

THE JUDGMENT THAT HAS COME BY THE CROSS

**By
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Lesson 1 – The Dividing Work of The Cross

We will be speaking of God's tremendous and righteous Judgment that took place at the Cross. Jesus Himself said in **John 12:31**: *"Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out."* And the Greek word there is KRISIS (Strong's #2920) which firstly means a decision for or against. And at the Cross an important, Eternal Judgment took place. And it is this Judgment that we as believers are continually being brought to. And as the Lord continues to appear in you, and makes Himself known to you as Life: the only Life you have; you will be brought up against the Judgment – the decision for or against that God made known at and by The Cross of Christ. Most of us, even as Christians, are expecting there to be a future Judgment when we "stand before God" and our Eternal fate will be decided by the "good and bad things" that we have done. But God's Judgment that took place at the Cross is much greater than just deciding because of the things that we have done: between good and bad. Tremendous, Eternal decisions took place by that Cross, and there are Eternal consequences because of that Judgment. And by the Judgment that took place by The Cross, God has rightly divided many things; and friends, all things in this world and in Heaven are affected by this tremendous Judgment and the division that took place by The Cross of Christ. This is how great the Cross of Christ really is because at the Cross God's great Judgment was between the LIVING AND THE DEAD: not between good and bad; but between what was Eternally dead to God, and what was Eternally alive not only to Him, but in union with Him.

And this division, this Judgment that took place at the Cross historically more than two thousand years ago, now takes place in our hearts as the

words of the Bible, and more importantly as the very Person of the Word of God Himself in our souls: as He makes Himself known in us as The Truth. **Hebrews 4:12:** *“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”* The Word of God is living and operative, and it is to be working continually in our hearts. What is important for us to understand is that the Judgment: God’s decision separating the living and the dead that God executed at The Cross – once, and which is now settled in heaven, now works in us –in our souls. As we have often said, God was not just judging sin at the Cross or what is right from wrong actions; but God was judicially judging all things pertaining to the first man, the first world, the first covenant. And by the Cross He also was separating what were types and shadows, promises and prophecies, true things about Him and The Truth: the Reality that God has now established forever in Christ.

And I want to stress that what God judged and put away from Himself remains that way. God’s judgment is deep, is Eternal, is right, and is settled. We cannot change God’s Judgment: we can only accept it or reject it. And I pray we will fully embrace God’s Judgment at the Cross, and allow that Judgment to take place in our hearts. And when we do, there will be a dividing in us: separating Life from death, separating Christ from what is not Christ: what is still me. And although most of us do not like to be brought to “Judgment” because it is so definite, this Work is necessary so that we can walk in the fulness of our Salvation, in what the Scriptures declare is “Newness of Life”. May we truly see what God has separated from Himself and put away, and may we accept His Judgment and allow these things to be taken away from us.

In the Old Testament we read in Exodus 14 of Israel coming out of Egypt by the mighty hand of God opening the Red Sea. At that time Israel saw the Egyptians dead, and they were glad they were: but in their own hearts they were still alive, and wanted their own lives even though they wanted God to bless them and provide for them in the New Land. Even though they had been delivered by the death of the Lamb, which to God represented THEIR DEATH, they never saw themselves as dead by that Lamb, and now only alive by God. So the first Judgment we must come to is: who lives? In the Truth of the Cross, who is dead and who is

alive? We have to come to this Judgment, this decision. **II Corinthians 5:14:** *"For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead."*

But I'm not talking about quoting a Scripture or making a doctrinal statement. I'm talking about accepting God's Judgment against mankind at the Cross: accepting God's righteous Judgment against ME! God promised this death to Adam in the garden if he ate of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. **Genesis 2:17:** *"But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."* Adam ate and was separated from God under the sentence of death, but in Adam God saw all mankind and what Adam did affected all men. Because God saw all of the first creation man in Adam. **Romans 5:12:** *"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned."* And when Jesus came and went to the Cross He carried out that Judgment: that sentence of death that was upon the first man Adam and all mankind. **Hebrews 9:26:** *"For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. 27: And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: 28: So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation."* Jesus appeared in the likeness of sinful flesh to put away sin and the man of sin according to God's Judgment. So Christ was offered on the Cross to execute this Judgment: the decision God had already made concerning the first man being dead to Him.

And this is a division that God will work in our hearts. The Cross divides the first man from the second. But we have to understand God's sharp division between first and second man, and accept God's judgment as right. **I Corinthians 15:45:** *"And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. 46: Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. 47: The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven."* The first man is only a living soul, natural, earthy. The second man is not like the first man! The second man is the Lord from heaven! He is Spirit and living! This is not "the bad me" and "the good me". The division is between me and Christ.

Now we must initially come to accept this division and then accept that this is how God continues to work in us. **I Corinthians 15:49:** *"And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly."* As we have taken on the image of the earthy, the first man by our natural birth; we shall also bear the image of the heavenly, the second man by our New Birth, our Birth from above. Remember the Second Man is NOT me: it is The Lord from Heaven, and God knows the difference! That means we will be changed by the Work of the Cross to bear His nature, His mind, His character, His Life: that we would be in the earth a presencing of the New Life we now are having.

And because we have come to see and accept God's Judgment on the first man, now we understand who gave us Life and how we received that Life. And now we live and function in that Truth. **II Corinthians 5:15:** *"And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again."* This division must take place in us. And as we come to accept and embrace the Judgment of the Cross we should not still be struggling with "me" – trying to be better, trying to please God. We have to come to the decision that "I" in the flesh will never please God, and that God doesn't want a "better me". He wants HIS SON: He wants to see the Life of His Son in you functioning as the only Life you have. This is what Jesus came to do: this is the Father's Will, and this is now His working in you. **Hebrews 10:9:** *"Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second."* We see here the dividing and putting away of ALL: not just part of the old. And this is something we have to take very seriously. This is where we become "enemies of the cross of Christ": when we deny Him this Work in our hearts – the total taking away of the first. But we must understand this is for God's purpose: that He may establish the second. The second is **Christ**. This is part of the Dividing Work of The Cross, the Judgment of The Cross that we must embrace daily.

Lesson 2–Separating The Old And The New

We are speaking of the tremendous Eternal Judgment that came by The Cross of Christ: God's righteous Judgment that separates that which lives by Him and with Him, and that which is dead and put away from Him. And we have been saying that this Judgment although it was executed once – for all – forever by Christ on The Cross, now continues to be worked in us. We continue to be judged by that Judgment. But I want to emphasize this is not me judging myself or you by what we think is right or good. This true Judgment comes in our hearts as He continues to make Himself known in us. And in our souls there will be a working of death to what is not Him, so that His Life will be manifested.

I Corinthians 4:3: *“But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged of you, or of man's judgment: yea, I judge not mine own self. 4: For I know nothing by myself; yet am I not hereby justified: but he that judgeth me is the Lord. 5: Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.”* Paul recognizes it is the Lord who judges him: not in an outward way, but in an inward way. Judge nothing until the Lord: He comes in you! And that word, means “accompany, appear, grow, be set, and it has to do with light. As He continues to make Himself known in you as Light, as Life, as Truth, as the Second – a Judgment takes place. There is a dividing of the hidden darkness, the lie, the flesh, the dead from the living – from HIM. All things are judged in and by Him, and as you embrace this Judgment what is not Christ is removed from your soul, and the New Life that He is becomes evident in you. He is not only the Judge, but the Judgment that works in you separating the living from the dead. And this is a continual working in our hearts unto the full measure of our New Life, which is Christ.

In our last lesson we spoke about Jesus coming to take away the first that He may establish the Second (Hebrews 10:9) and this is the principle that we need to have established in our hearts. To God the first is always earthy, natural, not Spirit, and temporal. And that is so regarding creation, man, covenant, promises – all things before Jesus

came. And the Second to God is His Son, is Spirit, is Eternal, is established of God because in the Second God finds His total satisfaction and is totally committed. The first is a type and shadow: the Second is not a type or shadow, not a promise of something to come, but the substance and fulness of everything God planned. This is the Judgment Jesus brought into the earth and this is the Judgment we have to fully come to. But in our hearts we have tried to make this division less severe: trying to mix the natural with the Spiritual, the temporal with the Eternal. And this is why we get frustrated and confused. And if we as believers are truly going to find His rest and live by His peace, we have to come to this Judgment. **II Corinthians 4:18:** *“While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.”* And when we truly see Him by a Spirit-given revelation He works this Judgment in us.

And this Judgment, this decision between the first and the Second is also spoken of in the Scriptures as between the old and the New. Perhaps one of the best scriptures for this is **II Corinthians 5:17:** *“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”* All things are New in Christ: totally different from the old. And this is something we need to understand. He makes the New Creation New with His Life – Newness of Life, and this Life never ends or changes. But the sad thing is most of us are not walking as the New Creation we are in Christ because we have not come to God’s Judgment of old and New; and have not allowed “the old” to be reckoned dead in me, and pass away. Even though this has totally taken place at The Cross this Judgment has not totally taken place in us.

Our problem is that we are still trying to “make me die”, or get rid of our old thoughts and ways, rather than fully embracing God’s Judgment and allow the Separating Work of The Cross to take place in us. Most of us have only known the “Forgiving Work of The Cross” (or what we perceive that to be), but have not allowed The Judgment of The Cross according to God’s View to be fully worked in us. The Truth of The Cross is the old man has died and been put away! This is what we have to “know”: agree with and then experience. And once again, we are not going to change God’s Judgment: we can only accept it or reject it, but we can NOT change it.

Romans 6:3: *“Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 4: Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5: For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: 6: Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. 7: For he that is dead is freed from sin. 8: Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him: 9: Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. 10: For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God. 11: Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.”* The FACT of The Cross is stated here: our old man IS crucified with Him. We now in Christ are dead to sin by being baptized into His death, but alive unto God. The old man who is alive unto sin is not in Christ. However he is in our unrenewed mind, and in disobedient hearts who refuse to come to this Judgment of The Cross and have it worked in them. Most of us as Christians are still trying to get the old man to die, and are still asking God to judge him according to his good and bad acts. And that thinking negates the Finished Work of The Cross and is contrary to God’s Plan. We can only live in the likeness of His Resurrection if we are fully immersed into His death and the Judgment that His death accomplished. This is the Knowledge that we have to come to in order to walk in the Newness of Life that we have now received.

Colossians 3:9: *“Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; 10: And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him: 11: Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.”* In the Reality of The Cross you have put off the old man and his deeds, and have put on The New Man which is Christ. But too often in our religious ignorance we just attempt to put off the deeds of the old man rather than putting off the old man himself through the working of The Cross in us. And it is important for us to see “The New Man” is not a fleshly religious man: not “me” as “a New Man”, but is Christ Himself. We now

have to be renewed in our minds to this knowledge: the Truth of The Cross. And when you and I continue to live as an “old man” who goes to church and hopes someday to go to Heaven because of our good works, then we lie! That is NOT the Truth according to the Judgment of The Cross.

As we have been saying, we must embrace The Truth of what happened by The Cross of Christ, and then live, walk daily in that reality: not as the old man but as The New. Too often we say we are “just a sinner saved by Grace”: but that is not true according to the Reality of The Cross. The sinner died at The Cross, and now in Christ a New Man lives. The Apostle Paul challenged the believers of his day, and I am challenging you also. He told them to walk worthy of this New Life that they have now received in Christ. **Ephesians 5:8:** *“For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light.”* We are to walk in The Light, The Truth of our New Life, as a New Man, under a New Covenant because of the Judgment of The Cross.

And one last thought: because by The Cross we are now a New Creature, God has given us a New Covenant, and this is entirely different from the Old Covenant. **Hebrews 8:7:** *“For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. 8: For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: 9: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. 10: For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:”* The Old Covenant never changed the people and satisfied God’s heart. But the New Covenant which came by The Cross, by the Blood of Christ, puts His laws into their minds and hearts. This happened after the days of the Old Covenant that ended at The Cross. **Hebrews 8:13:** *“In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away.”* It is by the coming of the New Covenant that the first Covenant became old and must vanish away. That happened at The Cross, and that must take place totally in our hearts today. This is the Judgment of The Cross.

Lesson 3 – God’s Judgment Separates

I rejoice that during these days the Lord is making Himself known to us in greater ways: in the Truth of who He is, not in my religious blindness and ignorance. And as He continues to appear, to come, and to make Himself known in us as our very Life, He brings Judgment. It is not the judging of “good and bad”: it is the Judgment of The Cross that separates all that is dead from all that is alive and living in union with God in Christ.

And during these days of coming to a greater understanding of the reality of our New Life in Christ, I feel that I am experiencing what Luke wrote about. He recounts the Ministry of John the Baptist who came declaring the Greater One who was to come – NOW COME. And now there is a greater work. **Luke 3:16:** *“John answered, saying unto them all, I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire: 17: Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and will gather the wheat into his garner; but the chaff he will burn with fire unquenchable.”* He said there will be a Holy Ghost baptism with fire. And notice the pronouns here: **HIS** windowing fan is in **HIS** hand, and **HE** will thoroughly purge **HIS** floor. **HE** will gather the wheat into **HIS** garner, but the chaff will be burnt up with **HIS** fire. It is by the fire (all consuming light and truth of His appearing) that He will judge and separate all things in His house. This is a time of being challenged, unsettled, disturbed and we don’t like that. But I am coming to understand this is His Work in those who are His. What is He doing? He is separating the wheat from the chaff; the Truth from lie; the Living from the dead; that which is Christ and will bring forth an increase of Him, and that which may look like Him but has no Life itself. And that which is dead and cannot produce Him is burnt up and done away with!

This is God’s right Judgment that continually is taking place in us. We often reference **Hebrews 12:27:** *“And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.”* And we

speak of the removing of those things that can be shaken. This comes out from Heaven, by the Spirit of Truth and it is for a Purpose: that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. This is His Work: removing all of the first so that the Second – which is Christ, Truth, Substance, Reality may remain. And God works His Judgment in your heart as He continues to make Himself known to you as Second, in Spirit, in Truth. And I pray that we are not striving against this Judgment between the first and the Second, between the old and the New. Remember only the Second, only Christ will ever be established of God because only Christ, The Son pleases The Father.

The Apostle Paul spoke to the Corinthian Church regarding the fire that would test and judge their ministry works. Paul spoke concerning their New Life in Christ, but they were still functioning as the old man, as carnal. But Paul emphasized Christ as the foundation upon which everything of Spiritual Life is built. **I Corinthians 3:11:** *“For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.”* We really need to understand this. There is only one foundation – Jesus Christ – by The Cross, and man can not set another basis for our relationship with God other than Jesus and The Cross. This is so important, and this is a Judgment we have to come to and have settled in our hearts. Man (the wisdom of our intellect)– our religious doctrines and traditions make me and my good works the basis for our Salvation. But Paul says NO! You were only saved by Grace: by The Cross of Christ, and any other foundation must be removed from our hearts. And this Truth, this foundation must be strongly laid in our hearts. This is the exclusivity of The Cross of Christ and that Finished Work, and this is the peaceful assurance that God wants us to come to. **Ephesians 2:8:** *“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9: Not of works, lest any man should boast.”*

But once the foundation of Christ and Him crucified is laid in us, into our hearts; there is a continuing Judgment that takes place. And the Apostle cautions believers to be careful what and how you build upon that foundation. **I Corinthians 3:12:** *“Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; 13: Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. 14: If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he*

shall receive a reward. 15: If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire." Our works are going to be judged: not by man's measure, but by the measure, the Light, the Truth of Christ and The Finished Work of The Cross. He is the Fire that appears – IN YOU – and judges everything. We know that by The Cross the old flesh man, the old world, the old Covenant has been judged and separated from God. So now if we try to continue as an old creation, perpetuating being tied to this natural world and in bondage to a set of rules and laws as the Old Covenant, God judges that as the death that it is, and burns it up! It cannot stand when we allow Him to judge it. But we have to be willing to allow this Judgment to take place in our hearts. And when we do "we" will lose "our" works, "our" ministry etc., but the Reality of Christ that is in us will remain. And I believe this is our "reward" – The Truth of Christ that abides in us and that we continue to live by every day. And God is The Only One that can truly "judge" our hearts and our actions. If we try to judge ourselves, we will always justify ourselves and make allowance for the flesh. And the flesh that still remains in us does NOT want to come to this Judgment because God's Judgment decides sharply and knows the difference between Life and death; Truth and a lie. But this is the separating that takes place by the Judgment of Christ appearing in us, in our hearts. And my prayer is that we all allow this fire of His appearing to try everything in us, and let Him remove everything that is not Christ so that all that He is remains and is made manifest.

It continues to be a burden on my heart that even though by The Work of The Cross we have been made to be a New Man, as a New Creature, under a New Covenant with God: but because of our ignorance of the Truth of The Finished Work of The Cross and our refusal to accept the full Judgment of The Cross, we live today still as an old man, still in bondage and condemnation because of sin and the flesh, and have not entered into the peace and fulness of Life that we now have in Christ. And even "born again" believers are still in bondage to a religious system that still puts all God's promises off in the future and expects the Lord to finally someday come and "finish it". But this is because we have refused to allow the fire of His Judgment, His Appearing to do the Separating Work in us and consume what God has judged as old and passed away. This is not what God desires for us. His desire is explained by the apostle Paul in **Galatians 5:1**: "*Stand fast therefore in the liberty*

wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.” He wants us to stand steady and secure in the liberty that Christ has obtained for us by His Cross. We are free from all bondages by His Judgment, and God desires that we walk as a separated people – separated unto Him.

Lesson 4–When The Perfect Comes

We have been speaking of the Judgment that the Lord brings: making the separation between the living and the dead, and the removal of everything that is not one with Him. And although we know that this full Judgment came at and by The Cross, we are speaking now of Judgment taking place in our hearts. And this takes place in **His appearing**. **Malachi 3:1:** *“Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts. 2: But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner’s fire, and like fullers’ soap: 3: And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness. 4: Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the LORD, as in the days of old, and as in former years. 5: And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the LORD of hosts. 6: For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.”* And although this prophecy was fulfilled by John the Baptist declaring Christ, “the day of His coming” is the “DAY” we are living in. And He is executing His judgment IN US. This is His Work in HIS Temple, in HIS people. Who will stand when He appears? You will not! He is like a refiner’s fire and like Fuller’s soap. And He will sit as a refiner, purifying and purging the sons that they might offer an offering to the Lord that He will accept. He will come near to you to Judgment. And this is what I want us to see. Except He works in us – in our hearts,

purifying, purging: by His judgment and separating of the living and the dead, of Christ and Adam, we can not be pleasing to God. And this is the Judgment that should continually be taking place in us.

There always has to be a putting away of the first, of the old, so that the Second can be established. And remember this is what the Lord Jesus came to do. **Hebrews 10:9:** *"Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second."* And by The Cross God has done this and He is finished speaking to the first man in natural ways. Now He speaks only in Second, as Second – in SON. **Hebrews 1:1:** *"God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, 2: Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;"*

God used to speak in many ways of many things. But at the end of those days (that ended at The Cross) He speaks in Son. But He can only speak in The Son to those who have a heart and Life that are One with Him. This division was made by The Cross, and to those who now have Life, God has given them a New heart. He spoke of this through the Prophet Ezekiel. Through Ezekiel He speaks to Israel who had profaned His Holy Name, but then He speaks of a New Work in them. **Ezekiel 36:23:** *"And I will sanctify my great name, which was profaned among the heathen, which ye have profaned in the midst of them; and the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, saith the Lord GOD, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes. 24: For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land. 25: Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. 26: A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. 27: And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them. 28: And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God. 29: I will also save you from all your uncleannesses: and I will call for the corn, and will increase it, and lay no famine upon you. 30: And I will multiply the fruit of the tree, and the increase of the field, that ye shall receive no more reproach of famine among the heathen. 31: Then shall ye remember your own evil ways, and your doings that were not good, and shall lothe yourselves in your own sight for your*

iniquities and for your abominations. 32: Not for your sakes do I this, saith the Lord GOD, be it known unto you: be ashamed and confounded for your own ways, O house of Israel.” He is speaking of separating a people unto Himself, cleansing them and taking away their stony heart, and giving them a New Heart and a New Spirit. This will be HIS Spirit that will be in them. And He will bless them as HIS people.

This is what makes The Cross such a dividing factor, and causes a change in how God deals with a people. With Old Covenant Israel under the Law God was still seen as separate from them, and they still functioned out from themselves. Even though He was in their midst and they were called by His Name, they profaned His Name, and did things for themselves: for the flesh. But God spoke of the day when all this would change because HE would change their hearts, and His Spirit would come to live within them and then they would function in the earth as HIS people.

And this was speaking of the New Covenant that would come by The Cross. By the death of Christ, the old man, those under the Old Covenant of sin and death were brought to a final Judgment and forever separated from God. And now in Resurrection, God raised a New Man and that necessitated a New Covenant. And it is The Cross that makes the difference between the two. God then no longer needed the Old Covenant. Now Christ would bring in a BETTER Covenant and by this Covenant God would have what He desired. **Hebrews 8:6:** *“But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises.”* When Jesus appeared in the likeness of sinful flesh, as a man to go to The Cross He came to bring the first Covenant to an end, and establish a better one. The Hebrews writer explains this New Covenant. **Hebrews 8:7:** *“For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. 8: For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: 9: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. 10: For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write*

them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: 11: And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. 12: For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more. 13: In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away.” And when God’s Judgment was executed at The Cross, He made the First Covenant old; and because the New had come, the old had to vanish away.

We have to remember the sharp division The Cross makes. In God’s mind everything of the Old Covenant is finished and is put away from Him. He no longer deals with the types and shadows, the promises and prophecies. It is not because they were not from God: but now they are all fulfilled in Christ by The Cross, so the first is no longer needed. This is a judgment, a decision, an understanding we have to come to in our hearts. God now speaks and deals by and under the New Covenant which is defined not in terms of sin and death but as “the law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus”. Romans 8 tells us the effectiveness of the New Covenant Law which is **better** than the Law of sin and death, the Old Covenant Law. **Romans 8:2:** *“For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. 3: For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:”* And Jesus came into the world to go to The Cross and bring this Judgment, this division. He would perfect: bring to completion what the Old Covenant promised, but could NOT perform.

This is something we have to come to an understanding of. **Hebrews 7:19:** *“For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God.”* The Old Covenant did not bring completion and perfection, but a BETTER Hope did. Christ by The Cross is the “better hope”, and when He came something significant happened. **Hebrews 7:18:** *“For there is verily a disannulling of the commandment going before for the weakness and unprofitableness thereof.”* There had to be a setting aside of the Old Covenant Law because it was weak and did not complete God’s Plan in fulness. The Old Covenant Law was a carnal commandment that could only condemn the flesh man, but not change him. The New Covenant is the power of an

endless life – the Life of Christ. And it is the Indwelling Life of Christ in a believer that changes him.

This is what I pray that we can see. He – Christ and The Finished Work of The Cross is the perfection, completion and completeness of all God's promises, and because He has come and made Himself known as God's New Covenant, something happens in our hearts. **I Corinthians 13:10:** *"But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away."* When the perfect (Christ) comes in me and makes Himself known in His fulness, in Resurrection Power and Life; then my flesh knowledge, and all of the old understanding shall be done away. Then we put away childish things, and that means all of them; especially our religious traditions and "toys" that we love to play with. This is the Judgment of The Cross that the Lord is continually working in our hearts. This Judgment comes by HIS APPEARING IN US.

Lesson 5 – Law vs Grace

I pray that we are continuing to see the greatness and depth of The Cross of Christ so that we can experience the Reality of our Salvation Now. Most of us just consider The Cross where I get "my sins forgiven", but there is a lot more that happened at The Cross than just dealing with sins. A world was cast off, a man was put away, a Covenant was completed, and God changed the way He dealt with man: all because of The Finished Work of The Cross.

And we will never really be free to walk in Newness of Life until we not only know what happened by The Cross, but embrace the Judgment of The Cross and allow The Cross to work in us. **Galatians 6:14:** *"But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world."* Paul gloried only in The Cross. It is only by the liberating death of The Cross that he could be free from the world: the realm of flesh, sin, self, even religion. Why? Because The Cross makes the big division: it brings an end to all of

the first and separates it from God, and brings forth the Second, which is one with God eternally and in which God finds His complete satisfaction. And it is this dividing factor of The Cross that we have been considering. When there is a real God given Work of The Cross in you, there will be a dividing: between Life and death, Spirit and soul, temporal and Eternal, old and New. We have looked at this regarding the old and New Man, and because the old man of sin and death was put away, now there is a New Covenant for the New Man – Life in Christ.

And to help us to further see the difference between the two Covenants of God that we read of in the Bible, I want to bring in two words: LAW and GRACE. But it is important that we understand that The Cross separates them and as with everything with God, they can not be mixed. This is always our problem: we want to mix things of God. But we must see that The Cross makes a clear and clean separation between all of the old, and all of the New. The old spoke of what The Cross would fulfill, but never accomplished God's full thought. Look at the division in **John 1:17**: *"For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ."* The Reality only came by Jesus Christ. The Law spoke of God's Salvation in types and shadows and in promises, but never perfected anything. But God's gift (Grace) was given when Jesus came to the earth as a man to go to The Cross to die. And He did what we could not do for ourselves. And this is one of the main differences between Law and Grace. Under the Law YOU have to do things to maintain a relationship with God: make sacrifices, offerings, feast days, clothes, food. The Law is "deed" oriented: what you must do or must not do.

But that did not change the soul of man and make him right before God. **Romans 3:20**: *"Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin."* It is important for us to understand "keeping the Law" didn't make you holy: it only made you see how unholy you were, and even though you tried to keep the Law, you could not! That is why Jesus came, and He did what you could not ever do! **Romans 3:21**: *"But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; 22: Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:"* "But now" is speaking of The Cross. The righteousness of God is made manifest at The Cross. Now "right standing with God" is not based upon

who tries to “keep the Law”, but by faith, to all that believe – in **Christ**. And that is because of God’s Grace. **Ephesians 2:8:** *“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9: Not of works, lest any man should boast.”*

It was Jesus’ coming to earth to show us God’s Grace at The Cross that released man from not only the burden of sin (and death as a consequence), but the burden of trying to “keep the Law” and failing. And friends, trying to keep the Law is exhausting, frustrating, and futile. Remember that Jesus first came to the Jews and made Himself known to them as God’s Gift of Love. He came proclaiming Himself to be The Messiah that they were looking for. But at the time they were under Pharisaical Law that dictated everything they did, and man – religious man added to the Law and interpreted the Law, and that “religion” (The Jews’ religion) was keeping many from coming to Him.

Can you now hear Jesus’ heart to those when He spoke to those who were burdened under the Law in **Matthew 11:28:** *“Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29: Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. 30: For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”* Jesus said come unto ME: come away from the oppressive religion of the Jews, and the self-imposed labor by which they were trying to secure their relationship with God. This is not because they scrubbed floors on the night shift and didn’t get paid well. They labored under the Law, trying to be perfect, but couldn’t. But He said take My yoke upon you, be joined to me and you will find rest unto your souls. His yoke is easy and His burden is light because when you receive His Grace it is HIM working and not you! But you must join yourself with Him – and that will be to His Cross. And this is the difference between functioning under the Law and functioning by His Grace. There is a glorious freedom and rest that we have knowing His Grace, and relying on His Finished Work at the Cross, and now it is His working in us to maintain our relationship with God. It is by receiving God’s gift and embracing it daily.

The Apostle Paul who lived under the Law and excelled under it came to realize that never made him righteous. This is something that we really have to understand also. And it is a serious matter before God because

of Christ's death at The Cross, and I pray we will make that total transition also from the Law (in our hearts) to Grace. This is a great and continuing work of the Dividing Factor of The Cross. **Galatians 2:21:** *"I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain."* May we not be found frustrating God's Grace, but fully honoring His Grace that was manifested for us at The Cross of Christ and live daily by the Grace.

Lesson 6–Not/ But – Law/ Grace

I really pray that our hearts are being stirred up to appreciate this "So Great Salvation" that is ours now in Christ, and live daily in that reality. Remember this is real NOW because of The Finished Work of Christ by The Cross, and now God has everything that He has ever desired – in Son. This is where we have to be found also: in Him and nowhere else, and find the "all things that pertain unto Life and Godliness" in Him and nowhere else. And we can only truly do that by seeing the division, the Judgment that The Cross has brought, and allowing that division to take place in our hearts. And if we are not allowing that Judgment, that division, or ignoring that division then we are Enemies of The Cross of Christ.

The book of Hebrews clearly sets forth this division, and we see it with the terms "NOT - BUT". And to God now, because of The Cross everything that was before The Cross: the Old Covenant, the types and shadows, the veiled way God spoke of what Christ would fulfill is "**NOT**". It had its time before The Cross, but now it is "NOT". And everything is "**BUT NOW IN CHRIST**". We have to clearly see this division, and live only in and as the "but now in Christ". **Hebrews 12:18:** *"For ye are not come unto the mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire, nor unto blackness, and darkness, and tempest, 19: And the sound of a trumpet, and the voice of words; which voice they that heard intreated that the word should not be spoken to them any more: 20: (For they could not endure that which was commanded, And if so much as a beast touch*

the mountain, it shall be stoned, or thrust through with a dart: 21: And so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake:) Everything that is “not” is of the earth realm, and God was a fearsome God who was hidden to them. And sad to say, many Christians today still know God that way! But that is not your condition and state of being if you are in Christ. You are not going “some place, some day”. You are now where God planned, purposed and brought you to be. **Hebrews 12:22:** *“But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, 23: To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, 24: And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.”* We are NOW brought to the heavenly Jerusalem, to God, to Jesus and the New Covenant. This is “where” we are and how we are: not separate from God and afraid of Him; but we have been brought into a living union with Him in Christ.

And my prayer is that we would truly come to comprehend the reality of where we are and how we are: as a New Creation under a New Covenant. And we are not here by our efforts, but by what Christ has done; and we need to be faithful and obedient to that “but God”. And “but God” brings us to HIS GRACE. **Ephesians 2:4:** *“But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, 5: Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) 6: And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: 7: That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. 8: For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:”* God showed us His mercy and love by The Cross. His Grace saved us. The Gift of God, His Grace has saved us, and not our works. My prayer is that we would truly appreciate this Grace: the death we could not die, the putting away of that which is dead to God, and then giving us His Life. And I pray that we would now truly live by that Grace continually; knowing His Grace (the outworking of His Love through the Cross) is sufficient for everything.

The Apostle Paul’s battle with the early Church was that they were ignoring God’s Grace and going back under the Law which meant that

they were attempting to get their Salvation by their works. And Paul was very adamant that they should NOT do that. Hebrews 9 talks about the Tabernacle service under the first order, the Old Covenant; and that things changed because Christ came. **Hebrews 9:9:** *"Which was a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience; 10: Which stood only in meats and drinks, and divers washings, and carnal ordinances, imposed on them until the time of reformation. 11: But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; 12: Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us."* Everything changes because of His Blood that was shed at The Cross. And now we suffer severe consequences if we are not faithful to God's Grace made known at The Cross. **Hebrews 10:28:** *"He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: 29: Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?"* When we do not appreciate God's Grace we do not honor the Blood He shed, and that is a very serious! God ACCEPTED His Blood, and we need to fully accept and appreciate what His Blood has done for us.

And as we have said throughout these lessons, The Cross divides sharply and cleanly, leaving NO mixture of old and New; and we must allow that Judgment and division to take place in us. This was the problem in the early Church that Paul addressed in the Galatians letter. **Galatians 1:6:** *"I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: 7: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ."* They left the Grace of God and were preaching another gospel. But The Cross – God's Grace is the only gospel. They were going back to the Old Covenant religion that was defined by what they did, and were the types and shadows only that never changed their hearts or perfected anything. Paul called that whole system "the weak and beggarly elements". And they were putting themselves back into bondage to that Old Covenant Law. **Galatians 4:8:** *"Howbeit then, when ye knew not God, ye did service unto them which by nature are no gods. 9:*

But now, after that ye have known God, or rather are known of God, how turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage? 10: Ye observe days, and months, and times, and years." The whole issue is **BUT NOW**: now if you know God in Christ you must NOT turn back again to the Law. Remember the Law was given of God, but it was only for a time and for a purpose.

Galatians 3:19: *"Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator."* The Law was "TILL" the Seed, "Christ" should come. **Galatians 3:23:** *"But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. 24: Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. 25: But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster."* The Law was before faith came, and at that time you only "knew" God by following the legal system, but it was an imperfect, failed, fleshly knowledge. Paul said it was the schoolmaster to bring us unto **Christ**. But after faith is come - in the Person of Christ, we are no longer under the schoolmaster - the Law.

Galatians 4 discusses the Two Covenants: Law and Grace as related to Abraham's two sons. **Galatians 4:21:** *"Tell me, ye that desire to be under the law, do ye not hear the law? 22: For it is written, that Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid, the other by a freewoman. 23: But he who was of the bondwoman was born after the flesh; but he of the freewoman was by promise. 24: Which things are an allegory: for these are the two covenants; the one from the mount Sinai, which gendereth to bondage, which is Agar. 25: For this Agar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children. 26: But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all."* One of Abraham's sons was born of the flesh, of the bondwoman, and one of the free woman by promise. One speaks of the Jewish religious system of bondage, and one of heavenly freedom. And the two sons could NOT remain in the household together: neither can the two Covenants remain in our hearts and in our actions. **Galatians 4:30:** *"Nevertheless what saith the scripture? Cast out the bondwoman and her son: for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman."* The bondwoman and the son must be cast out. We must get

rid of all of the flesh, old, first in our hearts. Why? **Galatians 4:31:** *“So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman, but of the free.”* By God’s Grace, the Work of The Cross we are free and heirs of every promise of God in His Son. And NOW - **Galatians 5:1:** *“Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.”* Paul says do NOT go back under the bondage of fleshly commandments that keep you enslaved not only to your flesh, but also to that whole realm of “religion”. Stand fast in His Grace!

Lesson 7 – A Change in God’s Working

We are continuing to speak of the Greatness of The Cross: not only dealing with sins but the great Judgment, the great division that The Cross makes between the first and the Second, the old and the New, the “not” and the “but now in Christ”. And I want to emphasize again that because of The Finished Work of The Cross our hearts must leave totally all that is “not” to God, and embrace and focus all our attention upon what is “but now in Christ”. We are now looking at this regarding Law and Grace.

Ephesians 2:8: *“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9: Not of works, lest any man should boast.”* God’s Grace was shown to us by Christ’s death at The Cross. And we see here that God’s Grace is not because of our works. And I want us to see that any time we focus on ourselves and our works, then this brings us under the Law, and to God this is “not”. Remember it is The Cross that makes the division and creates the “not”. Before The Cross man had to follow the Law as best he could in order to have any kind of relationship with God, but he continually failed to keep it. And nothing under the Old Covenant Law, by the things that man did himself truly justified him before God. **Galatians 2:16:** *“Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no*

flesh be justified.” It is not by our works trying to keep a Law; but by the faith, the knowledge, the Truth of Jesus Christ. By the works of the Law shall no flesh be justified. We have to understand this. God’s Plan was always a Salvation by Grace: by God doing what we cannot do for ourselves.

And this is set forth in the Scriptures with Abraham. Remember Abraham received God’s promise before the Law - by faith. **Romans 4:2:** *“For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God. 3: For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness. 4: Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. 5: But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.”* Abraham didn’t work for it: he believed on Him that justifies the ungodly, and his faith (in God’s Grace) is counted for righteousness. **Romans 4:13:** *“For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith. 14: For if they which are of the law be heirs, faith is made void, and the promise made of none effect: 15: Because the law worketh wrath: for where no law is, there is no transgression. 16: Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all,”* The Promise was not through the Law, but by Grace. And we can depend upon God’s Grace: it is Eternal and ever working, and is sufficient for everything. And now we don’t have to depend upon what WE do, but we just have to have faith, and agree with what Christ has done by His Cross.

This is the big division between Law and Grace. Under the Law YOU had to attempt to please God, interpret the Law, and try to keep it by your fleshly strength. And you could NOT. But under Grace, you accept what GOD has done, and you can rest from your own labors, and allow HIM to work in you. This is another great division that comes about by The Cross, and if we can understand it, this will be a great comfort to us. We know that mighty works were done through the Apostle Paul, but he recognized it was “not I, but Christ” who lived in him, and worked in him. **Colossians 1:29:** *“Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.”* To Paul these were not just

Scriptures that he read, but the Reality of Truth that he came to as Paul found Christ truly to be his Life: the only Life he had. This is the understanding we must come to: we must recognize HE is our Life, and let HIM work in us.

The big “change” between the Old and New Covenant; between the first and the Second man is that to the first God’s dealings were outward: in the natural realm, with natural types and shadows that spoke of Spiritual Truth, but could NOT bring true union with God. But that is not so since The Cross, and God’s way of dealing is not outwardly now, but inwardly. And now because of what The Cross did, there was a change in relationship between God and man, and now there could be a True knowing and experiencing of this New Covenant. God had prophesied of this through Jeremiah, speaking of the Second, New, Better Covenant, and the Hebrews writer refers to that prophecy. **Hebrews 8:7:** *“For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. 8: For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: 9: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. 10: For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: 11: And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. 12: For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more. 13: In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away.”*

The New Covenant is NOT according to the old one: it is entirely different. They could not keep that Covenant. But “after those days” (you always see this terminology: “those days” came to an end at The Cross) God will not deal outwardly but inwardly. Notice “I will put...” “I will write them in their hearts”. This is not man trying to memorize God’s rules and work hard to follow them. This is the inward work of the Spirit of God in our souls making Himself known in us. Notice the

relationship: "I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people." And everyone who comes to Him shall know Him under this Covenant: everyone shall experience this relationship of union with God by His Grace, by the Work of The Cross. This is NOT a religion of trying to follow religious rules religiously. This is God by the Spirit of His Son living in us – in our souls, giving us His Life; and us experiencing a relationship of Newness of Life as One with God our Father. And this is something we never had before!

And when God changed Covenants by the Work of The Cross, and raised up a New Man in whom He could dwell and have this relationship, then He no longer needed the Old Covenant, so it could vanish away. **I Corinthians 13:10:** *"But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away."* And now God deals not according to the Old, but according to the New. Why? Because THE PERFECT HAS COME! And His Son – The Perfect One has come and PERFECTED forever what the Old Covenant only spoke about, but never brought to perfection. He deals with us now – in Son, and as Son, for we now have One Life: the Life of His Son, and we now can participate in His relationship with His Father. This is something that was not available under the Old Covenant. The type and shadow was there with the nation of Israel, but they never experienced the fulness, the Reality of this relationship. It would only come by The Cross. And because of what The Son did by The Cross, we now can experience the way God has changed in His dealing with a people. We are no longer kept away from Him, but are brought into His Presence in full acceptance. **Ephesians 2:13:** *"But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ."* **Ephesians 2:18:** *"For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father."* **19:** *Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God."* **Hebrews 4:16:** *"Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."* We now can experience God in this full assurance: AS SONS – IN HIS SON.

This was Jesus's prayer for us to His Father when He prayed before The Cross. **John 17:22:** *"And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:"* The "Glory" He had was His union with His Father, and WE have been brought into this glorious

new relationship of Oneness with God by The Finished Work of The Cross, and God now deals with us in Son – as Son. This is something that was spoken of in the Old Covenant, but the Law never brought about this union. Again I emphasize this change only came about by the Work of The Cross. Jesus told His disciples it would be BETTER for them if He went away: and He was speaking of going to The Cross. **John 14:16:** *“And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; 17: Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.”* He said THEN The Comforter will abide with you forever. Now the Spirit would not come and go as it did under the Old Covenant, but abide. Jesus said now you will know the Spirit of Truth for He shall be **IN YOU**. This is the INWARD dwelling of the Spirit to bring us to not only “know” in an intellectual way, but to EXPERIENCE the New Life that we now have. This is what is **“BUT NOW IN CHRIST”**. And now we can experience this New Relationship. **John 14:20:** *“At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you.”* This is “the day” that we are living in: the New Day, the Eternal Day, the Day of The Lord, and now we are to walk in the Light of this Day. This is the glorious Work of The Cross of Christ, and this is how God now works: in the Truth of this Relationship.

Lesson 8 – Testimony/Witness

As the world is celebrating Easter today, I really pray that we are taking the greatness of The Cross of Christ seriously, and considering what His Resurrection means. As we have been saying much more than just forgiving us our sins has taken place at The Cross. So let us consider these scriptures to see what God has done:

- **Ephesians 1:19:** *“And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, 20: Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, 21: Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that*

which is to come: 22: And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, 23: Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all."

- **Acts 17:31:** *"Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead."*
- **I Peter 1:3:** *"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4: To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,"*
- **I Corinthians 15:14:** *"And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. 17: And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins."*

So I pray that even by these few scriptures we are seeing how great and significant the Resurrection of Christ was, and because this is our assurance and the means by which we now have our New Life, we are to live continually in the Reality of HIS Resurrection. And let me also say, that **HE** is your Resurrection! Just like the Grace that God promised is the death of His Son, the Resurrection that God promised is His Son. There is no other Resurrection than The One who said, ***"I am the resurrection and the life."*** HE was raised and He also raised those who have (and would) receive Him as Life. And to God the Church is the Resurrection Body of Christ – not I, not "us", but CHRIST now "come" in Newness of Life.

But as we have been saying, The Cross changes everything and this is why the Resurrection is so important to understand and appreciate: because this was God's demonstration of the change, and the assurance that all that God promised was now come. We read in Luke 24 that the two disciples on the road to Emmaeus were forlorn because things did not go according to "their" plan. **Luke 24:21:** *"But we trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel: and beside all this, to day is*

the third day since these things were done. 22: Yea, and certain women also of our company made us astonished, which were early at the sepulchre; 23: And when they found not his body, they came, saying, that they had also seen a vision of angels, which said that he was alive. 24: And certain of them which were with us went to the sepulchre, and found it even so as the women had said: but him they saw not." Christ was raised according to **God's** Eternal Plan, but they were looking for Him in the old form. And this is always our problem: we think that God will work according to what WE want. But He always works according to what pleases Him. Jesus rebuked them. **Luke 24:25:** *"Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: 26: Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory? 27: And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself."* Notice it was through the Scriptures He told them about Himself. And HE had to open their eyes. **Luke 24:31:** *"And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight."* And then they were no longer looking for Him after the flesh and as that flesh man He was gone from their sight. Now they would be able to see Him as He now was!

Look at the wonderful CHANGE in relationship that Jesus spoke to Mary about in John 20. She went to see the dead, to anoint the dead body, but He appeared to her as The Living, as The Resurrection, but she didn't yet know Him that way. And in her heart, Mary wanted to hold Him to that OLD relationship – in the flesh. But He tells her of this glorious NEW relationship that they would NOW experience by beholding The Resurrection: The Person of The Resurrection. This is something that they could not come to and experience BEFORE The Cross and His Resurrection. But Now, He would bring them to this glorious Reality of Relationship with The father. **John 20:17:** *"Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God."* Now they would know God in this Relationship: as THEIR Father - as Son – in Son. Now they could know The Father in the same Relationship the Risen Son of God had with His Father because HE would bring them into that Relationship.

And this comes by The Resurrection. Before The Cross this was always part of the TESTIMONY: the Promise, the Prophecies of This One who

was to come, and the New Life, the Salvation that He would bring. But now, by The Cross we have to bring in another word. And after The Cross, by The Cross there is no longer the Testimony of things to come. Now there is the WITNESS that has now come, and the Witness denotes not only a seeing of something, but the manifesting of what has been seen. We know that the Old Covenant, the Old Testament in your Bible was the Testimony: a setting forth in types and shadows of God's Eternal Plan and most specifically of The One who would come and fulfill all that God desired. This Testimony was given to Israel by God through Moses, and they kept it with them always in the "Ark of the Testimony", hidden at that time in the Holy of Holies in the Tabernacle and Temple. And under that first Covenant they lived by that Testimony and had to be obedient to it, even though they could not understand it fully and experience it, Hebrews 11 gives us a listing of Old Covenant saints who were faithful to that Testimony, but it says they never received the promises. **Hebrews 11:13:** *"These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. 39: And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise."* This was the condition under the Old Covenant.

And we must understand that although the Testimony spoke of The Cross, the Testimony came to an end at The Cross, and by The Cross we have the fulfillment of that Testimony in the very Person of The Son Jesus Christ. And He does not appear in Resurrection Glory to give us "another Testimony of something yet to come". But He appears as The Witness of The Truth of all that was spoken of Him, and the fulfillment of God's Eternal Plan. What matters now – after The Cross is the **WITNESS**.

The reason is that Christ is NOT a Testimony, but The Witness. **Revelation 1:5:** *"And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood."* He is the faithful Witness: meaning that He faithfully manifests all of God's thought. And this is all by His Blood: by The Cross. This is NOT the flesh man Jesus; but Christ raised is the Witness, the manifest presencing of The Truth, The Reality of the Testimony now made known in the earth.

Colossians 1:26: *“Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: 27: To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.”* The Mystery of God had been hidden as the Testimony, but now, by The Cross is made manifest. And now by that Witness (Christ living in you), we’ve also come from the Testimony to the Witness. **And we now, as The Body of The Resurrected Christ are to be the Witness that the Testimony has been fulfilled in Christ.**

- **Luke 24:48:** *“And ye are **witnesses** of these things.”*
- **Acts 1:8:** *“ But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be **witnesses** unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judæa, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”*
- **Acts 26:16:** *“But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a **witness** both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee;”*

And as we consider the great Dividing Work that has taken place by The Cross of Christ we must take this to heart in our own lives. We now should not be sharing a Testimony of things to come, but be the Witness in the earth of The One who has come – Christ, the Faithful Witness of God’s great Love and Salvation to us.

Lesson 9 – Servant/Son

I pray that we are seeing the greatness of The Cross and its Work in fulfilling God’s Eternal Plan. We know that the Old Covenant including the Law and the promises and prophecies of that age were the Testimony of the Christ who was to come, and bring God’s Plan of Salvation to light. And now because of The Cross and its Finished Work,

we can know and experience everything that God planned. We now do not have another testimony of “good things to come”, but all that God promised – now come in Christ!

II Corinthians 1:20: *“For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.”* All the promises and prophecies of God are now by The Cross of Christ fully completed. And because we have HIM who fulfills all of God’s promises living in us, we are to make Him known in the earth. The Witness that Christ is, now is made known by US. **II Corinthians 2:14:** *“Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place. 15: For we are unto God a sweet savour of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish: 16: To the one we are the savour of death unto death; and to the other the savour of life unto life. And who is sufficient for these things?”* We are to God a sweet savor of Christ because He is in us, and He is in us as our Life. And because that is the Reality of our Salvation I challenge us: is **Christ** being made known by us? Or are we simply making “our religion” known?

The prophecies and promises that were set forth under the Old Covenant all spoke about Him: the Testimony was all of HIM. **Revelation 19:10:** *“And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”* And all prophecy comes to be fulfilled in Jesus Christ who is the Faithful Witness of that Testimony. The Old Covenant saints tried to understand the Testimony, but they could not fully see it and experience its fulfillment. **I Peter 1:10:** *“Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: 11: Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.”* They could only prophecy about the Grace: the Gift of God, The Cross; what only Jesus could do that should come to us. And according to the Spirit of Christ that was in them then under the Old Covenant, they testified beforehand of The Cross and the Glory that would come. And at that time they could only try to be obedient to the Testimony in an outward way; as SERVANTS, trying to serve God by following rules and commandments, but not knowing His heart and mind.

But Peter said that they had something BETTER now – after The Cross. **II Peter 1:19:** *“We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:”* Peter said we don’t have another word of prophecy, but we have the word of prophecy that was given under the Old Covenant made more sure, made complete. Why? Because now we have HIM, we know Him and experience His light, His Truth in our hearts. There now is an inward knowing and working of the Reality of Him. And this brings us from the Testimony to the Witness, and also changes our Relationship with God from just being servants to sons, knowing the mind and heart of the father; and allowing His Will to be done in all things.

And in the Scriptures the word “servant” is associated with Moses and the Old Covenant Law and the Testimony. Hebrews 3. This chapter is declaring that Christ The Son is better than Moses the servant. And we should know that the word “better” is used in the letter to the Hebrews bringing them from the Old Covenant understanding to the better New Covenant understanding: of all things **now better in Christ. Hebrews 3:1:** *“Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus; 2: Who was faithful to him that appointed him, as also Moses was faithful in all his house. 3: For this man was counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as he who hath builded the house hath more honour than the house. 4: For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God. 5: And Moses verily was faithful in all his house, as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken after; 6: But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.”* Moses representing the Old Covenant was faithful to the House of God at that time as a servant. And that word means a “menial attendant”: one who works in the house under supervision. Notice in verse five Moses was the Testimony of what would be AFTER: after The Cross. And by The Cross Moses is “not”, because now it is but Christ as a Son over His own House. And we are the House, a Household that now by Him and in Him functions as Son – with the Father’s Name and always to do the Father’s Will: all for His Glory. The Witness now is not of an outsider doing what the master says, but The Son knowing the Father’s mind and acting

always as one with Him, to glorify the Father's House.

This is the change in Relationship that came about by The Cross. Jesus spoke of this change to His disciples in **John 15:15**: *"Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you. 16: Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you."* At this time He was preparing them for The Cross: saying He would henceforth not call them servants but friends. The servant, as those trying to serve God under the Old Covenant Law knows not what his Lord does. This is a New intimacy that He will bring them into: what He has heard of the Father, He will make known to them. And by The Cross we are brought into this New Relationship – of Sonship: in Christ – by Son, as Son. This is a different relationship: far greater than just being a servant. **I Corinthians 1:9**: *"God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord."* God has called us to this Relationship, and God desires that we now walk in this Relationship: of SON. And God enables this to happen by giving us not a Testimony of rules to follow and things to do; but He gives us the very Spirit of His Son into our hearts who is the very Witness of this Relationship to us.

Galatians 4:6: *"And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father. 7: Wherefore thou art **no more a servant, but a son**; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ."* We are now sons because of what His Son did at The Cross. God now has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts so that we can know Him not just as the Creator of the universe, but as Father: in this Father/Son Relationship. Wherefore: because The Son now is in you, and is the Witness of this relationship with the Father, you are no more a servant, but a Son: and if a Son, then an heir of God through Christ. We must understand that in the Resurrection God did not raise a bunch of servants, but He raised ONE SON; and this is the Witness we are to be in the earth: of One Son living in union with God, His Father. But in order for this to take place in us, the servant – who is a child: under the Law of carnal commandments needs to be no more. **Galatians 4:1**: *"Now I say, That the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant,*

though he be lord of all; 2: But is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the father. 3: Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world:” This is describing God’s people under the Law. But The Cross releases them from being servants to living as Sons: by His Son. And this is a Work that continues to take place in our hearts as we allow The Cross to bring judgment and division in our souls. And when we do, only the Living, Resurrected Son of God remains!

Lesson 10 – Lesser Glory/Greater Glory

As we continue to consider the Reality of our Salvation now because of The Finished Work of The Cross (and it is so important for us to realize that the Work has been FINISHED!), I am so thankful that things for us are so **much better** than it was for the Old Covenant saints. **Hebrews 11:13:** *“These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.”* **Hebrews 11:39:** *“And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: 40: God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.”* They had faith in God’s promises, but they did NOT experience them. They could not come to completion without us: we can experience what they only believed in. And we now are living in the completion of God’s Plan and all His Promises – in the Truth – in Christ. We really need to appreciate this.

We know that all of the Old Covenant aspects of God’s dealings with the people spoke of our Salvation, and at that time they were waiting for them all to be perfected (brought to completion) by Christ and The Cross. And it took the many aspects of the Testimony to set forth in type the Full Work that The Cross would accomplish. **Hebrews 1:1:** *“God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the*

*fathers by the prophets.” But that was until that time came to an end and God’s manner of speaking and dealing with a people in this way came to an end. **Hebrews 1:2:** “*Hath in these last days (at the end of those days, which happened at The Cross) spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds.*” But then – with His coming and going to The Cross God no longer speaks in veiled prophecy and types and shadows. Now He speaks IN SON and The Son defines all things. And then all that was “lesser” was done away. This is another part of the great Judgment and dividing Work of The Cross. **I Corinthians 13:10:** “*But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.*” And this is so in God’s mind: all of the types and shadows, prophecies and promises have been perfected in Christ and no longer function as the Testimony because **the Witness of that Perfect Work has come!** Now this has to be so in our hearts and minds. There must be a letting go of the lesser knowledge, our fleshly understandings and natural attempts to serve God, and we must allow “the perfect” to be made manifest in us. But this One, this “Perfect” is **Christ**, the Second and He remains – greater than the first. And this is one principle that we have to have established in our hearts. To God the first is always natural, fleshly, not eternal. The second, is spiritual, Spirit and Eternal. **I Corinthians 15:46:** “*Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. 47: The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven.*” And Jesus said this is the reason why He came to this earth and this is the Will of the Father. **Hebrews 10:9:** “*Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.*”*

We have been looking at this regarding The Dividing Work of The Cross, and I want to look at this now regarding GLORY. And by this we are speaking about the actual presence of God coming to dwell in the people, and God being known in His Greatness and Light; and a people coming to experience a Relationship of Oneness with God as Father. When God is fully satisfied, this is shown as His Glory. And in the Old Testament we often read of God’s Glory being associated with the Tabernacle. But there is something important we have to see. **Exodus 40:16:** “*Thus did Moses: according to all that the LORD commanded him, so did he.*” When Moses did everything according to what the Lord commanded him, then the Glory came. And look at what the Glory did.

Exodus 40:34: *“Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. 35: And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the congregation, because the cloud abode thereon, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. 36: And when the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the children of Israel went onward in all their journeys: 37: But if the cloud were not taken up, then they journeyed not till the day that it was taken up. 38: For the cloud of the LORD was upon the tabernacle by day, and fire was on it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys.”* The Glory of the Lord filled the Tabernacle, and Moses (man) could not enter that tent because the Glory filled God’s House and His presence in the form of a cloud and fire was with them, upon that place. And we see this again repeated with the building of Solomon’s Temple in its permanent place, but everything had to be done according to what God commanded. **I Kings 8:10:** *“And it came to pass, when the priests were come out of the holy place, that the cloud filled the house of the LORD, 11: So that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of the LORD.”* We see here God’s Glory filling the house of the Lord because this was God’s heart. He desired to dwell and find His satisfaction and make Himself known in the midst of a people and this was all related to the Ark of the Covenant where God put all His Promises and His Testimony, and out from which He would speak with the people of Israel.

But we know that God’s people suffered the loss of that Glory and the loss of the Ark because they were not obedient to Him and refused in their hearts to do everything according to His ways. We read this in 1 Samuel chapters 2-4. **I Samuel 2:12:** *“Now the sons of Eli were sons of Belial; they knew not the LORD. 13: And the priests’ custom with the people was, that, when any man offered sacrifice, the priest’s servant came, while the flesh was in seething, with a fleshhook of three teeth in his hand; 14: And he struck it into the pan, or kettle, or caldron, or pot; all that the fleshhook brought up the priest took for himself. So they did in Shiloh unto all the Israelites that came thither. 15: Also before they burnt the fat, the priest’s servant came, and said to the man that sacrificed, Give flesh to roast for the priest; for he will not have sodden flesh of thee, but raw. 16: And if any man said unto him, Let them not fail to burn the fat presently, and then take as much as thy soul desireth; then he would answer him, Nay; but thou shalt give it me now: and if not, I will take it by*

force. 17: Wherefore the sin of the young men was very great before the LORD: for men abhorred the offering of the LORD." When Eli and his sons of the Priesthood ministered for their own greed, God not only struck them dead, but the Glory was departed from Israel and The Ark of The Covenant was taken into captivity. All of this was signifying that God was not fully pleased, and His Presence could no longer abide there – in hearts that were still natural and hardened against God, and functioned for their own fleshly satisfaction.

And even though we read in the Old Covenant Scriptures of the Lord appearing, and The Glory coming and wonderful things happening, the full Glory of the Lord was not experienced under that old system. Moses (The Law, Old Covenant Israel) never saw God's full Glory face to face: never experienced the Fulness of His Presence. **Exodus 33:18:** *"And he said, I beseech thee, shew me thy glory. 19: And he said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy. 20: And he said, Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live. 21: And the LORD said, Behold, there is a place by me, and thou shalt stand upon a rock: 22: And it shall come to pass, while my glory passeth by, that I will put thee in a clift of the rock, and will cover thee with my hand while I pass by: 23: And I will take away mine hand, and thou shalt see my back parts: but my face shall not be seen."* Notice here that "Glory" is associated with the Lord's "Face". And Moses could only see His back parts, but not His Face. So under this system there was no real knowing of God Face to Face. There was a hidden Glory, a partial Glory, but The Lord spoke of The Greater Glory that would come and fill a latter house.

God spoke this through the Prophet Haggai when they were restoring the Temple in Jerusalem after the Babylonian captivity. Israel had been taken away and the Temple destroyed in Jerusalem because God's people were not faithful to God's House and His ways. And the older men who had seen the original Temple had cried because this temple was not as great. **Haggai 2:3:** *"Who is left among you that saw this house in her first glory? and how do ye see it now? is it not in your eyes in comparison of it as nothing?"* There was a first Glory – it was natural, under The Law. But God promised something greater. **Haggai 2:9:** *"The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the*

LORD of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the LORD of hosts.” God didn’t just promise that there would be a greater House: God promised the GLORY of a latter House that shall be greater than the former; and in this place, the Second House, that Christ is and what He does will bring God’s Peace. And “peace” means Oneness of God with man. That is Glory! This is the Glory Jesus prayed for that we should receive in John 17. And this is the Glory that has come because of The Work of The Cross: the Glory that is now filling His House, that House that we are now in Christ.

But remember even though there was a Glory and a Presence of the Lord in the Old Covenant, there was no fulness, and it was done away. That was for that time, and would be done away when the Perfect came. But there is a Glory that exceeded: it is much more glorious and remains! And this is the Greater Glory that has now come by and in Christ, by The Work of The Cross. This is the Glory of the NEW Covenant. **II Corinthians 3:6:** *“Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life. 7: But if the ministration of death, written and engraven in stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not stedfastly behold the face of Moses for the glory of his countenance; which glory was to be done away: 8: How shall not the ministration of the spirit be rather glorious? 9: For if the ministration of condemnation be glory, much more doth the ministration of righteousness exceed in glory. 10: For even that which was made glorious had no glory in this respect, by reason of the glory that excelleth. 11: For if that which is done away was glorious, much more that which remaineth is glorious. 12: Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech: 13: And not as Moses, which put a vail over his face, that the children of Israel could not stedfastly look to the end of that which is abolished: 14: But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same vail untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which vail is done away in Christ. 15: But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the vail is upon their heart. 16: Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the vail shall be taken away. 17: Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. 18: But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.”*

These scriptures show very clearly the division between the old and New, the letter that kills and the Spirit that gives Life. And this Greater Glory has come because the veil was taken away in Christ by The Work of The Cross. Now His Glory can fill His House, and now with an open face (face to face) we can see and experience the full Glory of the Lord and The Glory changes us. And this is all by the Spirit of the Lord. The Work of The Cross separates the lesser and the Greater Glory! May we truly allow that division to take place in our hearts, because it is by the Indwelling Christ who is the very Glory of God Himself dwelling in us and making Himself known in us that we are changed so that we can live daily in this glorious Union with God. **Colossians 3:4:** *"When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory."*

Lesson 11 –Living in the NOW IS

These lessons I feel are important for us not only because of the current false teaching about "the end of the world" that is being shared today, but my heart has continually been to declare to you that which is **BUT NOW IN CHRIST**. We are not focusing on the things that to God now are "not": those things that have come to be dealt with by The Cross, but we are focusing on the Eternal NOW when all things are summed up and understood in Christ. This is what God had determined even before the world was. **Ephesians 1:10:** *"That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him."* This is a heavenly NOW, the New Covenant Age in which we now live, the Spiritual Truth, the Reality which is now our Life – fixed and settled with God, and towards which, and in light of which He always works. My prayer for us and for the Body of Christ is the same as the Apostle Paul's. **Ephesians 1:17:** *"That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: 18: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints."* Don't worry about what is going "to be": be concerned with what **IS – NOW** –in Christ Jesus. And we are seeing that what is, is

because of The Cross. What is come, and what is “to be” is what God planned and purposed, and He is satisfied with what IS. So may we come to know and experience what IS NOW IN CHRIST.

It is The Cross that makes the separation between the Promises of God and the Fulfillment: the Promise and the Presence of God now known to us in the Person of His Son. This was the message that Paul preached to the people of his day, and this is true also for us today. We know that the Mystery of God which is Christ and the Work of The Cross was hidden in the Law and Commandments, in the prophecies of the Old Covenant. But it is NOT now hidden by God. **Colossians 1:25:** *“Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God; 26: Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: 27: To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.”* Christ is NOT an expectation of a future Glory. “Glory” was promised of God under the Old Covenant, and that Glory that had been promised is NOW COME in the very Person of Christ. But it is The Indwelling Christ—The Resurrected Son of God now living in believers - not just the historical Jesus that fulfills the Word of God. The Mystery of Christ **IN YOU** had been hidden, but now is made manifest, and we now are to make known in the earth this Reality. What had been hidden; the Mystery of God covered for a time under the Old Covenant now comes to full Light and Manifestation in the Person of the Indwelling Son.

So I want to bring in two more words that are divided by The Work of The Cross: **DARKNESS** and **LIGHT**. But “darkness” is not to be understood just as evil acts. Darkness also means in-part knowledge, a veiled understanding with no full light and comprehension of Truth. And that was man’s position before The Cross: not only as unbelievers, but also as those under The Law. The Work of The Cross brings us from darkness into Light, and Christ is that Light, that understanding.

- **Colossians 1:12:** *“Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: 13: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:”* Notice our inheritance is in Light. He has delivered us: taken us out totally

from the power of darkness and hath (this is a Finished Work) brought us into a different state of being - the Kingdom of His Dear Son – in Light.

- **Ephesians 5:8:** *“For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light:”* You used to be darkness, (under the Law of sin and death) but now you are Light in the Lord. And now we are to live daily as children of Light, of God’s full understanding, which is Christ.
- **I John 2:8:** *“Again, a new commandment I write unto you, which thing is true in him and in you: because the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth. 9: He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now. 10: He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him. 11: But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.”* By The Cross the darkness is past and the TRUE Light (Christ) now shines. The darkness blinds the eyes so there is no true seeing. But in the Light there is no stumbling. And this is the realm into which we have been brought in Christ by The Cross, and God desires that we live daily in this Light.
- **I John 1:5:** *“This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. 6: If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: 7: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. 8: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.”* There is no darkness in God, and we no longer must live in the darkness of our own carnal understanding or even religion. He has made all things known in the Person of Christ by The Cross, and He wants us now not to live in darkness, but in Light and living The Truth, the Reality of having Christ as our Life.

In the Eternal NOW that has come by The Cross God wants us to see and experience, and be always attentive to The Light that Christ is, and the

understanding He has brought to us of God. **John 1:18:** *"No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him."* And now there is a seeing of what was hidden. We know in the Old Covenant God spoke and they heard words that were spoken by Moses and the Law, and by the Prophets. But that was only by an outward ear, and there was no true Spiritual comprehension: no seeing what God was speaking of. Hebrews 1 tells us this is how God spoke in times past, but under that Covenant, at that time God did not openly and fully make Himself known. There was no seeing of what was heard. And this is why the Law never made anything "perfect" or complete.

Deuteronomy 4:12: *"And the LORD spake unto you out of the midst of the fire: ye heard the voice of the words, but saw no similitude; only ye heard a voice."* - words (many words, plural). **Hebrews 12: 19** says Mount Sinai was the *"...voice of words..."* But they saw no similitude: there was no embodiment or manifestation. They only heard a voice. And because there was no seeing there was no true understanding of God. Now this was the condition under the Old Covenant: all they could do was try to obey what they could not understand, and that did not satisfy God's heart, and the people could NOT obey God. And if we today try to obey what we "hear" of the Word of God without a Spiritual seeing of Christ, that will seem to be religious, but will not satisfy God's heart either. It is still only the darkness of our natural carnal minds and traditional religion.

But when Jesus came to go to The Cross He would change that because now there would be a hearing and a seeing – according to God's view. Matthew 13 is speaking of the Jews of the Old Covenant. **Matthew 13:13:** *"Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. 14: And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive: 15: For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them. 16: But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear. 17: For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to see*

those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them.” At the time of the Old Covenant their eyes and ears were closed. They desired to see what Jesus’ disciples would see – the fulfillment of all the promises and prophecies - **HIM**. But they would not only see Him in the flesh, but in The Cross they would come to a hearing and seeing of The Word of God, The Word of Life, and in Him all the Mysteries of God would be made known. This is how the Apostles finally came to see and know Him: they SAW and HEARD HIM. **I John 1:1:** *“That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; 2: (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;) 3: That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. 4: And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.”* And this is how we also can come to know Him. We now can see what others could only hear of. And now God would have us to live daily by this hearing and seeing.

Jesus brings this beautifully together in Matthew 17 when He appears to the Disciples transfigured with Moses and Elijah. And the Son is glorified by The Father. The Father was not looking for three tabernacles, still holding on to the Old Covenant understanding; but would sum up all things in His Son. **Matthew 17:5:** *“While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.”* **Matthew 17:8:** *“And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save Jesus only.”* **HE** is the hearing and seeing of God by which we now can Live. We now, by The Work of The Cross in the glorious Salvation we now have in Christ have ears to hear, and eyes to see... only **HIM**!

Lesson 12 – Seeing/Knowing

We are continuing to speak of the Work of The Cross in bringing in the New Covenant under which we now enjoy all the Promises of God fulfilled in Christ. The book of Hebrews says that now – in Christ everything is **BETTER**. There is a better Priest, a better Sacrifice, a better Covenant. The Old Covenant and the Prophets spoke of “days to come”, but those “days” have now come in Christ, and it doesn’t get any BETTER! Being in Christ is the BEST! And to God there are no more “days to come”. We are now living Eternally in the Eternal Day of The Lord, The Eternal New Covenant of God, in the fulfillment of all that God had planned.

We have said that under the Old Covenant everything was veiled: they could not fully see and know God during that time. But Jeremiah spoke of another day. Speaking through the Prophet under the Old Covenant God spoke of a NEW Covenant that He would make that is NOT like the old one. And this is something we have to understand because we still try to bring over good parts from the “old” into the New: but God does NOT. The NEW is altogether different! **Jeremiah 31:31:** *“Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: 32: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD: 33: But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34: And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”* And notice how personal this New Covenant would be. This would be an inward writing of the Law in their hearts and minds, and they would know their relation to Him as their God, and as His people. Under this Covenant they would not be taught about Him: they would know Him, experience Him for themselves. This is the difference between the two Covenants and God’s dealing with the people. The first in the Scripture is always natural,

outward and temporal. The Second is always Spiritual, inward and Eternal.

And the “knowing of Him ” in a Relationship of union, of Oneness; not just as a Deity and Creator came by Jesus Christ who Himself is The New Covenant. **John 1:17:** *“For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. 18: No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.”* Jesus came to bring a true Seeing and Knowing of God. He by The Work of The Cross sets forth who God is: as The Word, making known God’s Mind and Will. Outside of Christ we cannot know The Father: The Son declares Him, reveals Him, makes Him known. And it was better for the Apostles of Jesus’ day than the Old Covenant saints. **Luke 10:21:** *“In that hour Jesus rejoiced in spirit, and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes: even so, Father; for so it seemed good in thy sight. 22: All things are delivered to me of my Father: and no man knoweth who the Son is, but the Father; and who the Father is, but the Son, and he to whom the Son will reveal him. 23: And he turned him unto his disciples, and said privately, Blessed are the eyes which see the things that ye see: 24: For I tell you, that many prophets and kings have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them.”* This is all according to God’s Plan because The Father and The Son are not separate: They are ONE. **John 14:9:** *“Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father? 10: Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works. 11: Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works’ sake.”* Jesus told His disciples this while He was with them in the earth, but it has to do with a SEEING. And the seeing has to do with KNOWING.

But this “seeing and knowing” is not physical or intellectual. It means experiencing the essence of God. This is what was missing under the Old Covenant: they at times could see His mighty works, but could not truly experience the very essence of His Heart and know His Fulness. But this is what God desires for us: to make Himself – His Nature, His Mind, His

Heart fully known to us and worked in us. And He does this by revealing His Son: His Word, His Life in us for He has come to dwell in us so we can experience HIM. **Galatians 1:15:** *"But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace, 16: To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood:"* Notice there must first be a separation from the first: the natural realm, even religion. This is all by God's Grace and can only become effective in us by the Working of His Grace as shown to us by The Cross whereby we are totally separated from all of the first. Notice also that this is a Work of God inwardly: The Son is not revealed outwardly or merely to our brains as a teaching or doctrine. He is revealed, unveiled in His Truth by the Holy Spirit in our souls. And God revealed His Son inwardly for a purpose: to preach Christ – that we would be a witness (a declaration) of who He is: The Living One who now lives in Born Again Believers. HE is the One who was hidden in the Old Covenant, but He now dwells in us. **Colossians 1:26:** *"Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: 27: To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory."*

The Mystery is now made known by The Work of The Cross. Christ is in you: the Glory promised under the Old Covenant is now come in you. That Glory is the very Resurrected Son of God and He is filling His Temple with Himself. As we have said: Christ in you is not a promise of Glory to come: He is the very Glory of God now come! And now because He as The Resurrected Son is now living in us, we can experience daily a relationship with God as our Father. And now we "see Him" as our Life. This "seeing" is spiritual. God takes the veil off our hearts and eyes so that we can see The Truth, the Reality of our New Relationship with Him in His Son. Now we see as He sees, all according to God's Eternal Plan because this is what God planned even before the world was created.

It is important that we understand this is not just "seeing" the natural, fleshly Jesus, which is what most in Christianity do today. The earthly man Jesus was part of God's Eternal Plan, but we have to "see" Him as from the beginning to truly know Him. Sadly, most religious people only try to relate to the flesh Jesus, but there is much more of Him to know. **I John 1:1:** *"That which was from the beginning, which we have heard,*

which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; 2: (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;) 3: That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.” This is how the Apostles finally came to know Him – from the beginning. And notice that under the Old Covenant there was a hearing of the Testimony, but no seeing. Therefore there was no Truth, no Witness, no Life. But with Jesus coming to earth to go to The Cross, the hearing becomes seeing, and now there is a knowing: experiencing The Truth.

This comes by The Revelation of **HIM**: the uncovering of Him by The Spirit of God, and the Truth of Him seen. This is the essence of the book of The Revelation of Jesus Christ. Contrary to what is often preached in Christianity today the book of Revelation is not of “end time events”, but it is the revelation of **HIM** – Jesus Christ. It sets forth the Truth as God sees it, of the Reality of Heaven, of His Eternal Plan now fulfilled in Christ by The Cross. And of course this brings about tremendous consequences, but those are because of Him and The Work of The Cross. But we need God to reveal His Son to understand the book of the Revelation of Jesus Christ. We cannot try to interpret it by man, for man. Jesus Christ and The Cross opens the book and opens Heaven to us. **Revelation 4:1:** *“After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter. 2: “And immediately I was in the spirit: and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne.”* **Revelation 5:1:** *“And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals. 2: And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof? 3: And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon. 4: And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon. 5: And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof. 6: And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the*

four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth. 7: And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne.” HE is the door that opens Heaven and the only One who can open the book; and HE is the focus of the Throne and everything in Heaven. And for us it is not just “seeing” that in a Spiritual or an intellectual way, but experiencing that. So the question for us is: does HE fill up your Heaven? Does HE sit on the Throne and rule in you?

I want to end this lesson by pointing to an order of hearing and seeing. **Revelation 1:1:** *“The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John: 2: Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw. 3: Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.”* Notice God (not man) gave the revelation of Jesus Christ. Notice also “see/hear”. **Revelation 1:7:** *“Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen. 8: I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.”* First there will be a SEEING of The I AM. This is much greater than just seeing with the natural eyes the man Jesus. God wants us to experience The One which is, which was, and The One who is ever coming.

So John heard The Voice, but then there must be a SEEING of The One heard. And John had to turn to see The Voice he heard. **Revelation 1:10:** *“I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet, 11: Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea. 12: And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks; 13: And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.”* This is a turning of the heart with an intention: not just to “turn to the Lord”: but

to turn to SEE THE VOICE THAT SPOKE TO HIM. He is the Substance and Life of The Church: but you have to turn your heart to see Him. He is the one God wants us to see and to know Him in this way. And we will be judged by this One who lives in the midst of us. (It is an interesting study to read Revelation 2 and 3 and see that all of the exhortations and actions The Lord takes with regard to the Church are in regard to who This One is.)

LESSON 13 – Kept Out/Access

We are continuing to speak of the Greatness of our Salvation because of The Finished Work of The Cross, and to see how The Cross divides between the old and the New, and how we are now living in the BETTER REALITY: in Christ in whom all the promises of God are now fulfilled. And my heart's prayer is that we would truly come to know (experience) what is, and to be the presencing of this New Life here in the earth. This is God's View of The Church.

Previously we have spoken of SEEING: that under the Old Covenant they could not see and know God clearly, and trying to know Him by the keeping of the carnal commandments did not bring them to a true knowledge of Him. And we must understand this. You cannot truly know God and have a living relationship with Him in and by the flesh. **I Corinthians 2:9:** *“But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.”* The natural eye and ear, most especially the religious man can NOT know what God has prepared. These were words spoken by Isaiah in chapter 64:4, and this was so under the Old Covenant: before The Cross. But it changed by The Cross. Now God wants us to know Him fully, and He has given us His Spirit, The Spirit of Truth so that we can know. **I Corinthians 2:10:** *“But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. 11: For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. 12: Now we have received, not the spirit of*

the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.” God has revealed them to us by His Spirit so that we might know, experience intimately what God has freely given unto us. And what God gave us was The Cross: His Son on The Cross bringing an end to the old, and giving us New Life – His Life. Now we can not only SEE the Salvation that God planned, but ENTER into it and experience all of it. Why? Because of The Cross. By The Cross we are no longer kept out and kept away from God. By The Cross, those who have come to God’s Redemption by The Blood of the Lamb are come nigh to Him and have full access to all that God planned. This is another aspect of the Greatness of The Cross.

We know in God’s dealings with Adam and Eve because of their sin they were put out of the garden, the Presence of God. **Genesis 3:23:** *“Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken. 24: So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.”* And it is important for us to understand that the Adamic man is kept OUT from God’s Presence and from knowing His Mind and Life. And Adam **NEVER** comes back to God’s Presence. But...**God kept the way of the Tree of Life.** And that “way” is Christ and The Cross. Adam remains unacceptable to God and can have no true fellowship with God because of the issue of sin: the sin nature of that Adamic man. But by The Cross God has brought a people to Himself, and He has made us acceptable in Christ. **Ephesians 1:5:** *“Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, 6: To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. 7: In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace.”* Remember His Grace is made known to us by The Cross!

The whole Old Covenant Law system and the Tabernacle worship was designed of God to give us a type of God living in the midst of a people, but under that system there was always a barrier between God and man. This is what Mount Sinai set forth. God at that time was in a thick cloud and He was unapproachable. **Exodus 19:9:** *“And the LORD said unto Moses, Lo, I come unto thee in a thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with thee, and believe thee for ever. And Moses told the*

words of the people unto the LORD... **12:** And thou shalt set bounds unto the people round about, saying, Take heed to yourselves, that ye go not up into the mount, or touch the border of it: whosoever toucheth the mount shall be surely put to death: **13:** There shall not an hand touch it, but he shall surely be stoned, or shot through; whether it be beast or man, it shall not live: when the trumpet soundeth long, they shall come up to the mount....**16:** And it came to pass on the third day in the morning, that there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mount, and the voice of the trumpet exceeding loud; so that all the people that was in the camp trembled... **23:** And Moses said unto the LORD, The people cannot come up to mount Sinai: for thou chargedst us, saying, Set bounds about the mount, and sanctify it...**24:** And the LORD said unto him, Away, get thee down, and thou shalt come up, thou, and Aaron with thee: but let not the priests and the people break through to come up unto the LORD, lest he break forth upon them.” We can see here plainly that the people had no access to God, but He established the priests who would function as mediators between God and man. They were the ones “going up” and receiving from God, and then “coming down” and speaking God’s words to them. And this position was further established in the Tabernacle where God was there, but He was hidden behind the veil in the Holy of Holies. And the people were able to function in the outer chambers offering sacrifices and doing priestly service, but NO MAN but the High Priest could enter into the very Presence of God. And that was only one time of year – with blood. And because of what that Priest did, the people were accepted of God for a year: but there still was no full access to God’s presence and a true knowing of Him and experiencing true Salvation.

But now... **By The Cross** ... we have not come to that mount and we are not living by that Old Covenant with its restrictions. **Hebrews 12:18:** “For ye are not come unto the mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire, nor unto blackness, and darkness, and tempest, **19:** And the sound of a trumpet, and the voice of words; which voice they that heard intreated that the word should not be spoken to them any more: **20:** (For they could not endure that which was commanded, And if so much as a beast touch the mountain, it shall be stoned, or thrust through with a dart: **21:** And so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake:.) **22:** But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of

angels, 23: To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, 24: And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.” It is THE CROSS that has made this division between the Mounts of God and the Covenants of God. And now – by The Finished Work of The Cross we are come nigh to God and to Jesus! We are no longer kept out and kept far from Him, but have been brought nigh in Christ. And that does not mean just come into proximity to Him, but we have come into a personal. Living Relationship of Life with Him – as His own!

By Christ, who has passed into the heavens, we – as One with Him are brought to God and can come boldly to Him. This was not so under the Old Covenant: they lived in fear of God because sin was always an issue to them. **Hebrews 4:14:** *“Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. 15: For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. 16: Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.”* Because of what Jesus did at The Cross we can now come boldly to His Throne of Grace. Now we have the assurance of what His blood did, and by this New and Living way we can enter into the Holiest, into the very Presence of God! **Hebrews 10:19:** *“Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, 20: By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; 21: And having an high priest over the house of God; 22: Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.”* This is not because of what we do, but because of what Jesus did by The Cross. Now by Him we have **ACCESS**. This is not something that Adam (even religious man) can obtain, but this is what The Cross of Christ has accomplished for those who believe on Christ and His Cross.

Consider these scriptures:

- **Romans 5:1:** *“Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: 2: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the*

glory of God.” By the Work of The Cross we have access to God. We stand now in Christ, in God’s presence, and He ever lives to make intercession for us. (Hebrews 7:25)

- **Ephesians 2:18:** *“For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.”* By the Work of The Cross both Jew and Gentile now as One New Man have access by One Spirit unto The Father. The Lord Jesus Christ is the way to The Father, to Life.
- **Ephesians 3:12:** *“In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.”* Because we are now in Christ and not separate from Him we have confidence to come to God without fear, by the faith (knowledge) of what He has already done by His Cross.

And why is this so? Because when Christ died, He removed the veil of flesh that kept us out. **II Corinthians 3:14:** *“But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same vail untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which vail is done away in Christ.”* When He died on The Cross the Veil in the Temple was destroyed. **Matthew 27:51:** *“And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent.”* The veil, the partition keeping us away from God is done away in Christ. The problem is the veil of flesh remains on my heart, keeping me away from God’s Presence. But **II Corinthians 3:16:** says, *“Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the vail shall be taken away.”* And when the veil is taken away from our hearts then we can live in the full knowledge of what He has done by His Cross and experience the Full Salvation God has planned for us. This is what The Cross of Christ has done.

Lesson 14 – Many/One

We are continuing to look at the greatness of The Cross and its Finished Work in fully realizing all of God's Eternal Plan, and now I want to focus on God's heart and the nature of God which is ONE. **Ephesians 4:4:** *"There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; 5: One Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6: One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all."* And in order for us to comprehend the greatness of our Salvation, we must understand this Oneness and God's heart bringing us into Oneness with Himself. And as with everything else of our Salvation we must ask God to open our eyes to His View. Natural Man cannot comprehend this Oneness, so we see ourselves as separate from God – as two, even though we are "saved" and have His Life. But God wants to not only show us this Oneness, but He desires that we live in this Reality every day while we are here on this earth.

Jesus prayed in John 17 for this Oneness – for us, for believers. **John 17:20:** *"Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; 21: That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. 22: And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: 23: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me."* Jesus prayed that they would BE ONE: that they would come into a maturity of godliness: that they be made perfect (fully complete) as One. This is not speaking of you and I trying to get along and come to unity, but that the Oneness of the Godhead would so work in us that we would function as One with God in Christ: and out from that as One with each other in the earth. We try to make ourselves "one" in the earth, especially in the "Christian world", but it does NOT work until we see that we are MADE TO BE ONE IN THE HEAVENS – in Christ. And then what is so in Heaven, in Christ, is made so in the earth – in us. And the emphasis is not on "us being One", but on the Oneness of God working in us, expressing that Oneness in the earth. And this is all for a Purpose: so that the world would see this Oneness that is an

expression of God's Nature and Love.

But may we never forget that we can only have Oneness with The Father, and out from that with each other **IN ONE AND BY ONE**, and through One Work: that One is Christ and that One Work is by His Cross. This was always God's Plan. **Ephesians 1:10:** *"That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him."* That He would gather together as One: not as many separate things, but as One in One the all things of the Testimony of God's Eternal Plan – in Christ. And all things would be summed up and only fully comprehended in This One – **IN CHRIST and as the Fulness of Him.**

And we must understand that God by The Work of The Cross has what He planned in the New Creation that He has given ONE Life to. **I Peter 1:23:** *"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever."* We must understand all truly Born-Again believers have only One Life, by One Seed: the Life of Christ. And in the reality of The Cross God has not raised many, but He has raised **ONE.** **Ephesians 2:5:** *"Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)"* **6:** *"And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:"* God has given us Life together (as One) with Christ, and He has raised up One, and made (all believers of every generation) to sit together as One in heavenly places – in Christ, for Christ is The One in whom all who live have Life: but it is His Life, and they are One with Him. In the Resurrection God did NOT raise many: He raised ONE – One Body: Christ as Head and many members, but they are ONE, and only have One Life, and appear before God AS ONE.

And this is the understanding that we have to come to: that God planned for ONE to be in relationship with Him, not as separate but as One. And in the Reality of our Salvation we are not in relationship with Him as individuals, but in One – as One – His Son who is One with His Father. Consider that God has not looked for many, but He has always looked for One – One Son. Regarding Israel as "His people": **Exodus 4:22:** *"And thou shalt say unto Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD, Israel is my son, even my firstborn."* God saw them not as many Israelites, or tribes or peoples, but as One: and the Relationship of Oneness was **AS SON.** And **I**

Corinthians 1:9: says, *“God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.”* We were called to participate in Christ in the Oneness of Father, Son, and Spirit! We do NOT have our own relationship with God: we have The Son’s relationship with His Father, and we have been brought into THEIR Oneness. And God deals with us IN SON – AS ONE – ONE SON: in the Truth of Their Oneness.

But I want us to see that Christ is The One who is our Oneness with The Father, and also with each other; and that God is not satisfied with the “many”, but with the “One”.

Consider these scriptures:

Regarding Seeds/Seed - **Galatians 3:16:** *“Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ.”* The promise was not to many, but to One – Christ.

Regarding God’s ways of speaking – **Hebrews 1:1:** *“God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, 2: Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;”* Before the Cross, under the Old Covenant God spoke using types and shadows, promises and prophecies to set forth His Plan of Salvation. However God now does not speak in many ways, but because of The Cross that ended “those days”, He now speaks to us completely only in One – in Son, and in Him God’s Perfect Salvation is understood.

- Old Covenant speaking: **Hebrews 12:19:** *“And the sound of a trumpet, and the voice of words; which voice they that heard Intreated that the word should not be spoken to them any more.”* Mount Sinai (Old Covenant position of the Law) was a mount of words (plural), but we now have come to the New Covenant Word (singular) of Life – Christ, and in this One God says everything He needs to say.

Regarding Tabernacles - **Matthew 17:1:** Notice Jesus is speaking of “after” – speaking of what will take place AFTER The Cross. *“And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart, 2: And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light. 3:*

And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him. 4: Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias. 5: While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him. 6: And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their face, and were sore afraid. 7: And Jesus came and touched them, and said, Arise, and be not afraid. 8: And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save Jesus only.” God does not want three Tabernacles that man builds for God, but God is only pleased with One. The Father declares from Heaven: “This is My Beloved Son: He is the only One I am well pleased in. Hear Him!” And it is the Voice of this One that God would have us now hear and live by.

Regarding bodies – We must understand by The Cross that the bodies of the Old Creation were counted as dead to God and put away from Him, and God has brought forth another Body, a different Body, a Spiritual Body. And it is The Lord – One. **I Corinthians 15:42:** *“So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption: 43: It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power: 44: It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. 45: And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. 46: Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. 47: The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven.”* In the first corruptible creation there are the many: but in The Resurrection there is raised a Second Man, an Incorruptible Man (not men) who is not many, but One: the Lord from Heaven.

- **Philippians 3:20:** *“For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: 21: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.”* This is speaking of the body of Old Covenant Israel (not the individual bodies of Adam) being changed into the Glorious Body of The Resurrected Christ. Once again we need to understand there is only ONE Body raised: the Body of Christ. This is The New Man, and this is The Church.

The New Man is not us made better: but none of us, and all that is Him. **Colossians 3:11:** *"Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all."* This New Man is not male or female or any of the "many" of the first creation. All of the many were brought to their end at The Cross. **Ephesians 2:15:** This is speaking of the Jew and the Gentile, but those differences are done away with by The Cross. *"Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; 16: And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: 17: And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. 18: For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father."* He brought the many into one body at The Cross and brought them to death. But now in One Resurrection Body – One New Man, we are brought as One to a Relationship of Oneness: in One—in Christ.

And God sees this One Body as Church: The Body of His Son; what He raised as One. **Ephesians 1:20:** *"Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, 21: Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: 22: And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, 23: Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all."* We have to understand that God does NOT see His Church as the many of us: we are NOT the increase of The Church – CHRIST is because The Church is The Body of Christ – ONE. This is God's Work in us: that we see we are many members, but One Body: His. We must understand the Body we are by The Work of The Cross is not defined by the many of us, but by the One –Christ. **I Corinthians 12:12:** *"For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. 13: For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. 14: For the body is not one member, but many. 15: If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? 16: And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? 17: If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were*

hearing, where were the smelling? **18:** But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. **19:** And if they were all one member, where were the body? **20:** But now are they many members, yet but one body. **21:** And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. **22:** Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary: **23:** And those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more abundant honour; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness. **24:** For our comely parts have no need: but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honour to that part which lacked: **25:** That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another. **26:** And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it. **27:** Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular. **28:** And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues. **29:** Are all apostles? are all prophets? are all teachers? are all workers of miracles? **30:** Have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret? **31:** But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way." There are different ministries in the Body, but they are only the working of One – Christ.

This is the One Body God is changing us into so that we function in the earth as His Son. It is not the body of the old man that is many, but His Glorious Resurrected Body which is even now in the Heavens, which is One. This works in us by The Work of The Cross bringing an end to the "many" of us – leaving only One: Christ. And this is what pleases the heart of The Father: not many, but ONE.

Lesson 15 – No Mixture

We are coming to the end of our lessons on The Dividing Work of The Cross, and I pray we are seeing the Greatness of The Cross of Christ bringing us much more than just forgiveness of sins. At The Cross a tremendous Judgment was executed upon all things. Speaking of The Cross Jesus said in **John 12:31**: *“Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out.”* His Cross would execute God’s righteous Judgment upon the world and all mankind, and bring a separating of all things according to God’s right Judgment. And friends, we are living in the NOW of this Judgment: not looking for a future Judgment, but realizing that all things are and will be judged according to the Judgment that took place at The Cross.

This is an aspect of The Cross we must acknowledge and embrace: The Cross separates the living from the dead, and this is all according to God’s view. Jesus began to speak of this to His disciples in **Luke 12:49**: *“I am come to send fire on the earth; and what will I, if it be already kindled? 50: But I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how am I straitened till it be accomplished! 51: Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather division: 52: For from henceforth there shall be five in one house divided, three against two, and two against three. 53: The father shall be divided against the son, and the son against the father; the mother against the daughter, and the daughter against the mother; the mother in law against her daughter in law, and the daughter in law against her mother in law.”* The fire that He would bring on the earth will cause division, not peace. The “baptism” He was facing was The Cross. And that fire would try everything and bring division between those who will receive Him and therefore receive Life: and those who refuse Him, and therefore have death. This is God’s Judgment, God’s division, and it is a right Judgment. And when God makes the decision and He separates it is an Eternal division, and He will NOT tolerate mixture.

Here is where we get in trouble because we think we know God and we think God’s Judgment is too harsh, so we want to judge according to man’s wisdom and not God’s. We want to “judge” according to what is “right or wrong” or according to what we think are the “good intentions

of our hearts”, and we expect that God will judge in the same way. And “our” Judgment is less severe and allows for all sorts of mixture, but God’s does not. And this is why the flesh man so often refuses the full and complete Judgment of The Cross of Christ. Because that Cross and the Judgment that it brought allows no mixture. But in our hearts we think that God will accept the “fleshly good things I do” because “I meant well”: but God’s Judgment refuses to allow the flesh which is dead to Him to be tolerated, and will not allow what is dead into His Presence.

So let us look at God’s thoughts and actions concerning “dividing” and “mixture”. Right in the beginning of the natural first creation God divided. **Genesis 1:4:** “*And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. 5: And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.*” Notice that God divided and then gave different names to what He had divided, and to God these are two different realms, two different things. We have to come to recognize how God see things and not try to mix what God has divided.

Ultimately we see this in The Finished Work of The Cross. **Colossians 1:12:** “*Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: 13: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son.*” The Cross has made this division: between Light and dark: between Life and death. And it is a clean and definite division. We see this in type with Israel and the Red Sea (Exodus 14). After the waters were opened and God’s people delivered, all the enemy was destroyed and the waters returned – making a permanent division. And this division should now be working in us: with no mixture of darkness and Light. **Ephesians 5:8:** “*For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light.*” And notice the word “NOW”. We are now Light in the Lord because of The Work of His Cross. We are to walk as who we NOW are by Him. **I John 1:5:** “*This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. 6: If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: 7: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.*” Now because of our union with Him (who has NO darkness in Him) we are

not to walk in darkness, but walk in Light as He is in the Light.

Because of what God has done by The Finished Work of The Cross this is what He desires for us. But in our carnal minds, and because we have not experienced a full working of The Cross in our souls, we think we can function in “gray areas”: not total darkness, but not total Light. But this is contrary to God’s Mind and what The Cross has done. This matter is settled before God and it must be settled in us.

To His people Israel in the types and shadows of the Old Covenant God clearly set forth this division: of Life and death. **Deuteronomy 30:19:** *“I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live: 20: That thou mayest love the LORD thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”* God set before them Life and death, blessing and cursing. They had to choose. Now they wanted to be free from the bondage of Egypt, but their hearts still desired the food of Egypt, and they detested God’s provision of the manna. **Numbers 11:4:** *“And the mixt multitude that was among them fell a lusting: and the children of Israel also wept again, and said, Who shall give us flesh to eat? 5: We remember the fish, which we did eat in Egypt freely; the cucumbers, and the melons, and the leeks, and the onions, and the garlick: 6: But now our soul is dried away: there is nothing at all, beside this manna, before our eyes.”* In their hearts they did not allow God’s Judgment to remove all of the first world from them, and they continued to want to satisfy their own flesh. And notice this is “the mixed multitude” desiring the goodies of Egypt, and this was a big problem for them! They had allowed the heathen into their midst, and they were desirous of the ways of the world and not of God. God’s people were to be a separate people, a Holy Nation unto Him and they were not to be influenced by the peoples of the world. And this is still a problem for us. God said do not make Covenant with the unbelievers and allow them to influence you.

God’s idea of “no mixture” was a big part of natural Israel’s life. **Leviticus 19:19:** *“Ye shall keep my statutes. Thou shalt not let thy cattle gender with a diverse kind: thou shalt not sow thy field with mingled seed:*

neither shall a garment mingled of linen and woollen come upon thee." These were practical things to them, but they have great Spiritual ramifications. God brought His Judgment upon Israel, His Vineyard where He had planted His Vine - His Life (in type) and He expected them to bring forth THAT Life. **Isaiah 5:1:** *"Now will I sing to my wellbeloved a song of my beloved touching his vineyard. My wellbeloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill: 2: And he fenced it, and gathered out the stones thereof, and planted it with the choicest vine, and built a tower in the midst of it, and also made a winepress therein: and he looked that it should bring forth grapes, and it brought forth **wild grapes**. 3: And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem, and men of Judah, judge, I pray you, betwixt me and my vineyard."* God had established that a seed brings forth after its own kind, and this is fulfilled in Christ The Seed of God. And it is by This Seed that we receive our New Birth, our New Life: by that Incorruptible Seed that He is. He brings forth His Life where He is sown (in us, in our hearts), and He cannot be mixed with another seed: God doesn't want some of "us" and some of "Jesus". We can't make Him better! God is after only His Seed, His Life, and when we receive Him, we are clothed upon with Him: His Life (the linen equals His righteousness). We now have to put off everything that is not Him. God will tolerate NO mixture. He desires "not I, but Christ". This is the great "Not-BUT" that is taken care of at The Cross. By that Work God has what He has Eternally desired. He as the Husbandman waiteth for the vineyard to bring forth ONLY His Vine, His Life.

This is the Judgment that was executed at The Cross, and it is a tremendous Eternal division between flesh and Spirit. **John 3:6:** *"That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit."* You and I have to come to terms with this division, this Judgment and not try to get God to accept a mixture: He never will! **I Corinthians 1:29:** *"That no flesh should glory in his presence."* **No flesh!** To God flesh is abomination and He does not tolerate it or make Covenant with it! The Cross has made that clear separation, and that Judgment must work in us also. **Romans 8:5:** *"For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. 6: For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. 7: Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. 8: So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. 9: But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit,*

if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. 10: And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11: But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you. 12: Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. 13: For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.” If we are living and functioning in the flesh we cannot please God. If we live after the flesh we die: we are separated from God. But if we embrace The Work of The Cross: the Judgment and division that came by that Finished Work – we live. There can be **NO MIXTURE** to God!