentioned about Enoch in Scripture, but what is clearly revealed is that Enoch is a type of the Church, i.e., the bride of Christ. The basic meaning of the Hebrew word *halak* (H1980) translated *walk* is "to go; exercise self; continually." It is a continual act of motion in obedience to God's commands; a constant relationship with God. Enoch had a life-long personal relationship with God. He remained faithful and obedient to God

for three hundred years and then God raptured him to heaven. Enoch's remarkable experience is a hopeful reminder that those who "*walk with God*" can look forward to the same experience --- their rapture and reward. In the Old Testament, only Enoch and Elijah were raptured by God to heaven.

*By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, 'and was not found, because God had taken him'; for before he was taken he had this testimony, that he pleased God.*

*But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. (Hebrews 11:5)*

Enoch pleased God with his faith. Enoch believed in God, diligently sought Him, and trusted that He would reward him in the end. When it was time for his departure, God raptured him to heaven. Enoch knew God's Word and the consequence for not following Him.

*Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, 'Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.' (Jude 14, 15)*

During the seventh generation, Enoch was removed from the earth alive. The number "seven" is a significant number in the Word and means "completion for that which is in view." This typifies a man being removed from the earth at a "complete period of time." Enoch was removed before the Flood began (a time of God's judgment which fell upon all those who remained on the earth). And this typifies the Church being removed from the earth to heaven at the end of this dispensation before the Tribulation begins, which will be a time of God's judgment upon the entire world for a period of seven years. Like Enoch, all those during this present dispensation who believe in the Lord will be raptured to heaven before the *flood* ("overflowing judgment") begins. Furthermore, all those who believe in the Lord and are faithfully obedient to His Word until the end will receive the reward of the inheritance.

#### Example 4) Noah

##### Genesis 6:8

In the tenth generation from Adam, after Enoch was raptured to heaven, God's judgment upon the entire wicked world transpired and He destroyed all man because of their transgressions, all except Noah and his family.

A corruption of the human race was Satan's goal at this time for the purpose of preventing man from ascending the throne and taking over his position. Satan's effort was to corrupt that which God had established in the beginning — a husband/wife relationship within the human realm—the manner in which man was to conduct his rule over the earth. Angels, however, had completely different principles in relation to the government of the earth. In the angelic realm, angels did not marry, a principle set forth by God prior to man's creation (**Matthew 22:30**). Therefore, the co-habitation of the sons of God (fallen angels) with the daughters of men in **Genesis 6:1-4** (known as the “giants” or “Nephilim”) was Satan's efforts to destroy that which God had established in order to prevent man from ruling in his place:

*Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them, that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful, and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose.*

This corruption caused by the fallen angels before Noah's day was Satan's second attempt to prevent the coming of the “Seed of the woman” (Christ) foretold in **Genesis 3:15**:

*“And I will put enmity between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.”*

The fallen angels procreated strange hybrid offspring with human women, known as the “Nephilim” (Strong's #H5303 & H7497: Hebrew word *Nepil* & *Rapa*: meaning “to fall” and “tyrant”—a giant), also referred to in the Bible as “giants,” “mighty men,” “Rapha or Rephaim,” and “sons of Anak.” They were demons, monsters of iniquity; and being superhuman in size and wicked in character, had to be destroyed. In response, God reserved these fallen



angels for special judgment (**2 Peter 2:4; Jude 6**) and cleansed the earth with the Flood.

Noah, however, found favor with God, because during this generation Noah was the only one that “*walked with God.*” Only Noah and his family had preserved their pedigree pure from Adam (**Genesis 6:9**). Therefore, God made a covenant with Noah, that if he obeyed all His commandments, He would save Noah and his family. God commanded Noah to build an ark to save him, his family and two of every sort of animal as to God's specifications. And Noah obeyed the Lord fully, without question or hesitation.

*But I will establish My covenant with you; and you shall go into the ark...Thus Noah did; according to all that God commanded him, so he did. (Genesis 6:18, 22)*

Noah typifies a remnant of Israel, whom God protected in an ark during the Flood — and this worldwide destruction typifies the seven year Tribulation. God will protect a faithful remnant during the Great Tribulation (**Matthew 24:15, 16; Revelation 12:14**). When Christ returns, He will redeem Israel back into their land and the whole of Israel will be restored.

*By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith. (Hebrews 11:7)*

Noah was warned by God that destruction would come upon the whole world. Noah, a preacher of righteousness, took God's word seriously and with godly fear. He feared for his and his family's salvation and this motivated him to abide by God's commands. In the antitype, Christ gives ample warning to Israel (**Matthew 24:15, 16**) by providing events which will occur at the beginning of the Great Tribulation. The Antichrist will set up his image in the Most Holy Place. When this occurs, they are told to *flee to the mountains* where God will provide a safe haven for them.

But many *in the days of Noah* paid little attention to the Lord and, as a result, faced destruction. The exact scenario will be the case at Christ's return.

*“And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man. They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage,*

*until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all...Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed.” (Luke 17:26, 27, 30)*

When the Lord returns to take down Satan and his armies, the world will be exactly as it was in the days of Noah — the Nephilims will again surface and man will be going about their wicked ways. The unique events leading to the Flood are a prerequisite to understanding the prophetic implications of our Lord’s predictions regarding His Second Coming. By and through the Word of God, we have been warned concerning *all things* to come. Therefore, we are to move with godly fear, separating ourselves from this world and preparing ourselves for the coming of the Lord.

*“Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. (Matthew 24:42)*

The unholy alliance between the fallen angels and human women is believed to have happened both before the Flood and after the Flood, as we see recorded in **Genesis 6:4**,

*There were giants on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.*

In **Genesis 6:4**, note the words *“and also afterward.”* This implies that there were two incidents of co-habitation by Satan’s seed --- one before Noah’s time and another after the Flood. The first incident transpired through the lineage of Enoch, Cain’s son (Cain was cursed by God as a vagabond and sent out from the presence of the Lord). The second incident transpired through the descendants of Ham, the son of Noah. Ham’s son, Canaan, was cursed because of the actions of his father. Ham had entered Noah’s tent and had dishonored his father. The incident was an act of disgrace and disgust, a sign of his wickedness.

*Then he said: “Cursed be Canaan; A servant of servants he shall be to his brethren.” (Genesis 9:25)*

This was yet another attempt by Satan to corrupt the lineage by which Christ would come. Through the descendants of Ham, a race of giants once again populated the earth and cohabitated with human women. The Nephilim’s were born from the descendants of Ham, specifically of his sons, Cush (Cush begot Nimrod, “*the mighty one on the earth*”), Mizraim (Mizraim begot six sons from whom came the Philistines [**Genesis 10:13**] as in Goliath the giant), Canaan (Canaan begot the Jebusites, the Amorites and all the families of the Canaanites to include the Rephaim [**Genesis 10:15-18, 20**] from whom the Anakims or sons of Anak [**Deuteronomy 2:11; Numbers 13:28, 29, 33**] and King Og descended [**Deuteronomy 3:11**]), and Put (from the region of Libya (**Ezekiel 27:10**) or Africa today. His descendants were known as Libyans or Chub (**Ezekiel 30:5**) and were called “*mighty men*” (meaning giants) in **Jeremiah 46:9**, together with the descendants of Cush (Ethiopians).

These giants dwelt all over the world and ruled over great cities. The people worshiped them as gods and had many names, such as the Sumerian god “Enki” (from Anak), the Annunuki god, the god Baal (Baalim), Ashtaroth (**Judges 10:6**) and many more. The ancient Greeks, the Egyptians, the Hindus, the South Sea Islanders, the Incus Indians, and most all others across the globe have echoed these evil giants. The Book of **Jude** speaks of them; **Jude 14** records the prophecy of Enoch concerning their future judgment. Even today, apostates wander all over the earth performing the works of Satan, worshiping these ancient gods (giants) and doing all kinds of evil in the sight of the Lord.

### **Example 5) Abraham and Isaac** **Genesis 12:1**

In order to properly understand the fashion in which God set forth His plans and purposes, one simply calls attention to the types and the antitypes, leaving the matter to rest upon the foundation of Scripture itself. We will see with Abraham and his family, all were types covering the complete story pertaining to God’s plans. Beginning with Abraham as a type of God, then his wife, Sarah, as a type of Israel; his son, Isaac, as a type of Christ; his

servant, Eliezer, as a type of the Holy Spirit; and Isaac's bride, Rebekah, as a type of the bride of Christ. And part of God's plan of redemption for man centers around His covenant with Abraham.

God tells Abraham to leave his country and his father's house and go to the land of Canaan where he would receive his inheritance.

*Now the Lord had said to Abram:*

*“Get out of your county, from your family and from your father's house, To a land that I will show you.*

*I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; And you shall be a blessing.*

*I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” (Genesis 12:1-3)*

The land of Canaan was already populated with the giants, a land that God would give to Abraham as an inheritance. Satan's plan was to occupy Canaan with “his own seed” in advance of Abraham's seed. For when Abraham and His people entered Canaan, we read in **Genesis 12:6c**, “*And the Canaanites [giants] were then in the land.*”

Believing in all that God had said, Abraham obeyed and took his wife, Sarah, and his nephew, Lot. This represents God's calling to Christians whereby they are to focus and move *by faith* from the land of their birth towards the land of their calling, the heavenly land.

*— just as Abraham “believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham. (Galatians 3:6, 7)*

Through Abraham's lineage, all Christians will be blessed with the offer of the promised inheritance. Because Christ came through the lineage of Abraham, and Christians are “in Christ,” then they are part of the seed of Abraham and have the rights to the promised future inheritance.

*And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. (Galatians 3:29)*

However, once Abraham arrived in the Land of Canaan and realized that the giants were already in the land, he went into the land but later moved from there, continually journeying toward the "south." This is a pictorial representation of a Christian's journey to the land of his calling, where trials and tribulations arise as a testing of his faith in the Lord. Abraham's faith was continually tested by the Lord in order that he would mature. It took nearly sixty years before Abraham was ready to be faithfully obedient in all that God commanded.

God told Abraham that he would have a son from his own body and that his descendants would be great. Yet Abraham's wife, Sarah, was barren. Sarah thought that the Lord had restrained her from conceiving because she was up in age and had not borne any children. Sarah's desperate ploy to have a child resulted in Hagar, her Egyptian maidservant, becoming the surrogate mother for Sarah. So Abraham had a son called Ishmael through Hagar and God said He would multiply her descendants as well. However they would be a "wild" group, unsettled and always at war, ultimately to fulfill God's plans and purposes.

*And the Angel of the Lord said to her:*

*"Behold, you are with child, and you shall bear a son, You shall call his name Ishmael, because the Lord has heard your affliction.*

*He shall be a wild man; His hand shall be against every man, And every man's hand against him. And he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren."* (**Genesis 16:11**)

This has indeed been the case today, for Ishmael's descendants are the Arab peoples who populate most of the Middle East. Very few of the peoples of the Old Testament have survived to our own day. For example, we see in **Genesis 15:19-21** that all ten nations mentioned have ceased to exist. But two peoples survive: Israel, the Jewish people, descended from Isaac; and the Arabs, descended from Ishmael -- exactly as God had planned it to be.

God declared Isaac the son of promise, the one who would inherit the kingdom. After God gifted Abraham and Sarah with their son, Isaac, God

commanded the sacrificial offering of Isaac in **Genesis 22:1**. And this typifies God's offering of His Son, Jesus Christ, as the sacrificial Lamb; as the Substitute for the sins of the world.

This time, Abraham fully obeyed God's command without hesitation. Abraham believed in all that God told him. He believed God's covenant with him concerning his blessings of the land and his people. He believed God when He said,

*"But My covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this set time next year." (Genesis 17:21)*

When God commanded him to sacrifice his son, Isaac, Abraham knew this would be a test of his faithful obedience to God and that *"The-Lord-Will-Provide."* He believed in God's promises and that He would raise up Isaac from the dead.

*By faith, Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, of whom it was said,*

*"In Isaac your seed shall be called," concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense. (Hebrews 11:17-19)*

We will remember that Abraham is a type of God the Father and Isaac a type of Jesus, the Son of God. Abraham was willing to sacrifice His son just as God the Father sacrificed His Son, both within *three days*. Abraham went on a *three days journey* to the mount and traveled back three days, a total of six days, which is "Man's Day. The number "three" in Scripture is a significant number symbolizing "resurrection; divine completion." On the *third day*, Abraham lifted his eyes and came up to the mountain where God had told him to go to sacrifice Isaac. But God stopped Abraham from sacrificing his son, as He provided a substitute lamb in Isaac's place to satisfy the shedding of blood as the sacrifice for redemption; to satisfy God's test of faith to Abraham for the offering of the covenant. Figuratively, Isaac died that day. Then, they arose and returned together. And this typifies God sacrificing His Son, Jesus Christ, as the Substitute Lamb without blemish (in the place of death for *three days*), to save the world from sin and for the offering of the

new covenant to the "seed" of Abraham (Israel and the Church) for the inheritance of the Millennial kingdom. The difference with Christ as the Sacrificial Lamb is that Christ wiped away the sins of the world completely, whereas before, the shedding of blood of an animal sacrificed by man only covered sin. On the *third day*, Christ rose from the dead.

*By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.*

*By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in the tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.*

*By faith, Sarah herself also received strength to conceive seed, and she bore a child when she was past the age, because she judged Him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead (the sacrifice of Isaac) were born as many as the stars of the sky in multitude--innumerable as the sand which is by the seashore. (Hebrews 11:8-12)*

Christians come from the body of Christ, and the seed of Abraham, and therefore are connected through Abraham's son, Isaac — the son of the free woman and not through Ishmael, the son of the bondwoman. We will realize that our first birth, that which is born of the flesh is in opposition to God. Nothing connected with our first birth, the son of the bondwoman, will have any inheritance in the kingdom. Only that emanating from our second birth, the son of the free woman, being born again in the Spirit, will have an offered heavenly inheritance. And this is what is presented here with Sarah and Hagar.

*Nevertheless what does the Scripture say? "Cast out the bondwoman and her son, for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman. (Galatians 4:30)*

*It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. (John 6:63)*

After Abraham and Isaac returned from the mountain, Sarah died. Again we will remember that Sarah, the wife of Abraham is a type of Israel, the wife of God (**Jeremiah 3:1, 14, 20**). This typifies Israel's death in a figurative sense, as they were set aside temporarily upon their rejection and crucifixion of Christ.

After Sarah died, Abraham began to seek a bride for his son, Isaac; after Israel was set aside, God formed the one new man in Christ, the Church, and sent the Holy Spirit to procure a bride for His Son, Jesus Christ. Eliezer, Abraham's servant, was to seek the bride for Isaac only out of the family of Abraham. And since Pentecost, God's Servant, the Holy Spirit, has been seeking to procure a bride for Christ out from the family of God, the Church.

When Abraham's servant Eliezer (a type of the Holy Spirit) finds Rebekah drawing deeply from the well (a picture of one drawing deeply from the Word), he immediately begins to speak of his master Abraham and presents her with some of his master's goods to show her that the chosen wife of Isaac would *inherit* with him. Likewise, the Holy Spirit reveals to Christians through the Word everything surrounding the coming kingdom and the rewards ready to be given to those who are faithful. The Holy Spirit is in the world today showing Christians all the glories which the Father will give to His Son and His Son's co-heirs. Note that Abraham's servant gives *precious things* to Rebekah's brother and to her mother as well. The Holy Spirit gives to *all* Christians the things of God through His Word, but not all Christians will receive Him and make the journey.

After Abraham's servant had procured a bride for Isaac, his instructions were to return to his master with the bride. Once God's allotted time is up for the search of a bride for His Son, He will raise those "*in Christ*" by the power of the Holy Spirit and bring them to Him. Therefore, Eliezer arose the next morning ready to make the journey back, but Rebekah's brother and mother tries to detain her. Likewise, carnal Christians can have an impact on the Holy Spirit's work, as they try to hinder others from making that life journey of faithful obedience. Rebekah had to choose whether to go with Eliezer to be the bride of Isaac. Likewise, a Christian has to decide whether or not he will follow the Holy Spirit till the end. So the question is asked of Rebekah, "*Will you go with this man?*" (**Genesis 24:58**) And she said, "*I will go.*"



It is remarkable to see that every detail of these events is arranged in God's perfect order, presenting a perfect word-picture of the Christian's calling and of things yet to come.

Abraham's servant removed the bride along with her damsels. *All of them together* rode on *ten* camels to meet Isaac. Therefore, Rebekah and her damsels leaving on the *ten* camels shows *ordinal completion*, as the number "*ten*" in Scripture denotes "*all*." *All* went to meet Isaac, but *only Rebekah* was later presented to Isaac as his bride. In the antitype, *all* Christians will be removed and will be presented to Christ, but only the chosen will be crowned as the bride.

It is interesting to note that the location in which Isaac and Rebekah meet was between his home and her home and then they proceeded to his home. And this typifies the Lord Jesus Christ and the Church meeting in the air between heaven and earth and then proceeding to heaven to the wedding hall, where a white garment must be worn (which is the righteous acts of the saints) in order to enter the wedding banquet.

As Rebekah and Isaac approach each other, Rebekah puts a veil over her face. This typifies that judgment must occur before the bride is revealed and a wedding garment must be worn showing righteous acts; showing those that have passed the test of fire and have been chosen worthy in the Son's presence. The test is administered when Eliezer proceeds to tell Isaac all the positive things that transpired concerning Rebekah. The wedding is then automatically consummated. Likewise, the bride of Christ will make up those Christians who responded positively to the Spirit's mission as Rebekah did. And it was on the seventh day that Isaac presented his bride, just as Christ will present His bride on that coming Seventh Day. After the marriage of his son, Abraham remarries (Abraham marries Keturah, who is a type of Israel). This typifies God's remarriage to Israel when Israel will be restored to her land again to reign over the nations on earth during the Millennium.

*And Abraham gave all that he had to Isaac. But Abraham gave gifts to the sons of the concubines which Abraham had; and while he was still living he sent them eastward, away from Isaac his son, to the country of the east." (Genesis 25:5)*

In the antitype, God will give the grand share of the inheritance to His Son, Christ Jesus and His bride. He will also give the earthly land to Israel as their inheritance. Therefore, this typifies the bride of Christ inheriting the heavenly kingdom and God's wife, Israel, inheriting the earthly kingdom. The accounts of Abraham and his family are examples set for us today. The Day will come when the bride of Christ will be chosen (called out from "the called" or Church) and those who are ready and have their wedding garment on will be the ones who made the decision in this life to follow Him to the end, through faithful obedience.

We have a choice. *Will you go with this Man?* Every Christian has a choice whether he will follow the Holy Spirit and make the journey to meet the Bridegroom. The Holy Spirit takes the things of God and reveals them to the Christian. In and through the study of God's Word, one will mature in the knowledge of God leading to his transformation and assisting him in his journey to meet the Lord.

***Example 6) Lot and his wife***  
**Genesis 19:1**

Lot is the example of an unfaithful Christian, the man of flesh. He represents all those who are saved but live for self (carnal; fleshly). His uncle, Abraham, is the example of a faithful Christian, who does good works pleasing to God. While Abraham made the choice to walk with God, Lot drifted away from the Lord and became a carnal Christian, even though he traveled with Abraham and had seen the works of God. He moved away from Abraham and made the choice to become involved in the world. And this is exactly what is happening today just before Christ's return. The unfaithfulness and wickedness of Christians today, which counterpart the works of Lot, will ultimately result in loss. Lot was eternally saved, but lost his inheritance.

*Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: They ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built, but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all.*

*Even so will it be in the Day when the Son of Man is revealed. In that Day, he who is on the housetop, and his goods are in the house, let him not come down to take them away.*

*And likewise the one who is in the field, let him not turn back. Remember Lot's wife. Whoever seeks to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it. (Luke 17:28-33)*

In **Genesis 13:10, 11**, there was conflict between Abraham's and Lot's herdsmen. Therefore, Abraham peacefully offered Lot his choice of the land so that the herdsmen could be divided up amongst them. Because Lot was carnally minded, he chose the land of Jordan for its rich soil and flowing water. And the same is done so much in the world today, as Christians become so involved in the things of this world rather than the things of God. So we find in **Genesis 13:12** that Lot settled in the city of Sodom, the city of self-centered ambitions, wickedness and fleshly lusts. Because of Lot's presence in the city of Sodom and because he held office there, he lost his testimony for the Lord. He was not walking in the ways of the Lord so when he spoke of the coming judgment to his sons-in-law, they thought he was peculiar and did not believe him. Although he was a hearer of the Word, he failed to be a doer of the Word.

*But be doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the Word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was.*

*But he who looks into the perfect (mature) law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does. (James 1:22-25)*

Abraham, the man of the Spirit, did the opposite of Lot, for he did not settle in Sodom, but instead moved his tent to the city of Hebron in the Land of Canaan, the land that God had promised to give his descendants as an inheritance and there he built an altar for the Lord.

Before God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, the angels warned Lot to get out of the city and flee to the mountains with his family. His sons-in-law perished because of their unbelief. Lot, his wife and two daughters escaped,

but Lot's wife looked back (apostatized) and became a pillar of salt. Though she was delivered from Sodom, she lost her life for the age to come. This account forms a type of the future rapture of all Christians before the Tribulation and their subsequent judgment.

In **Luke 17:32**, Jesus had been talking to his disciples concerning His appearing and His judgment. He told them to *remember Lot's wife*, because although she was delivered from the city of Sodom, her heart and soul were for the things in Sodom (a type of the world). When Jesus told His disciples to remember Lot's wife, He was warning them of the possibility that although they would be raptured, they could lose their rewards during the Millennial reign of Christ if they also looked back.

When Jesus told His disciples to remember Lot's wife, He was warning them against the possibility of neglecting the hope of His return and therefore not watching till the end.

Jesus spoke numerous times to his disciples about being ready at any moment for His return and to watch. Lot's wife did not keep her eyes fixed on the kingdom of heaven, because she looked back. She believed in the coming judgment and was obedient when they told her to flee, but she was more mindful of the things of the world.

What does it mean when Lot's wife was changed to a pillar of salt? Every reference in the Bible about salt is good. Salt is a preservative and was a commanded ingredient to be used in the Levitical sacrifices. Lot's wife being changed to a pillar of salt seems to signify that she is preserved until the Eternal Ages; her spirit is saved, but her soul or life died. She would suffer loss because of her unfaithfulness. Every Christian has the potential to fall back if they do not have their eyes fixed on Christ's return. If one falls back, they too will be "preserved" like a pillar of salt for one thousand years. For this reason Jesus said to His disciples, "*Remember Lot's wife.*"

*In that Day, he who is on the housetop, and his goods are in the house, let him not come down to take them away. And likewise the one who is in the field, let him not turn back. Remember Lot's wife. Whoever seeks to save his life (in this world or age) will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it (in the kingdom age to come).*  
**(Luke 17:31-33)**

When God instructed Lot to escape to the mountains, Lot disobeyed and pleaded to be sent to a small city east of the Jordan called Zoar (H6819, meaning “be brought low” ) with his two daughters. Lot failed to realize the salvation of his soul. He found himself dwelling in a cave outside of the Lord’s presence (outside of the kingdom, i.e. God’s temple). Abraham, on the other hand, found himself dwelling in the presence of the Lord and standing by His side.

The account of Lot and his family makes two things quite clear. First, it reveals that *all* Christians, whether faithful or unfaithful, will be removed prior to the Tribulation. Second, issues surrounding ones faithfulness or unfaithfulness will be determined following the rapture, at the Judgment seat of Christ. Upon these determinations, one will either be found in the presence of the Lord or outside the presence of the Lord.

**Example 7) Jacob and Esau**  
**Genesis 25:23**

Isaac and Rebekah had twin boys, Esau and Jacob. God revealed to Rebekah which of her sons would be His elect before they were even born. He told her while her twins were in her womb struggling, that He knew which one would follow his father's footsteps and be blessed with the birthright of the inheritance.

*And the Lord said to her: “Two nations are in your womb, Two peoples shall be separated from your body; One people shall be stronger than the other, And the older shall serve the younger.”*  
**(Genesis 25:23)**

*And not only this, but when Rebekah also had conceived by one man, even by our father Isaac (for the children not yet being born, nor having done any good or evil,*

*that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works but of Him who calls), it was said to her, " The older shall serve the younger. As it is written, "Jacob I have loved, but Esau I have hated." (Romans 9:10)*

And so it happened that Esau grew to be a skillful hunter, a man of the field; but Jacob was a humble and mild man, dwelling in tents as Abraham did. Esau and Jacob had contrasting temperaments and interests similar to those of Cain and Abel. Esau, as the firstborn, had a birthright to a double portion of the family estate. Moreover, he inherited from his father, Isaac, the privilege of an everlasting covenant with God. But Esau had no respect for this sacred covenant or for his birthright. And it came to pass that when he came in from the field, exhausted and hungry, that he sold his birthright to Jacob for a bowl of stew.

*But Jacob said, "Sell me your birthright as of this day." And Esau said, "Look, I am about to die; so what is this birthright to me?"*

*Then Jacob said, "Swear to me as of this day." So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob.*

*And Jacob gave Esau bread and stew of lentils; then he ate and drank, arose, and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright." (Genesis 25:31-34)*

Esau considered his birthright of little value and sold it to his younger brother, Jacob, to satisfy a fleshly desire. Like Esau, there are carnal Christians today that dismiss the importance of this inheritance that God has promised to the seed of Abraham (in which we have become a part of).

*"And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." (Galatians 3:29)*

Neglecting this inheritance of the kingdom has immutable consequence in the age to come. There will be no room for repentance at the Judgment Seat of Christ. Carnal Christians will be cast out into the outer darkness with shame and regret. For *"how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?" (Hebrews 2:3)* The answer is "we won't."

God is just. He will give a just recompense of reward when all Christians are judged. We will get exactly what we deserve. Esau knew later the wrong that he had done and regretted it, but it was too late. He had lost his inheritance.

*...lest there be any fornicator or profane person like Esau, who for one morsel of food sold his birthright. For you know that afterward, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected for he found no place for repentance, though he sought it diligently with tears.*  
**(Hebrews 12:16, 17)**

And like Esau, this will be the fate of many unfaithful Christians when they stand in front of the throne of Christ and be rejected from the inheritance.

*"And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."* **(Matthew 25:30)**

Do not be deceived into thinking that we are immune to judgment and that we can go about our business as we desire. How we live our life right now matters. We can eat our bread and stew, drink and go our way every day without one thought of all of this or we can choose to receive God's Word and live differently from now on. The first will bring dire consequence and the last will yield reward. The choice is ours.

*Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. For our God is a consuming fire.*  
**(Hebrews 12:28)**

### **Example 8) Jacob and Rachel** **Genesis 29:1**

After Jacob received the blessings from his father Isaac, Esau was furious and wanted to kill him. Therefore, Rebekah tells Jacob to leave their home and go to her brother Laban's house in another city called Haran. When he reached their land, he saw a well in the field and approached it. There he sees Rachel and it was love at first sight. He had heard the story of his mother's encounter at the well with Abraham's servant many times. He knew this meeting with Rachel was a blessing from God. So he kissed Rachel, and lifted up his voice and wept. He became Laban's servant, a shepherd of Laban's sheep, and worked for Rachel for seven years (a complete period of time). However, Jacob had to marry Leah, the older daughter of Laban first because of the custom of the Jews in that she was the firstborn. Leah typifies

the law, the earthly people, and just as Christ's ministry was to the Jew first, Jacob had to marry Leah first. Rachel typifies the gospel, the heavenly people, so she would be second in line. So Jacob served another seven years for Rachel, and then he left Laban's home and took his family back to his father's house in the land of Canaan.

In the antitype, the Holy Spirit is working for a complete period of time to procure a bride from the Church. The heavenly portion of the kingdom was offered to the Jews first: *"Thus says the Lord: Israel is My son, My firstborn."* (**Exodus 4:22**). Then the kingdom was offered to the Church following Israel's rejection.

Leah typifies Israel and Rachel typifies the Church. Jacob had to work seven years for each bride, a complete period of time — *"to the Jew first and then to the Greek."* The number *"seven"* in Scripture means "a complete period of time for that which is in view." Jacob therefore typifies Christ, coming in the form of a bondservant and working for a complete period of time to win Himself His bride. When the work of procuring a bride is complete, then the Church will be raptured, Christ will return for His bride, and take her to His Father's house in the kingdom of heaven. And just as Jacob loved Rachel more than he did Leah, so Christ Jesus loved the Church and sacrificed Himself for her.

This is a complete word-picture of God's plan in the search for the bride of Christ. After Christ ascended to heaven, the "one new man in Christ" was created, no longer made up of Jews or Gentiles — faith in Christ superseded the law, which is why Jacob loved Rachel more than he did Leah.

### **Example 9) Joseph** **Genesis 37:1**

Jacob loved Joseph the most of all his twelve sons because he was the oldest of the two who were born from Rachel. This is a picture of the unique relationship between God the Father and God the Son, especially as we would see it during the Lord's first advent with Jesus having been begotten during His Father's *"old age."* He made Joseph a tunic of many colors when he was seventeen years old, which led to the jealousy of his brothers. The tunic represented favoritism, first in line to acquire the inheritance. Within



this picture, Joseph's brothers typify the nation of Israel who nationally hated Christ "*for his dreams and for his words.*"

Joseph's dream looked forward to the day when his brothers in the land of Egypt during the seven years of famine would bow down before him, but looked forward even further to that Day when Israel, whom the brothers picture, will bow down and acknowledge the dominion of their brother Christ — the One whom they mistreated and sold into the hands of the Gentiles. When they were away from their father's house, the brothers sold Joseph to some Ishmaelites who were passing by on their way to Egypt.

*So it came to pass, when Joseph had come to his brothers, that they stripped Joseph of his tunic, the tunic of many colors that was on him. Then they took him and cast him into a pit. And the pit was empty; there was no water in it. And thy sat down to eat a meal. Then they lifted their eyes and looked, and there was a company of Ishmaelites, coming from Gilead with their camels, bearing spices, balm, and myrrh, on their way to carry them down to Egypt.*

*So Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is there if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? "Come and let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and let not our hand be upon him, for he is our brother and our flesh."*

*And his brothers listened. Then Midianite traders passed by; so the brothers pulled Joseph up and lifted him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty shekels of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt. (Genesis 37:23-28)*

The account of Joseph pictures for us a 2000 year history from the Lord's death, burial and resurrection to the forthcoming seven year Tribulation. The stripping of Joseph of his tunic is a picture of Christ's humiliation before His crucifixion, recorded in **Matthew 27:28, 29:**

*And they stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him. When they had twisted a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and a reed in His right hand. And they bowed the knee before Him and mocked Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!"*

The empty pit with no water into which Joseph was cast is a picture of Christ in the place of the dead. We also see Joseph being sold to the Ishmaelites for twenty shekels of silver, a picture of the very thing that Jeremiah prophesied would happen with Jesus when He was betrayed.

*Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying, "And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the value of Him who was priced, whom they of the children of Israel priced, and gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord directed me." (Matthew 27:9, 10; cf Jeremiah 32:6-9)*

This was a picture of Judas Iscariot's actions, one of the twelve disciples, who sought to betray his Brother for a small price of 30 pieces of silver, recorded in **Matthew 26:14-16**. And the Ishmaelites bearing spices, balm and myrrh was a picture of the spices used for Jesus' body after he was placed in the tomb (**Mark 16:1**).

The brothers went back to their father's house and told him that Joseph had been killed by a wild beast. They showed him the tunic that they had taken from Joseph and had covered in goat's blood. Jacob mourned for days as Joseph was his favorite.

The Ishmaelites took Joseph to Egypt and sold him as a slave to an officer of Pharaoh. But God protected Joseph and gave him the gift of prophecy in dreams and the ability to interpret them. And Joseph prospered in everything he did. So his master, the Egyptian officer, noticed that the Lord had blessed Joseph. And because of this, the officer made him an overseer of his household, all that he had. Therefore, the Lord blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake.

And it came to pass that the wife of the master Egyptian had eyes for Joseph because he was handsome. She made passes at him several times, but Joseph refused because he was loyal to his master and to the commandments of God.

*But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Look, my master does not know what is with me in the house, and he has committed all that he has to my hand."*

*There is no one greater in this house than I, nor has he kept back anything from me but you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?" (Genesis 39:8, 9)*

Joseph was faithful to his master and did not give in to temptation. His master trusted Joseph with his entire household, had blessed him, and was expecting Joseph to serve diligently, with loyalty in return. Likewise, Christ was faithful to His Father in doing His will. Because of this, the Father made Him ruler over His entire household (although He is not exercising this rule at the present time). And from the time Christ ascended to heaven, He has entrusted Christians with all of His goods, His Word and the Holy Spirit. Jesus taught His disciples about this in the parable of the faithful and evil servant, when He said,

*"Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing.*

*Assuredly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all his goods. But if that evil servant says in his heart, 'My master is delaying his coming,' and begins to beat his fellow servants,*

*and to eat and drink with the drunkards, the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him and at an hour that he is not aware of, and will cut him in two and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth." (Matthew 24:45-51)*

Jesus is speaking to Christians in this parable as He calls them "servants." God is the master who has entrusted Christians to serve His household, the family of God, i.e. the Church, by teaching them the meat of the Word. The meat of the Word is the higher knowledge surrounding Christ's second return and His millennial reign. It is important to rightly divide the Word of God concerning milk and meat doctrines. They are distinctly different and understanding them is a major part of correctly understanding Scripture. Plainly, milk is the doctrine concerning Jesus' first coming, which is the gospel of grace — belief in Christ for the salvation of the spirit with eternal verities in view. Then, meat is the doctrine that speaks of the second coming of Christ and the establishment of His kingdom, which is the gospel of glory

(also called the gospel of Christ or gospel of the kingdom) with millennial verities in view.

*For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.*

*Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection... (Hebrews 5:13-6:1)*

After one has been given the gospel of grace and has believed in Christ, God says that he *must* move on to maturity in the Word pertaining to the message of the kingdom and refrain from repeating the elementary principles of Christ. And the reason why one needs to move on to maturity is because the full knowledge concerning the kingdom to come prepares him for Christ's return. Otherwise, he will not have a full understanding and this will lead to confusion in the Scriptures and a life not prepared for Christ. He will be like the evil servant whose heart is not seeking Christ's return, but living a carnal life blinded by the world and its lusts. He will be deceived into thinking that "*My Master is delaying His coming*" (**2 Peter 3:4**), and will continue to eat, drink and play as if nothing of significance is going to happen. A Scriptural warning to "*watch out!*" is given for one who lives this way. The Lord will come as a thief in the night and he will not expect Him. The consequence will be dire.

After Joseph had resisted his master's wife, she plotted against him by telling her husband that it was Joseph who made passes at her. So the master put him in prison. But the Lord showed mercy towards Joseph and blessed him there. God put a desire in the keeper of the prison to befriend Joseph, thereby giving him authority over all the other prisoners. While he was in prison, he interpreted the prisoners' dreams they were having with the condition that the prisoners would make mention of this to Pharaoh so that Joseph would be released from prison. After two years went by, the Pharaoh also had a dream and a former prisoner remembered Joseph and told Pharaoh about him. So the Pharaoh released Joseph and he interpreted Pharaoh's dream precisely.

*And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Can we find such a one as this, a man in whom is the Spirit of God? Inasmuch as God has shown you all this, there is no one as discerning and wise as you.*

*You shall be over my house, and all my people shall be ruled according to your word; only in regard to the throne will I be greater than you." (Genesis 41:38-40)*

Within the overall type we have covered the rejection, death, burial and now resurrection of Christ. After Pharaoh rewarded Joseph to be co-heir, he gave him Asenath, an Egyptian, to be his Gentile bride. Joseph, who is a type of Christ, was exalted to the right hand of the ruler, taking a bride of Gentile lineage. And Joseph's brothers who plotted to kill him typify the nation of Israel, who also plotted to kill their brother Jesus. But God's plan through His Son will be to redeem the nation of Israel and to save the remnant out of the Tribulation, just as Joseph saved his brothers from the famine and tribulation that struck the entire ancient world.

The picture of Asenath as Joseph's Gentile bride follows the picture of death, burial and resurrection — a time of plenty. The seven years of plenty and the seven years of famine picture for us two complete periods of time. The years of plenty is associated with Man's Day, specifically the last 2000 years of this dispensation. Then the period of time associated with the seven years of famine typifies the Tribulation, *the time of Jacob's trouble*.

We will note that during the time of plenty, when Asenath is revealed to Joseph, his brothers are not in view, which pictures the setting aside of Israel during the period of time when Christ's bride is being sought and revealed. During this time, Joseph's two sons are born. Manasseh was the firstborn and through the association of his name with the "*father's house*" pictures for us the nation of Israel who is God's first adopted firstborn son, as we see recorded in **Exodus 4:22**,

*"Then you shall say to Pharaoh, 'Thus says the Lord: "Israel is My son, My firstborn."*

Ephraim was the second born and through the association of his name with "fruitfulness" in the land of Joseph's affliction, he would picture for us the

Church, and most particularly, those who would bring forth fruit for the kingdom.

Israel was created first as a son of God and adopted as a firstborn son, a status that remains current even though Israel's condition at present is in a state of disobedience or "sickness." Then the Church was born by a special creative act of God, also becoming sons of God, however their adoption as firstborn sons await the events that surround the Judgment Seat of Christ.

After the sons, Manasseh and Ephraim, are born, the seven years of plenty ended bringing in the seven years of famine. In the antitype, this represents all Christians being removed from the earth bringing in the Tribulation.

During the time when the famine was severe in all lands, Joseph's brothers had no choice, if they wanted to live, but to go to him to buy grain. In the same way, Christ's brothers, the nation of Israel, will have no choice during the Tribulation if they want to live but to cry out to the God of their fathers.

When Joseph's brothers first came to Egypt to buy grain Joseph recognized them, but they did not recognize Joseph, for he was allured in fine Egyptian clothing. So Joseph hid his identity from them and tested them, to learn whether his brothers had changed their ways. He accused them of being spies and kept them in prison three days. The number "three" in Scripture is the number for "*divine perfection and completion/resurrection.*" This timeframe is equivalent to the amount of days that Jesus suffered, died, was buried and resurrected. Likewise, it is the timeframe in which we must suffer and be tested in this world until Christ's return (awaiting our resurrection), which is the third day or the third one thousand-year period from Pentecost.

*"...and you shall be kept in prison, that your words may be tested to see whether there is any truth in you; or else, by the life of Pharaoh, surely you are spies!"*

*So he put them all together in prison three days. Then Joseph said to them the third day, "Do this and live, for I fear God..."*

**(Genesis 42:16-18)**

Following the *third* day, Joseph released them from prison and demanded that Benjamin, his full brother of younger age, be brought to him as a sign of

their honesty. The same will transpire on the third one-thousand year period when Christ returns. He will release and gather the captive Jews from across the globe and bring them back to their land.

So Joseph kept Simeon, one of the brothers, in prison until they brought Benjamin. The brothers realized that this test came from God as a punishment for their actions against Joseph and it was then that they had guilt for what they had done to him.

*Then they said to one another, "We are truly guilty concerning our brother, for we saw the anguish of his soul when he pleaded with us, and we would not hear; therefore this distress has come upon us.*

*And Reuben answered them, saying, "Did I not speak to you, saying, 'Do not sin against the boy'; and you would not listen?"*

*Therefore, behold, his blood is now required of us." But they did not know that Joseph understood them, for he spoke to them through an interpreter. And he turned himself away from them and wept."*  
**(Genesis 42:21-24)**

In the antitype, the nation of Israel will cry out to the Lord and repent at the end of the Tribulation. God will hear their cry and Christ will return. He will gather the elect from the four corners of the earth and bring them back to their land. And all of Israel (as a whole) will see the Lord and be redeemed.

All the brothers, except Simeon, went back to their father Jacob and informed him of what happened. Jacob was hesitant in letting Benjamin go as he feared for his son's life, the only son remaining from his wife, Rachel. But the famine was great and they needed food, so the brothers set off with Benjamin to Egypt. And when they arrived, Joseph spoke and dined with them. As they were leaving with the grain, Joseph tested them once again. This time he commanded his steward to place his silver cup in Benjamin's bag. When the brothers were barely outside the city, Joseph commanded his steward to follow, cease and accuse them of stealing his silver cup. When the steward accused them, the brothers denied any wrongdoing and they all dropped their bags for inspection.

And they said, *"With whomever of your servants it is found, let him die, and we also will be my lord's slaves."* (**Genesis 44:9**)

And when the steward pulled the cup from Benjamin's bag, the brothers in anguish tore their clothes and returned to Egypt. The tearing of the clothes was a sign of grief and mourning. They could not let Benjamin die, for their father would die of sorrow. So when they arrived in Egypt, they pleaded with Joseph for Benjamin's life and told him what their father Jacob had said,

*"You know that my wife bore me two sons; and the one went out from me, and I said,*

*Surely he is torn to pieces'; and I have not seen him since. But if you take this one also from me, and calamity befalls him, you shall bring down my gray hair with sorrow to the grave."* (**Genesis 44:27-29**)

Through the outworking of circumstances and events, Joseph's brothers acknowledged and accepted responsibility for their previous treatment of Joseph. It is following this confession that Joseph revealed himself to them. In the antitype, we have recorded in **Zechariah 12:10** the prophecy of Israel acknowledging their sin and mourning for Christ.

*"And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn."*

Joseph wept loudly and told them not to fear, for it was God's will that he ended up in Egypt. God worked through the brothers' evil actions to preserve not only Jacob's family but the lives of many throughout the world.

*And God sent me before you to preserve a posterity for you in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance.*

*So now it was not you who sent me here, but God; and He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.* (**Genesis 45:7, 8**)



In the antitype, God sent His Son in the flesh knowing that He would be crucified, to deliver the lives of many throughout the earth. This was done for a purpose, with a view to Christ ascending the throne, being made Ruler of all the earth and Lord of all of God's house in the kingdom.

Note that through all of Joseph's dealings with his brothers during their famine and tribulation, his Gentile bride, Asenath (a type of the bride of Christ), is never involved or present. This clearly shows that the bride of Christ (the Church) will not be involved or be present with Christ's dealings with His brethren, the nation of Israel. As Asenath did not suffer with Joseph's brethren, neither will the Church suffer with Israel or have any part in the Tribulation. The Church will be removed to heaven prior to the Tribulation on earth. Furthermore, the bride of Christ will not accompany Christ when He returns to earth for the second time to avenge his enemies and the evil one, but they will be in a place of safety in the heavenly kingdom.

After Joseph's father and his brothers settle in the land over which Joseph rules, Ephraim and Manasseh are blessed by his father Jacob. Recorded in **Genesis 48:3**, we see that Jacob adopts Joseph's sons as his own and in doing so, Ephraim and Manasseh each receive a full portion of the inheritance (**1 Chronicles 5:1**). With regards to the nation of Israel, Reuben was Israel's firstborn son and therefore in line to inherit the rights of the firstborn. However, as referenced in **1 Chronicles 5:1**, Reuben forfeited his firstborn right "*because he defiled his father's bed.*" Consequently, Reuben's birthright was divided amongst three of his brothers with rulership over the father's house being given to Judah, the priest in the father's house being given to Levi and the double portion of the inheritance was given to Joseph. The tribe of Judah then would produce the kingly line (Christ—**Revelation 5:5**); out of the tribe of Levi would come the priestly line (**Ezekiel 44:15**) and the tribe of Joseph would receive the double portion of the inheritance through Joseph's two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh (**Ezekiel 48:4**).

With regards to the twelve tribes of Israel ruling on the earth in that coming Day, we see in **Revelation 7:4-8** that Manasseh, who received a double portion of the earthly inheritance, replaced Dan. Dan's descendants previously had abandoned their faith concerning their inheritance (**Genesis 49:17; Deuteronomy 33:22**). Consequently, the tribe would not be able to

receive their offered inheritance because of their idolatry and disobedience against the Lord, for they sought to gain their own inheritance. (**Judges 18**)

Within the typological framework given to us through the account of Joseph's life, a clear word-picture is presented concerning the concluding events of the Tribulation when Jacob's adoption of Joseph's sons is realized with Israel and the Church, who is God the Father's adopted firstborn sons. Within the picture of Ephraim and Manasseh, each receives a full portion of the Father's inheritance — Israel receiving the earthly portion and the Church (bride of Christ) receiving the heavenly portion, fulfilling the type of the house of Joseph receiving the *double* portion.

During the Messianic Era, Christ as the Head, with Israel and the Church as firstborn sons of God, will rule over the Father's house as king-priests and will receive a double portion of the inheritance, either earthly or heavenly. Israel will be at the head of the nations, ruling on the earth. They will also be priests in the Millennial Temple in Jerusalem on the earth. This ministry as kings and priests will take place from within the land promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and will extend to the four corners of the earth as Israel's double portion. For the Church, the role of royal priesthood (king-priests) takes place from the heavens over the earth, thereby also demonstrating the double portion.

In **Genesis 48:13-20**, Jacob gives a greater blessing to Ephraim, even though Ephraim and Manasseh each receive an equal portion of the inheritance. According to Scripture, "*And thus he set Ephraim before Manasseh.*" Ephraim, the younger adopted son, is set before (set above in terms of status within the family) Manasseh the older adopted son. We see from our verses in **Genesis 48:14** that Jacob guided his hands knowingly to bless Ephraim above Manasseh and according to **Hebrews 11:22**, he did this "*by faith.*"

This indicates that God had revealed this to Jacob as His will, otherwise this blessing could not have been given "by faith." This presents a picture of the Church, the younger adopted son, being set before Israel, the older adopted son in terms of status within the family. Simply put, the Church's heavenly calling is a higher calling than Israel's earthly calling. Israel rejected the offer of the heavenly inheritance, the kingdom of the heavens, at Christ's first advent which the Church accepted. And because the Church received the

offer, they were given a much higher position as joint-heir with Christ, a position not given to Israel in terms of inheritance.

*But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them. (Hebrews 11:16)*

*“To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.”  
(Revelation 3:21)*

Following Jacob’s death, the brothers sent messengers to Joseph begging for forgiveness of their sin against him; for they feared now that their father was dead Joseph would take revenge. But Joseph wept and reassured them that he would continue to provide for them, saying:

*But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.  
(Genesis 50:20)*

God transformed the evil of Joseph's brothers into an exceedingly great work. Joseph’s actions saved the lives of numerous people in the ancient world, and Joseph was faithful until the end, in which he also testified to the power and goodness of the living God. God works His good and perfect plan even through the evil plans of people.

We are to heed the example of Joseph, who by faith, endured hardship and tribulation, knowing that God was with him and had a bigger and better plan for him. Joseph typifies Jesus, who by faith, endured persecution knowing that God had a much bigger plan for Him. We also are to follow the examples that Christ and Joseph left. We are to be ambassadors for God. The word *ambassador* means “house-manager;” proclaiming His message to His household. Joseph did not hide God's word, but revealed it to everyone, even to Pharaoh, and he was not ashamed or afraid to do so. When Pharaoh sent for him and asked him if it was true that he could interpret his dream, Joseph boldly answered Pharaoh, saying,

*“It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh an answer of peace.”  
(Genesis 41:16)*

And like Joseph, we are called to be sons of the light that shines in a dark place (the world), proclaiming the message of Christ's return to all Christians.

*And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts... (2 Peter 1:19)*

*Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:16)*

God is the Word and the Light and we are sons of the Light. Through the Word and the Spirit in us, we must bear witness of that Light.

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.*

*All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. (John 1:1-5)*

The prophetic Word *is* the Word of God which reveals all that the prophets have spoken concerning the age to come, primarily the second return of Christ and His millennial kingdom. It is the prophecy of the Word that God wants us to heed as a light, to proclaim to all in this world. This prophecy *is* the Word of the kingdom. It is not a separate doctrine, for it encompasses the entire Word of God. Because of the leaven that Satan placed within the Church, the Word of the kingdom became corrupted and distorted. However, the prophetic Word, the Word of the kingdom, the gospel of grace and the gospel of glory together *is* the *whole counsel of God*.

#### **Example 10) Moses**

##### **Exodus 2:1**

Seventy of Jacob's family was now in the land of Egypt. After Joseph and his brothers died, the children of Israel multiplied. After four hundred years, the number of Jews grew exceedingly great. The king of Egypt feared that the nation of Israel would take over the land, so he treated them harshly and made them slaves of hard labor. In order to stop the nation of Israel from

growing any further, Pharaoh commanded every Hebrew son born to be cast into the river Nile. It was then that Moses was born from the tribe of Levi.

His mother hid him for three months and then put him in a floating crib in the river. He was found by the Pharaoh's daughter who saw how beautiful he was and adopted him. And this was no coincidence. God had a purpose for Moses and therefore he was under His protection. God called on Moses to perform a great work. And Moses chose to do God's will, knowing the suffering that would follow, as he looked forward to a better reward. The faith of Moses was great and he lived his life to please God.

*By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's command.*

*By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasure in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. (Hebrews 11:23-26)*

In Acts 3:22, 23, Moses is revealed as a type of Christ:

*For Moses truly said to the fathers, "The Lord your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your brethren.*

*Him you shall hear in all things, whatever He says to you. And it shall be that every soul who will not hear that Prophet shall be utterly destroyed from among the people."*

The following points of analogy between Moses and Christ are evident:

- 1) Both Moses and Jesus were born at a time when the kings had commanded that the male children of Israel be put to death.
- 2) Moses was first rejected by his own brethren at his first coming. Jesus was also rejected by His brethren at His first appearing.

3) When Moses life was at risk, he arose on the third day and fled to a far country. When Jesus life was at risk, he arose from the dead on the third day and went into a far country, a heavenly country.

4) While Moses settled in a far country, he married a Gentile bride, Zipporah. While Christ is in heaven, He is taking out of the Gentiles a people for His name. On the 7<sup>th</sup> Day, Christ will settle in the heavenly country and be married to His bride (the Church).

5) The trials of the children of Israel became so severe in the wilderness during Moses' absence that they cried out to the Lord. The suffering of the children of Israel will become so severe during the Tribulation during Christ's absence that they will come to call upon the Lord.

6) God heard the cry of Israel, His firstborn son, and prepared to send Moses back to deliver them from bondage and persecution under the Assyrian Pharaoh. Likewise, God will hear the cry of the nation of Israel during the future Great Tribulation and prepare to send Christ back to deliver them from bondage and persecution under the Assyrian Antichrist.

7) Moses' Gentile wife, Zipporah (a type of the Church), did not have any part in the sufferings of the children of Israel during the Exodus, as she was sent to be with her father, Jethro (**Exodus 18:1, 2**—after this passage she is not mentioned again). Neither will the Church have any part in the seven year Tribulation while God deals with Israel nor will the Church return with Christ at the end of the Tribulation to war against the Gentile nations.

The accounts in the Books of Moses apply directly to Israel; however the Church has been given these accounts as an example when covering *the journey* of the Israelites from Egypt to the Land of Canaan. This dual message delivered to Israel and the Church has to do with one thing — redemption. It has to do with deliverance “out of the affliction and bondage of Egypt” (a type of the world) and deliverance unto “a land flowing with milk and honey” (a type of the kingdom).

Israel, under Moses, was delivered from Egypt *after* God had completed His ten judgments upon Egypt. After Moses returned from Median, after the *ten* plagues, after Israel’s appropriation of the blood of the paschal lambs, and

right before the complete destruction of power in Egypt, then Israel was restored.

In the antitype, Israel in the near future, will once again be delivered from their dispersion amongst the Gentile nations (out of the affliction and bondage of the world) and be delivered unto their land, the earthly kingdom. After the Tribulation, after Christ returns from heaven, after Israel has appropriated the blood of the paschal lamb (belief in the Lord) and immediately before the complete destruction of Gentile world power, then Israel will be restored.

During the Tribulation on earth, the Church is not in view. They will have been raptured to the heavens previous to God's dealings with Israel and the Gentile nations. And when Christ returns the second time to deliver the children of Israel out from the Gentile nations, the Church will not accompany Him. We see this when Moses returned to deliver the children of Israel out of Egypt, his Gentile bride Zipporah did not accompany him, as she was sent to her father. After Moses delivered Israel, he was reunited with his new, faithful bride, and so will our Lord be reunited with His newly chosen bride *after* He has dealt with Israel.

After Israel placed the blood of the paschal lambs over the doorposts showing their belief in the Lord, their "three days' journey" out of Egypt to the land of Canaan began.

*The Lord God of the Hebrews has met with us; and now, please, let us go three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the Lord our God. (Exodus 3:18)*

This account symbolizes the beginning of a Christian's three days' journey immediately after he places his belief in the Lord Jesus Christ. And just as we saw with Israel, this "three days' journey" that we need to make requires a lifestyle of self-sacrifice implemented day by day, looking for the rest out ahead of us. The three days' journey requires a two day period of choosing to crucify our flesh, which would enable us to function in that symbolized by the third day, the resurrection power of the spirit. In the third day, at the end of our journey, a rest is in view. Those who have been faithfully obedient to this calling will find themselves resurrected to a position of power with Christ in His heavenly kingdom.

The events with Israel during their passage through the Red Sea and the wilderness are examples for Christians, as **1 Corinthians 10:11** makes clear:

*Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.*

The crossing of the Red Sea typifies the place where the dead are to be buried and is the place occupied by the Gentile nations (“Sea” in Scripture meaning “Gentiles”). This experience is a picture of *baptism* — first as a burial, following a removal from the waters representing a resurrection.

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

A Christian’s baptism therefore symbolizes his commitment in putting to death his flesh, i.e., “the old man” and walking according to the Spirit, i.e., “the new man in Christ.” This journey lasts throughout the duration of a Christian’s lifetime. We will realize that our first birth, that which is born of the flesh (our sin nature) is connected to this world and therefore to the god of this world, Satan, putting it in opposition to the things of God. Therefore, nothing connected with our first birth will have any inheritance in the kingdom of the heavens.

Israel’s journey through the wilderness under Moses involved trials and testing. God allowed Israel to be tested for forty years to determine their faithfulness. Christians are being tested with trials and tribulation to determine their faithfulness as well. Our faithfulness or unfaithfulness is determined on whether we are being mindful of the things of God or if we are being mindful of the things of men (the flesh) and the world. We can see this matter with regards to Israel. God provided Israel all that was necessary for food on their journey to the Promised Land — the Manna from heaven. But Israel grew tired of it, longing instead for the cucumbers and the melons they ate in Egypt. They were being mindful of the things of men and of the world and not of God.

*We remember the fish we ate freely in Egypt, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions and the garlic; but now our whole being*



*is dried up; there is nothing at all except this manna before our eyes!...*

*Then Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, everyone at the door of his tent; and the anger of the Lord was greatly aroused; Moses also was displeased. (Numbers 11:6-10)*

Rejecting the Bread of Life that came down from heaven, preferring to eat what they were given in Egypt and forgetting that they were in bondage there, Israel was actually rejecting God.

Their continued disobedience finally led to their overthrow in the wilderness following their actions at Kadesh- Barnea. Likewise, Christians have been given the opportunity to choose whether they will be mindful of the things of God and not of men or of the world; whether they will desire what God has given them — the Bread of Life — to sustain them in their journey to the kingdom.

*Then Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man [referring to His Word] and drink His blood [referring to His Spirit], you have no life in you...*

*This is the bread which came down from heaven—not as your fathers ate the manna, and are dead. He who eats this bread will live forever.” (John 6:53)*

Another example of Israel’s disobedience in the wilderness is during the time when Moses went up to Mount Sinai to receive the laws of God. The Israelites looked away, fulfilling the desires of their flesh, because they perceived that Moses delayed coming down from the mountain. Their unfaithfulness resulted in the Israelites worship of the gold calf revealing their apostasy towards God.

*Now when the people saw that Moses delayed coming down from the mountain, the people gathered together to Aaron, and said to him, “Come, make us gods that shall go before us, for as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.” (Exodus 32:1)*

“*This Moses*” is spoken of in demeaning tones, reflecting Israel’s turn against him. They did not wait on God, that is, they did not continue their hope in Him. Tragically, they abandoned the living God for a false god at the very time that God was reaching out to them. It is the very exact thing that Christians do when they focus on the things of this world as oppose to the things of God. When they seek their fleshly desires first, they are making that their god, committing idolatry against the Lord. Christ had prophesied this in the parable of the faithful and evil servant in **Matthew 24:48, 49** when He said,

*But if that evil servant says in his heart, “My master is delaying his coming,” and begins to beat his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunkards...*

Again we see this in **2 Peter 3:3**:

*...knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, and saying, “Where is the promise of His coming?”*

Because of their continual disobedience, Israel faced their impending judgment in the desert. And just as it happened to Israel, so it will be with unfaithful Christians when they stand in judgment before the Lord.

Moses chose to suffer the indignities associated with God’s people, instead of embracing the worldly pleasures of Pharaoh’s kingdom. Christ Himself chose to suffer for the world in order that God’s will be done. Christians are to model Christ, which means choosing to suffer for doing God’s will. And like Moses and Christ, who obtained a good testimony through faith, we also are to move forward with faithful endurance having the hope of reward.

*And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us. (Hebrews 11:39, 40)*

**Example 11) Joshua**  
**Numbers 27:12**

Before Moses' death, God asked him to go up to Mount Abarim to see the Promised Land which He had given to the children of Israel, but not to enter. Moses had one request. He asked God to appoint a successor to guide the children of Israel into the land flowing with milk and honey.

*Then Moses spoke to the Lord saying: "Let the Lord, the God of the spirits of all flesh, set a man over the congregation, who may go out before them and go in before them, who may lead them out and bring them in, that the congregation of the Lord may not be like sheep which have no shepherd." (Numbers 27:15-17)*

There were two candidates who were considered to succeed Moses and lead the nation of Israel: Joshua and Caleb. God chose Joshua, because he was full of the Holy Spirit.

*And the Lord said to Moses: "Take Joshua the son of Nun with you, a man in whom is the Spirit, and lay your hand on him; set him before Eleazar the priest and before all the congregation, and inaugurate him in their sight. And you shall give some of your authority to him, that all the congregation of the children of Israel may be obedient. He shall stand before Eleazar the priest, who shall inquire before the Lord for him by the judgment of the Urim.*

*At his word they shall go out, at his word they shall come in, he and all the children of Israel with him--all the congregation." So Moses did as the Lord commanded him. He took Joshua and set him before Eleazar the priest and before all the congregation. And he laid his hands on him and inaugurated him, just as the Lord commanded by the hand of Moses. (Numbers 27:18-23)*

Are not all believers in God filled with the Holy Spirit? The moment one believes in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Messiah, his spirit is made alive by the Holy Spirit, Who dwells in him. However, the believer now has a choice whether he will allow the Holy Spirit to guide him into all Truth, or whether he will do nothing with the gift of the Holy Spirit, continuing to live a carnal life. God knew Joshua's heart and chose him to lead the children of Israel

into the land of Canaan. Joshua had allowed the Holy Spirit to work through him providing him the wisdom and guidance he needed to lead the people of Israel. The name "Joshua" (Hebrew *Jehoshua*) is an Anglicized form of the Hebrew name for "Jesus" (Greek *Iesous*). Joshua produced the fruit of the Spirit. Moreover, Joshua was an Israelite, from the tribe of Ephraim through Joseph, and had great faith. Caleb also possessed great faith in God, but was not an Israelite. He was a descendent from Esau through Kenaz (**Genesis 15:19**), a Kenizzite. But Caleb's wholehearted devotion to God was never in question, even in the wilderness, he wholly followed the Lord (**Joshua 14:8**); therefore, he inherited the land that he requested.

Joshua had been Moses assistant for many years and was taught by Moses. With this preparation, he lead Israel in much of the same way as Moses did. Both were leaders of the nation of Israel and both were Israelites. In comparing their leadership, both were reared in Egypt and became leaders at around the age of eighty years old. Both lead the people of Israel, one through the Red Sea and the other through the Jordan River. Both delivered a farewell address to the people of Israel and were called "the servant of the Lord." God's presence appeared both to Moses at the burning bush in **Exodus 3:5**, then again in **Exodus 33:12** and to Joshua before the destruction of Jericho in **Joshua 5:13**. Both were commanded to take off their sandals before His presence. With Joshua, the Man identified Himself as "the Commander of the Army of the Lord." This could be no other than Jesus Himself, for God's face became visible to human eyes only in the Man Jesus as **John 1:18** indicates,

*No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.*

*But He said, "You cannot see My face; for no man shall see Me, and live." (**Exodus 33:20**)*

*For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known. (**1 Corinthians 13:12**)*

As believers behold the glory of God in the Word of God, the Spirit transforms them into the likeness of Jesus Christ, and in the age to come, they will see God.

Jesus proclaims in **Matthew 5:8**,

*"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."*

The believer's hope today should be to see the Lord face to face. Although neither Moses nor any other human being was previously able to do so, there will come a time when all believers will be able to see God face to face!

*They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads. There shall be no night there. They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever. (Revelation 22:3-5)*

Both in the account of the Israelites under Moses at Kadesh-Barnea, and again thirty-eight years later under Joshua after the Israelites had crossed the Jordan River, the principle of faith and works is presented. The Israelites, in both instances, were to go into the land and drive out every inhabitant (**Deuteronomy 7:11ff**). They were to go into the land and possess it, believing that God would deliver the inhabitants (Nephilim) over to them (**Deuteronomy 7:23, 24**).

Though the Israelites would be slaying the enemy, acting by faith in God, the Lord would actually be slaying the enemy. The Lord would act ahead of them and deliver the enemies into their hands. However, under Moses at Kadesh-Barnea, failure to exercise faith in the Lord is seen. Twelve spies had been sent into the land to spy it out and bring back a report concerning the land and the inhabitants of the land, a land flowing with milk and honey that God would give them, even though the land was inhabited by the Nephilim, a people of gigantic stature.

Two of the spies, Caleb and Joshua, rendered a positive report concerning entering the land (**Numbers 13:30**). But the other ten spies followed with a negative and false report concerning entering the land (**Numbers 13:31**). The Israelites believed the false report of the ten spies and began to complain against Moses. They sought to appoint a new leader and return to Egypt (**Numbers 14:1-4**). Because of this, the Israelites *fell away* at Kadesh-Barnea. Israel committed a sin with which there was no repentance. And because this sin dealt with the land that God had covenanted to them, God was not going to change His mind.

The very next day, the nation of Israel under Moses repented (changed their minds) and sought to enter the land and defeat the enemy. But God did not repent, as He had to stay true to His word. At this point in the account, God was no longer among them with respect to taking the land. God would no longer act before them and deliver the enemy into their hands. As a result, the Israelites attempting to defeat the enemy the next day were themselves defeated and driven back. Their actions were their own, not the Lord's (**Numbers 14:40-45**). Their actions were not done in faith, according to that which the Lord had commanded.

For the next thirty-eight years, the entire generation of Israelites twenty years old and above, except Caleb and Joshua, died in the wilderness. Then, under Joshua, the Israelites were again to return and take possession of the land. This time the Israelites acted by faith in God, trusting that the Lord would deliver the enemy into their hands. After crossing the Jordan River, the first battle involved the destruction of Jericho. And the Israelites, believing God, experienced victory (**Joshua 6:1ff**). The Lord gave the victory. The battle is the Lord's.

Two million Jews were led out of Egypt, but *only two* were found worthy to enter the land of Canaan. Joshua and Caleb obeyed all that God had commanded them to do. They completed the journey and were able to cross over and inherit the land. The Word confirms that Christians will also inherit the kingdom of heaven *if* they obey all that God has commanded.

### **Example 12) Rahab**

#### **Joshua 2:1**

*By faith the harlot Rahab did not perish with those who did not believe, when she had received the spies with peace. (Hebrews 11:31)*

Rahab lived in Jericho, in the land of Canaan, a land that was devoted to the worship of the god, Baal. Within this cult, base sex worship was prevalent and religious prostitution even commanded as an act of supposed union with Baal, Asherath and other pagan deities (descendants of the Nephilims) under whose leader is Satan. Hence, could be why Rahab was a Canaanite prostitute. Human sacrifice was common in this satanic occult and it was a

frequent practice in an effort to placate their gods — to burn children alive. This is why Joshua cursed any attempts at re-building Jericho after its destruction:

*Then Joshua charged them at that time, saying, “Cursed be the man before the Lord who rises up and builds this city Jericho; he shall lay its foundation with his first-born, and with his younger he shall set up its gates.” (Joshua 6:26)*

Joshua’s curse found a dramatic fulfillment many centuries later when Hiel of Bethel laid its foundation and rebuilt Jericho’s gates at the cost of his children’s death, seen in **1 Kings 16:34**,

*In his days Hiel of Bethel built Jericho. He laid its foundation with Abiram his firstborn, and with his youngest son Segub he set up its gates, according to the word of the Lord, which He had spoken through Joshua the son of Nun.*

Rahab lived in the midst of this evil and immoral community. When the spies of Israel came to scout the city of Canaan, Rahab hid them from the king of Jericho to protect them. She and her family had heard of the God of Israel and how He had led the Israelites out of Egypt to give them the land of Canaan (**Joshua 2:8-10**). Her great faith and fear in God was pleasing to Him therefore He saved her and her family from death. Her actions made her part of God's people, ultimately placing her in the line of ancestry to David. As a result of her act of faith in the Lord, she later was honored by God with becoming a mother in the line of Jesus (**Matthew 1:5**).

By hiding the spies, Rahab assisted Israel with the conquest of Canaan, a task that God had blessed so that Israel could inherit the land. Rahab and her family believed in God and His plan for Israel, therefore she was given salvation. Before God had destroyed the city of Jericho, Rahab and her family were taken out safely and given the land as an inheritance.

Rahab spoke to the spies, saying,

*“And as soon as we heard these things, our hearts melted; neither did there remain any more courage in anyone because of you, for the Lord your God, He is God in heaven above and on earth beneath.*

*Now therefore, I beg you, swear to me by the Lord, since I have shown you kindness, that you also will show kindness to my father's house, and give me a true token, and spare my father, my mother, my brothers, my sisters, and all that they have, and deliver our lives from death." (Joshua 2:11-13)*

Rahab was to bring her family to her house and place a scarlet cord to hang out the window. Before God delivered the land of Jericho into the hands of Joshua (Israel) and destroyed the city, the spies went in, saw the scarlet cord outside of Rahab's window and delivered her and her family out of the city.

*And the young men who had been spies went in and brought out Rahab, her father, her mother, her brothers, and all that she had. So they brought out all her relatives and left them outside the camp of Israel. But they burned the city and all that was in it with fire.*

*Only the silver and gold, and the vessels of bronze and iron, they put into the treasury of the house of the Lord. And Joshua spared Rahab the harlot, her father's household, and all that she had. So she dwells in Israel to this day, because she hid the messengers whom Joshua sent to spy out Jericho. (Joshua 6:23-25)*

Rahab, a Gentile, is a *type* of saved Gentile during the Great Tribulation, acting in the realm of faith. And like Rahab, those who act by faith in God will be rewarded as first-born sons and heirs to the kingdom of heaven. The story of Rahab provides us with a picture of the events that will take place with respect to a considerable number of saved Gentiles during the last three and a half years of the Tribulation, years that lead into the total destruction of Gentile world power. Rahab represents those saved Gentiles who act by faith during this period of unparalleled persecution.

Rahab's confession of faith in the living God and her good works of receiving the spies with peace brought about her transformation from a Gentile prostitute living in sin to a believer living by faith. And because of her faith in God and her blessings to Israel, Rahab became part of Abraham's seed unto salvation and an heir to the inheritance.

It is also of importance to note the timing God set for the destruction of Jericho and how it relates to the timing of the coming Tribulation.



*And the Lord said to Joshua: "See! I have given Jericho into your hand, its king, and the mighty men of valor. You shall march around the city, all you men of war; you shall go all around the city once.*

*This you shall do six days. And seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. But the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets.*

*It shall come to pass, when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when you hear the sound of the trumpet, that all the people shall shout with a great shout; then the wall of the city will fall down flat. And the people shall go up every man straight before him."*  
**(Joshua 6:2-5)**

Joshua did as the Lord commanded, waiting until the seventh day to blow the trumpets and attack the city:

*But it came to pass on the seventh day that they rose early, about the dawning of the day, and marched around the city seven times in the same manner. On that day only they marched around the city seven times. And on the seventh time it happened, when the priests blew the trumpets, that Joshua said to the people: "Shout, for the Lord has given you the city!"* **(Joshua 6:15, 16)**

The events that took place with the destruction of Jericho portray a word-picture of that which will occur at the end of this age. For six days (six thousand years), God has been preparing for Christ's kingdom, to conquer the Gentile nations and the devil, and to make Christ Jesus King over the earth. On the seventh day (seventh one thousandth year), an angel will blow the seventh trumpet marking the end of the seven years of Tribulation and the beginning of Christ's kingdom, with triads of angels proclaiming, *the kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!* **(Revelation 11:15c, d)**

The future rebuilt Babylon along with all Gentile world kingdoms of this age will be brought down, referred to as *Babylon's fall* **(Revelation 18:1-24)** as well as Jerusalem because of their association with "Babylon."

Ancient Babylon was the proverbial seat of apostasy and idolatry. It was the principal city of ancient paganism. And it was there that the people, under Nimrod (meaning “rebel” ruler, a “mighty one on the earth,” i.e. Nephilim), began to build the Tower of Babel for the purpose of forming a new world order. But Babylon became a site of confusion because there the Lord confused the language and scattered the people, as they wanted to glorify themselves and do their own will. Therefore, Babel or Babylon serves as a name and symbol in the Bible for activities directed against God by the nations of the earth. At the end of this age, God will once again find the nations under these conditions. You do not have to look hard to see that we are living in a type of Babylon today.

And like Rahab, those individuals coming out of the Gentile nations who place their faith in the Lord during the Tribulation and endure “until the end” will be found worthy to receive the inheritance in the age to come. We see this pictured in **Matthew 25:31-46** in the judgment of the Gentile nations. A judgment of these saved individuals who come out of the Tribulation alive, as with those slain in **Revelation 20:4-6**, occurs when Christ returns. And, during this judgment of saved Gentiles, the faithful will be allowed to enter the kingdom, but the unfaithful will be turned away.

Rahab's actions demonstrated great courage and faith in God while in the midst of a Babylon-like city (Jericho) whose people were against God. Today, the nations of the world are representative of Babylon, with its selfish ambitions, pride and arrogance, the love of money and material consumption — all of which have become the people's god. World leaders today are no different than the men of ancient Babylon, carousing during the day, worshiping false gods at night, and conspiring together to form a new world order without the leadership of God. These leaders are under the rule of Satan and his seed, men who came from the lineage of the “Giants” or “Nephilims,” (born from the fallen angels who had relations with the daughters of men). They have the money and power to control governments and people across the globe. They have drawn the majority of the population through the deceitfulness of television, radio, and the internet, having been blinded by Satan through the lusts of the world. Christ prophesied saying,

*“Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find the faith on the earth?” (Luke 18:8)*

Jesus' question in **Luke 18:8** denotes a negative answer, for He knows that He will *not* find the faith on the earth when He returns. The prophecies written in the Word have told us that in the end times the love of many will grow cold for Christ and very few will be looking for Him. Do we see this today? Most assuredly, yes. Though Christians will be removed from the earth to heaven before the Tribulation begins, in order to obtain Millennial life in God's heavenly land, Christians must follow Rahab's example by being faithfully obedient to the Lord in hope and fear, awaiting Christ's return and the establishment of His kingdom.

### *Example 13) Ruth*

After Joshua's death, the nation of Israel fell into disobedience; they did not follow God's command to complete the conquest of the land. The altars of the Canaanites (Nephilim) remained and the Israelites dwelt among them, something that the Lord told them not to do. Because of this, the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord, and served the Baals (**Judges 2:11-15**). Therefore, God sold them into the hands of their enemies. Despite Israel's apostasy, God provided deliverers, the judges, when Israel cried out for help. The story of Ruth takes place during the times of the judges --- a period filled with extreme spiritual and moral decay in Israel.

The story of Ruth is one of the most inspiring stories in the Word. Ruth was a Gentile who married into a Jewish family. Ruth's mother-in-law, Naomi, was an Israelite from Bethlehem and had moved to Moab when the famine struck. But after Naomi's husband and two sons died (signifying Israel's death, set aside as a nation), she told her two daughter-in-laws, Ruth and Orpah, that she would return to her land in Bethlehem for she had heard that there was bread there.

It was during this time that Ruth and Orpah were given the choice to go from the land of their birth to the land of their calling. For Christians, it is understanding the goal of their spirit salvation — to journey to that heavenly calling of the kingdom. Therefore, they both chose to journey to Bethlehem with her. But in the course of their journey, Naomi insisted that they go back to Moab, each at their mother's house as she could no longer provide husbands for them. In the antitype, Christians also have been told in the Word of God that the journey to the salvation of their soul is not an easy

road, but one filled with trials and suffering. Orpah chose to return to Moab, but Ruth was determined to go with Naomi and follow her beliefs and her people to Bethlehem.

*Ruth said, "Entreat me not to leave you, Or to turn back from following after you;*

*For wherever you go, I will go; And wherever you lodge, I will lodge;*

*Your people shall be my people, and your God, my God. Where you die, I will die, and there will I be buried.*

*The Lord do so to me, and more also, If anything but death parts you and me." (Ruth 1:16)*

The Book of **Ruth** provides a complete word-picture of the Church and the journey to the Millennial kingdom. It begins with our new birth, the salvation of the spirit, pictured when Ruth and her sister-in-law Orpah became members of a Jewish family by marriage. The moment of our new birth, we, Christians, become part of a Jewish family as a result of Christ's death and shed blood, as we see in **Galatians 3:29**,

*And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.*

The mother-in-law, Naomi, who is a type of the nation of Israel, also represents that which came through the nation — the Scriptures. Following Ruth and Orpah's marriage to her sons (their new birth), Naomi informs them of the land of their calling. Likewise, after an individual has believed in the Lord and his spirit has been made alive, he must have a proper understanding of the goal of his spirit salvation, knowing as to why he is to reach the heavenly land. Following their new birth, Ruth and Orpah chose to believe in the Word of the kingdom and journey with Naomi. Ruth faithfully wanted to continue the journey with Naomi to the end. But Orpah fell back when she decided to return to her land in Moab, a type of the world.

This typifies two types of Christians --- faithful and unfaithful (carnal). One will overcome and the other will be overcome. One will finish the race, the other will not. One will possess salvation of the soul and the other will lose their soul in the age to come. The story of Ruth is very similar to that of

Abraham, in that both had forsaken their family and homeland in response to following God's calling. Both were called out of their country to go to a land that God would show them.

The story continues now solely with Ruth, a new believer in *the faith*, to teach us the path of overcoming and reaching our goal. It is so important that Christians, after they have received Christ, be told why they have been saved, for what purpose, and be given instructions on their spiritual journey so that they may overcome and finish the race to the kingdom. Ruth understood what it meant to travel to a foreign land, for Naomi had told her that God was there giving bread to all. Likewise, Christians must know the reason for the journey — to receive the Bread of Life, and the glory.

How can a new believer successfully make the journey to a foreign land, a heavenly land, if he does not know why he has been saved? In addition, how can he overcome the world, the flesh and the devil if he has no belt of truth — no armor of God? Satan attacks Christians from the moment they are saved because they are a threat to his rulership position, and more so to those Christians who are mature, those who have the knowledge of the kingdom and seek to gain the inheritance. This is evident in Scripture when Satan attacked Jesus right after He was baptized by John the Baptist:

*When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him.*

*And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. "Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. (Matthew 3:16-4:1)*

Even Jesus, when He was tempted by the devil, did not revile back but used the sword of the Spirit (the Word of God) to resist him, acting in obedience to God's commands. Likewise, Christians are to be strong in the Lord, by and through the study of His Word and act in accordance to His commands. This is how Christians can successfully make the journey to the heavenly kingdom.

When Naomi and Ruth arrived in Bethlehem at the beginning of barley harvest, Ruth notices Boaz and seeks to work in his field. As Ruth gleans in

the field, Boaz notices her. To *glean* means to “gather up” and the *field* references “a land.” Therefore, Ruth was being fruitful for Boaz (a type of Christ) in his land. When Boaz noticed this, he gave her these instructions:

*Then Boaz said to Ruth, "You will listen, my daughter, will you not? Do not go to glean in another field, nor go from here, but stay close by my young women. Let your eyes be on the field which they reap, and go after them." (Ruth 2:8, 9)*

- 1) He told her not to glean in another field,
- 2) He told her not to leave from there,
- 3) He told her to stay close by his young women
- 4) He told her to keep her eyes on the field which they reap
- 5) He told her to follow them.

Ruth did as Boaz commanded. She worked in Boaz’s field from morning to evening, showing a complete period of time. For Christians, this would represent the time covered from the moment of their new birth to the time of their physical death or rapture. Christians, immediately after their new birth, are to work in the part of the field that belongs to Christ. In order to qualify as Christ's bride, Christians also are to be fruitful through the Spirit in preparation for Christ's kingdom and to stay close with His group, who are believers of “the faith,” looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

If we associate ourselves with others outside of the family of faithful believers, then we will be tempted to fall away from the Word and from the goal of our calling. We are to work or produce fruit for the kingdom, allowing the Spirit to work through us. The “works” that we are to do relates to being faithfully obedient to the Word of God and is the same as “walking in the Spirit” or “walking in the light” and not the flesh. Works of the flesh are never pleasing to the Lord, as these works do not glorify God but only glorify man; they are not done according to His will.

Ruth was to keep her eyes focused on Boaz’s land. Likewise, the Word of God says Christians are to keep their eyes focused on His land, the heavenly land, and to go after this, working to receive the full reward of the heavenly kingdom.

*Look to yourselves, that we do not lose those things we worked for, but that we may receive a full reward. (2 John 8)*

Ruth fell to the floor and asked Boaz why he had accepted her, since she was a foreigner. Ruth was not an Israelite, but a Moabite. But Boaz reassured her that she was no longer a foreigner, but belonging to the same family as Israel and Israel's God. Because of Christ's death and shed blood, Christians are made "a new man in Christ." And since Christ is Abraham's seed, Christians also become Abraham's seed and therefore all part of the same family of God.

Boaz explained that he favored her because of her blessings and loyalty to Naomi, a type of Israel and the Scriptures, and because by faith in God she had left her home and family to go with Naomi to a strange land.

*And Boaz answered and said to her, "It has been fully reported to me, all that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband, and how you have left your father and your mother and the land of your birth, and have come to a people whom you did not know before. The Lord repay your work, and a full reward be given you by the Lord God of Israel, under whose wings you have come for refuge." (Ruth 2:11, 12)*

Likewise, Christians who leave all to follow Christ will receive a full reward as we see in **Matthew 19:29**,

*And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal [age-lasting] life.*

Within the Old Testament, God provides examples that may have secondary applications to its teachings. For instance, in **Ruth 2:11, 12**, Ruth left all to follow Naomi, a type of Israel. Ruth was obedient to God's covenant to Abraham when He said, "I will bless those who bless you, and curse those who curse you" (**Genesis 2:3**). Ruth blessed Naomi, a type of Israel, and dwelt with her even after they entered Bethlehem. Why bless Israel? Because Israel was given the promises, the Word of God, and from them came the Messiah, and they in turn will be Jehovah's witnesses to the ends of the earth. The Gentiles have been 'grafted in' among the Jews; and if any Gentile bears any fruit at all to the glory of God, it is because it came first

from the Jewish roots and out through the Gentile branch (**Romans 11:16-25**)

*In your seed (Israel) all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice. (Genesis 22:18)*

Only by the blessings of Israel will all the other nations be blessed. God has called both Jesus and Israel His firstborn, One begotten and one adopted. And through Christ, the Church is also His firstborn through adoption.

Jesus as Firstborn:

*For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. (Romans 8:29)*

Israel as firstborn:

*Thus says the Lord, "Israel is My son, My firstborn." (Exodus 4:22)*

Church as firstborn:

*But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel. (Hebrews 12:22-24)*

Therefore, all three: Jesus, Israel and the Church are God's firstborn Sons. The Christian, through Christ, acquires a family relationship with Israel. God recognizes the Christian as a wild olive tree that was grafted in to the good olive tree (Israel). Naomi, in this case, gave Ruth instructions just as the Jewish prophets gave instructions to the Gentiles by and through the Word of God. And Ruth obeyed all that she said. Naomi instructed her on sanctification, to prepare herself for Boaz, a type of Christ. Another example to show that Naomi was a type of Israel is when she mentioned to Ruth that



Boaz was a close relative of hers. Scripture calls God the Redeemer (“close relative”) of Israel in **Isaiah 60:16** and Jesus the Redeemer of all believers in **1 Peter 1:18, 19**. Therefore, Boaz (a type of Christ) was a close relative of Naomi (a type of Israel and the Scriptures). Ruth clung to Naomi; and Christians must also cling to the Scriptures in order to be properly prepared for Christ.

The first application of Naomi as *a type of Israel* is presented with Ruth (Christians) blessing Israel and hearing the prophets. The second application of Naomi as *a type of the Scriptures* is presented with Ruth (Christians) allowing the Holy Spirit to lead and hearing the Scriptures.

Ruth, at this point in the type, has worked in Boaz’s field throughout the time of the harvest. She was allowed to bring forth fruit in relation to the kingdom, allowed to glean a provided harvest in the field. Yet, she waited upon the Lord of the harvest to supply the grain (individuals), and at the same time, she kept her eyes on the field while walking in the Spirit (dying to flesh) and patiently enduring trials. After Ruth had gleaned in the field throughout the day, she “beat out what she had gleaned,” leaving about an “ephah of barley” (**Ruth 2:17**). After gathering the grain left for her, she worked with that which she had gleaned, removing the grain from the stalk until the valuable part alone remained.

And so it is with Christians today. They are not to confine themselves to just one part of their servitude to Christ in the field (the land, the world). In other words, they are not to cease their work following the message of salvation by grace through faith. Rather, once a person has been saved, they are then to proclaim the message surrounding the gospel of the glories of Christ. They are to continue this work until individuals have been brought from immaturity to maturity, until they have been brought to maturity in the Word of the kingdom.

So Ruth chapter two, dealing with the harvest, covers one part of the picture of the Christian working in the field. The beginning of chapter three deals with preparation for meeting the Lord on His threshing floor at the end of the harvest, and covers another *inseparably related* part of the picture --- together having to do with an inheritance in another land.

Naomi proceeded to instruct Ruth on how to prepare herself for meeting Boaz at the threshing floor at the end of the harvest, to show that she wanted to be his bride. This typifies Christians preparing themselves in this life for the end of the age, when they will stand before Christ at His judgment seat showing their works for the qualification as His bride.

*Then Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, "My daughter, shall I not seek rest for you, that it may be well with you? Now Boaz, whose young women you were with, is he not our relative? In fact, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor. Therefore wash yourself and anoint yourself, put on your best garment and go down to the threshing floor...." (Ruth 3:1-3)*

This is how Ruth answers her:

*And she said to her, "All that you say to me I will do." (Ruth 3:5)*

Ruth truly was an overcomer. She represents faithful Christians who have made the choice to abide in God's word and who say, "All that you say to me I will do."

Christians are to be preparing as Ruth did. It is evident that the Book of Ruth typifies the Church from the beginning to the end. The "rest" that Naomi refers to signifies the "Sabbath Rest" or the "7th Day," the "Millennial Kingdom," as seen in **Hebrews 4:1**:

*Therefore, since a promise remains of entering His rest, let us fear lest any of you seem to come short of it.*

Preparation for meeting Christ at His judgment seat is presented in **Ruth 3:3** when Naomi instructs Ruth to do three things: *wash thyself...anoint thyself...put on thy best garment.*

#### **WASH THYSELF:**

Washings were part of the Mosaic Law performed by the Levitical priests, priests from the tribe of Levi. A one-time initial washing of the complete body was done. Because they possessed a sin nature and ministered under these conditions, the need for continual partial washings of the hands and feet

were necessary. And the same process was done again when Jesus washed the disciple's feet at the Last Supper, in order to cleanse them and prepare them for the kingdom. And Christ, who died for our sins and thoroughly cleansed us from all unrighteousness, is in heaven acting as Mediator for us, as our High Priest according to the order of Aaron. Christ's present ministry is for the "one new man in Christ;" for the saved and not the unsaved. Christians received a complete washing at the time they were saved, based on Christ's past work at Calvary. Then, Christians must be washed daily, through Christ, from all unrighteousness. In other words, they must confess their sins to the Lord so that He will forgive them of their sins and cleanse them. This is part of their preparation. And, apart from these continual partial washings, Christians can have no part with Christ in His future kingdom (**John 13:8, 10**).

*But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*

**(1 John 1:7-9)**

We find in the Book of **1 John** the teachings of washing or cleansing oneself through confession of sin in order to have a relationship with Christ and ultimately to have a part with Him in the kingdom. And if we say we do not sin, then we are not speaking the truth, as the Word so testifies:

*If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us. (1 John 1:10)*

The Word says that everyone sins, as all are born with a sin nature:

*And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins....*  
**(Ephesians 2:1)**

Not until we have overcome and have received our glorified bodies in the kingdom will we be completely without sin. Therefore, we confess our sins to the Lord and practice putting it away, allowing the Spirit, whom Christ made alive in us, to transform us.

*ANOINT THYSELF:*

The Old Testament prophets used oil to anoint themselves in order for the Holy Spirit to come upon them. "Oil" in Scripture refers to the Holy Spirit. In the parable of the wise and foolish virgins in **Matthew 25:1-13**, all ten virgins had the same amount of oil in their lamps, but only five of them had an extra supply of oil in their vessels along with their lamps, qualifying them to be ready for the Lord, the Bridegroom, and enter the kingdom. The other five virgins did not make it into the kingdom because they were not prepared. Another important issue to address is that all ten were "virgins," meaning all ten were *saved*.

The moment we are saved, we receive the oil, the Holy Spirit, indwelling in us. However, not all Christians are filled with that extra oil or Spirit. Only if we allow the Spirit to work through us, to bring us to a mature understanding of the Word, to teach us all things and lead us into all truth, will we have that extra filling of the Holy Spirit.

*But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring your remembrance all things that I said to you. (John 14:26)*

*However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth, for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears (from the Lord) He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me (Christ Jesus), for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. All the things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you. (John 16:13-15)*

*Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. (2 Corinthians 1:21)*

We therefore have the Spirit in us, but we are not automatically *filled* with the Spirit. We have the choice to fill it or not. Just as all Christians have a heavenly calling, we also have the choice whether we want to be a part of that calling and make the journey. Spiritual growth unto maturity is equally related to being filled with the Spirit. This is a requirement for Christians if

they are to be prepared for meeting Christ at His judgment seat and to qualify as His bride.

*PUT ON THY BEST GARMENT:*

Naomi was instructing Ruth to be prepared to meet her bridegroom; therefore a future wedding was in view. And in order for her to be accepted, she had to put on her wedding garment. Likewise, Christians must have on their wedding garment before they can be accepted by the Bridegroom, Christ. This wedding garment is known as "*the righteous acts of the saints*," noted in **Revelation 19:7, 8**. Being righteous means "right living," being like Christ, the Light, holy and acceptable to God.

*Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous. (1 John 3:7)*

One can obtain righteousness through practice. Only by knowing Christ can we be like Him.

*Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life." (John 8:12)*

As the believer lives by faith, God continues to save him from the power of sin to live righteously. This is accomplished by first confessing our sin (**washing ourselves**), spiritual growth unto maturity; allowing the Holy Spirit to teach us all things by and through the study of the Word of God (**anointing ourselves**) and finally, working daily to live righteously through faith in Jesus Christ and looking forward to His return and to be His bride. This also involves faith through trials, tribulations and through spiritual warfare. And this daily work is the righteous acts (**putting on the wedding garment**) which will be required at His Judgment seat.

Appearing before Christ at His judgment seat without a wedding garment will result in not entering the wedding festivities and not becoming His bride. This is presented in the Parable of the Wedding Feast in **Matthew 22:1-14**:

*So he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into*

*outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "For many are called, but few are chosen."*

In the parable of the wedding feast, the king is Jesus Christ who calls the man, "friend." Therefore, this man was eternally saved, for Christ would not call an unsaved individual His friend. Besides that, the man was in heaven. The unsaved will not be raptured to heaven at Christ's return. Because this believer was unprepared, the king declared him unworthy. This resulted in the believer being sent out of the banquet hall and into outer darkness (darkness outside of the kingdom). And the man began to weep and gnash his teeth in deep despair. For many are called to Christ's wedding, but only those who heed His call and come prepared will be chosen as His bride.

Clear instructions concerning the necessary preparation have been given in the Word of God. For those Christians who ignore these instructions, there are clear warnings for them in the Word which will occur at the end of this age. Christians who do not believe that these warnings apply to them have placed a veil over their eyes, have put wax in their ears and as Paul called the Galatians, are "foolish," meaning "*stupid*" in the Greek. The Day will come when they will find themselves naked and cast out.

After Ruth prepares herself to meet Boaz by washing, anointing, and putting on her wedding garment, she is to wait until he is done eating and drinking and he has laid down to rest, then she is to lay down next to him and wait for him to tell her what to do next. In like manner, Christians, after they have prepared themselves by washing (confessing of sin), anointing (seeking the Word to maturity and allowing the Holy Spirit to teach), and putting on the wedding garment (righteous works done according to the Spirit), they are to eagerly hope and wait for the return of our Lord Jesus Christ, until He has finished building His kingdom and He is ready to enter into His rest. When that Day of rest has come, they will be told what to do next, at the Judgment seat of Christ.

Boaz awoke at midnight to see Ruth lying next to him. The word "midnight" in Scripture usually denotes judgment. So this is when the beginning of judgment for Ruth would take place, presenting a word-picture of Christians standing before Christ at His judgment seat. Boaz is pleased with Ruth and tells her that she is blessed by all that she has done for him. He in turn will reward her and give her all that she has requested. But first, he had to offer

her and the land of her father to a closer relative, due to the custom in those days. If the closer relative refused to redeem her, then he would gladly do it.

Like Ruth, Christians who eagerly wait for Christ's return will also be blessed and be rewarded. At His judgment seat, Christ will be the One worthy to redeem both man and the land. He will take the scroll from God the Father, who is the closer relative. An exact occurrence of this is pictured in **Revelation** chapter **five**.

Boaz proceeded to redeem Ruth by speaking to the closer relative. He offered the relative to buy back the land, but he also must redeem Ruth, a Moabite (Gentile). The relative said he could not, otherwise he would ruin his own inheritance. So Boaz was the next in line worthy to redeem Ruth and the land.

Likewise, Jesus Christ takes the scroll from God the Father. God the Father, the close relative, gave Christ the authority to redeem both man and the earth for two reasons:

1) God could not redeem the Church as His wife because Israel is already God's wife. (**Jeremiah 3:1, 14, 20**)

2) Christ was found worthy by the shedding of His blood to acquire the land and the Church, His wife.

And just as Boaz and the closer relative had witnesses present, so also Christ and God will have witnesses present before the throne to acknowledge the redemption of the inheritance:

*Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song... (Revelation 5:8, 9)*

The witnesses for Boaz:

*And all the people who were at the gate, and the elders, said, "We are witnesses. The Lord make the woman who is coming to your house*

*like Rachel and Leah, the two who built the house of Israel: and may you prosper in Ephrathah and be famous in Bethlehem. (Ruth 4:11)*

Therefore Boaz redeems Ruth and takes her for his wife, just as Christ will take out the faithful ones from the Church as His wife and redeem the earth.

And just as Ruth became the heir to the Davidic line, the Messianic line, so also will the bride of Christ. The bride of Christ, whom God will transform into a spirit of glory, will reign with Christ as His bride for one thousand years, as heirs to the Davidic line, the Messianic line.