THE NAME OF JESUS By HENRY STANLEY

It is so wonderful to be gathered together unto HIM: because one thing I always desire, and that is that we always understand that we are gathered together unto HIM. Without a gathering unto Him there is really no gathering. Over in the book of Genesis it declares that the Law would come out of Judah. But The Word of the Lord would come out of Jerusalem. Many have just seen that as the natural Jerusalem, but that is the Jerusalem of God, that's the heavenly Jerusalem. And it says all of that will come until Shiloh come. **Genesis 49:10:** "The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be." And Shiloh was speaking of Christ coming: in His Presence, in His Glory.

Now I want to review some things. I have been reading recently, and the Lord has really stirred my heart. And we are a people certainly that continue to look for the revealing of Christ; we are a people that desire the unveiling of Christ, His coming, His unveiling in our hearts and in our lives. As I was reading in the whole book of Nehemiah, my heart was stirred. And I won't go into that a whole lot: but my heart was stirred. How many times had the children of Israel heard the Word of God by prophets, by so many ways that God would speak and come unto them – by Moses, and you could go into a lot of ways. And yet we find they seemed to have forgotten the Word of The Lord: of what God has spoken to them. I am actually going back to something very basic now. I am going back for the very reality of what God has said through Peter. He said

that though we walk in the present Truth, I want to bring these things to your remembrance. *II Peter 1:12: "Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth."*

And most of the time people never deal with what I am going to share until Christmas: on the birth of Christ. But I want us to go to some scriptures. For some time the Lord has laid upon my heart concerning THE NAME OF JESUS: that Name that is above every name: that Name that is said that every knee should bow and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of the Father. And we must never miss that: that the Purpose of Jesus Christ is that The Father Himself would be glorified. There is so many ways that we could look at things in the Word of God, and realize that there was a relationship of The Father and The Son. Always - even before the foundation of the world: even before time began with mankind, there was a union, a relationship with The Father and with The Son. And that's why we look at the Word and we understand, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." (John 1:1) John 1:14: "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among (men)..." But I want us to begin going into the book of Isaiah 7, and I am going to be reading a lot of verses of Scripture, and the Lord is going to have to speak into our hearts concerning many things that we read. This is really basic to what begins in our lives as believers in Christ.

Sometimes we don't back to the basics. Sometimes we don't go back to what some determine is elementary: and yet many times the elementary parts people have missed. And they try to come up into a "high Revelation understanding"; a "high Revelation of the Word", and there's never been a foundation

that has been laid in their hearts and in their minds to understand, to walk and progress and grow in the Lord. So in Isaiah 7:10: "Moreover the LORD spake again unto Ahaz, saying, 11: Ask thee a sign of the LORD thy God; ask it either in the depth, or in the height above. 12: But Ahaz said, I will not ask, neither will I tempt the LORD. 13: And he said, Hear ye now, O house of David; Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will ye weary my God also? 14: Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. 15: Butter and honey shall he eat, that he may know to refuse the evil, and choose the good. **16:** For before the child shall know to refuse the evil, and choose the good, the land that thou abhorrest shall be forsaken of both her kings."And if you would do a search you would see that this is about 700 and some odd years before Jesus that this Word was given unto the King: that there would be a sign given: that there be a virgin and she would come forth and conceive and bring forth a son.

And Matthew gives us this account. We are going to look in Matthew and Luke at this. Matthew 1:20: "But while he thought on these things, (speaking of Joseph) behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost." (And that is very important to remember.) 21: And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. 22: Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, (that's what we just read: by the Prophet Isaiah in Isaiah 7) saying, 23: Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us." One of the great announcements that God is speaking here is that His Name shall be called JESUS. In the

book of Acts, chapter 4 is a very powerful chapter: we see the manifestation and the glorification of The Father being glorified through This Son - the miraculous power being manifested. And yet the great persecution, the great rejection, the great coming against was by those of the great Hierarchy of that day. And they came against Him, but there was no question that GOD had ordained this Name. And we've said that people can take and use the Name "Lord": they can use "The Son": they can use all kinds of names. But The Name of Jesus seems to have a stigma attached to it. And it seemed to be a stigma even to those that were standing in the midst and saw the miraculous power of God that was being manifest. But note that The Word of God says that this woman, this virgin would come forth and His Name would be called Emmanuel – the very same thing that Isaiah has spoken and said this will be a sign unto you.

You see many may have looked down the corridors of time and thought that Isaiah had prophesied something that would not be true or perhaps would never come to pass. Many times people will look at the Word of God or look at a prophecy or what a Prophet had said and they will say, 'Well it's been a hundred years and it hasn't happened." But this was 700 years and better when Isaiah had spoken this Word and here it is 700 years later, and God begins to speak and calls a virgin that had never known a man. And she would conceive by the Holy Ghost and His Name would be called Jesus: but not only would His Name be called Jesus, but He would be called Emmanuel, which is being interpreted, GOD IS WITH US. This is what it speaks of in John 1:1, ""In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us..." Also in 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." The Apostle goes on and describes this One who the Prophets had spoken of: This One had come, and therefore John declares he had seen Him, He had been manifested. That which came from The Father would be manifested, and had been manifested. And he shows that great fellowship that they have with The Father and with The Son. I John 1:3: "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." His message was to the people there, and it's the same message to you and I today, because the message of Christ is always a true message – to every age, to every generation that ever comes.

And this message has come so that this same fellowship that we have John said, with The Father and with The Son: that you might have that same fellowship - that your joy may be full. There are many places we can go to, but what I want us to see is that God established a Name whereby that everything that is established: everything that is established in God would come through that Name: would come through Jesus. We all know that today the Gospel is polluted. People are preaching that there are many ways unto God. You can turn on the television and they are saying that you are a god within yourself! That's that New Age Movement based upon Humanism. But we must understand that we are NOT a god within ourselves, but there is One that is come, to live, to abide within, and His Name is **IESUS.** And there is a nature and a character of that One. Just as HE was the manifestation (1 John 1:1) – Jesus Christ was the manifestation of all that God was. God prior to this had never taken on a human form. Colossians 1 shows us that. Jesus was the very humanity of God that came into the earth, and that God had never taken on that form before. But now Christ comes as that manifestation of God in the earth. John sees it and declares it: "We have seen it; we have heard it." Many only see this to the point that John was walking with Jesus, which he was. He saw Him personally upon the earth. But John's relationship went much further: as your relationship and my relationship today, because none of us have seen Him with our own eyes.

The Apostle Paul had never seen Him with his own eyes, and yet The Lord "appeared unto him", The Lord "spoke unto him", The Lord was "revealed unto him", and "made known unto him". So when we look at this we must understand that His Name shall be called Emmanuel - God is with us. And so in John 14 when Jesus talking to His disciples, He said in verse 1, "...ye believe in God, believe also in me. 2: In my Father's house are many mansions..." That word "mansions" there is the same word in the Greek as "many abodes, many dwelling places". Some of the translations say "tents, tabernacles for God to dwell." He says in verse 2, "... I go to prepare a place for you." The place He was going to go to was **THE CROSS**. There has never been a Preacher that I have ever met who has ever denied that Jesus was going to The Cross at this time. And so He said "In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." The place that Christ was preparing for you and I was in The Cross. But that Place that He was preparing was through His death in The Cross to bring us into union and relationship with Himself. That's what Jesus is saying. THAT WHERE I AM THERE YE MAY BE ALSO. Now I realize what the church has done with that. This is spoken of in the 15th and 16th chapter. "Yet a little while and you will not see Me, and yet a little while and you will see Me." And the church has taken that and make it 2000 years, 3000 years, and here we have come to this period of time. And yet this has been a little while in the eyes of some.

But what the Lord Iesus was speaking of was that He was going to be crucified, buried, raised from the dead and ascended back, and then He would come back within the believer through the Holy Spirit to indwell the believer's life. So then when Jesus said in John 14:4: "And whither I go ye know, and the way ve know. 5: Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?" And notice Jesus brought together WHERE He was going and THE WAY and He brought it all into HIMSELF: not something apart from Him; not something separate from Him: but He brought it into Himself. **6:** "*Iesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the* life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." And think of all the ways people have come up with today to get to God: to bypass The Door: to bypass The Way, to bypass The Shepherd. THERE IS NO OTHER WAY TO GOD! In other words, there is no other Name wherein should be preached repentance and remission of sins. It all must be preached in His Name. Several weeks back we were sharing on "The Name of Jesus": the importance of that Name, and even people of Revelation have come to say it's a nature and a character, and it is a nature; it is a character of the living Reality of The Living Person. Christ through the Holy Spirit has come to live in us! He lives in you! No wonder we can sing the song, "He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today." How do we know that? Because HE is the very Life that has come within every believer, He is the very essence and substance of all that The Father purposed before the foundation of the world. That in that Name that every knee should bow and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

I want us to understand that Joseph wanted to put Mary away: but you see, God had an answer! God always has an answer! God's answer and only answer is through His Son! Now let's go to Luke 1. I want us to look at several things here. Now prior to

this we are told that Elisabeth was going to conceive and she was going to bring forth John the Baptist. Luke 1:26: "And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, 27: To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary." It is interesting when you read these verses of scripture in Matthew and Luke how God has said to Ahaz back there in Isaiah 7: how God had spoken unto him and said that a sign would be given and that this sign would come to the House of David. There is a lot in what God talks about concerning the "House of David". Luke 1:28: "And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. 29: And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. 30: And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God." Those are very important words. I know some translations instead of saying "a virgin" say "a young woman", but that could apply to anything. But God was going to bring forth this Son in a manner, in a way that man himself could not be glorified. You see, God has done that through aeons of time. God has brought forth The Seed, and God has brought His means and His sovereignty in ways that man could never glory in.

You can look through the scriptures with Abraham and Sarah and the promise of God. They were past the age of child bearing yet God had said it was through THAT Seed, it was through Isaac that His Seed would be. And we know Abraham had Ishmael who was a seed of the flesh, and God did not accept that. And God still does not accept the seed of the flesh! He accepts that which has come in The Seed of Christ – The Word, the very Seed of God – Christ Himself. And I know many times many people say 'well everybody is God's children'. No,

everybody is not God's children! They have been created, they have been brought forth into the earth from their mother's womb, but they are not God's children. We are only God's children because we become birthed and born of The Seed of God. There is a far difference between the Seed of Promise and the Seed of The Word of God and that Incorruptible Seed – than that seed which is corruptible, which was the Adamic man: of the creation of mankind. So there is a far difference and a separation in that. And those are NOT the children of God: only those who are born of The Seed, born of The Word of God which is The Seed of God that has come and is planted in them. So what does he say here?

So there is a great conception in this womb of this virgin. Luke **1:31:** "And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS." Personally I believe that it was so important that you and I today still recognize that Name! That Name that is above every other Name! Oh yes, you can go through the Bible and you can find all kinds of Names that represented Him under the Old Covenant: Jehovah, Jehovah Jireh – all of these Names. Counselor, Prince of Peace, Mighty God, The Everlasting Father – all of these apply to the same Person. And Peter comes along and begins to tell them that this Jesus is The One in whom God had spoken of by the Prophet Joel in Acts 2. So it was so important to God that there would be a Name that would be given, and a Name that would be honored. And this is something I have been seeing in searching this out. It is the nature, it is the character of that Person working, and being expressed and manifested in His Body, the people of God. But this Name carries a higher honor, that is an honor to The Father, that is above every Name! Every Name that you can think of, and every Name that the Bible mentions. And Peter comes and says this same Jesus is both Lord and Christ! So we know we are not talking about three

different ones.

We are talking about God The Father carrying out His relationship with The Son. That this Son through Him would bring a people unto Himself, that would come into the Father's House to have fellowship and relationship with God. That was the only way we could do it! That's why Jesus said, "I am the way, I am the truth, I am the life. No man comes to the Father but by Me." (John 14:6) That's what He was saying. John 14:2: "In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3: And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." And it is a wonderful thing to realize that this Jesus who came and died, was buried and was raised from the dead – now He lives in you and He lives in me! He lives in all who have come to Christ! So He says in **Luke 1:31**: "And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS." You know, JESUS means Savior. All through, especially through the book of Isaiah: and Isaiah is one of my favorite books there in the Old Testament: but in the book of Isaiah God was always speaking to Israel that their hope would be that there would come a Savior, there would come a Redeemer, there would come Salvation. Over and over it says 'I will send My Salvation". So we must understand that at the Name of Jesus - He is a Savior, He is Salvation. He is The Lord: The Lord is Salvation.

So as we begin to look at this we begin to see in **Luke 1:32:** "He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:" Remember Isaiah said this would come to the House of David. In David here God was going to be a blessing through this Son unto Israel. There is so much in this! Looking in Galatians 4 we find that at the appointed time of The Father God sent forth His

Son, born of a woman, born under the Law. For the purpose of what? To REDEEM them that were under the Law. (Galatians 4:4,5) So what was this Savior to be? He was to be a Savior unto Israel. Their Hope was in this coming Messiah! This Messiah that would come: this Anointed One of God that would come – their Salvation would come. But we are going to see as we go along that this Salvation wasn't just to Jews. This Salvation wasn't just to Israelites. But this Salvation was unto ALL who would believe: ALL that would come unto Him. The promise that God had given unto Abraham: that through thy seed shall all nations of the earth be blessed. (Genesis 12:3) Ultimately that was The Father's heart. It was not to a certain people: but it was to all that would come and then they would become the TRUE Church, or the TRUE Israel, or the TRUE embodiment of the Lord Jesus Himself. We see that in **Galatians 3:27:** "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28: There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. "

Brothers and Sisters, this speaks something in my heart. This tells me that the true Israel of God is not the flesh: it is not the inheritance of the flesh. It is the inheritance of God who is made heir as Hebrews 1 says that Christ is made heir of all things. And **Romans 8:17:** tells us what we are: "And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together." How wonderful it is to understand and realize that you have come into that Glory that is of The Father. That Glory is that Son! It is not a Glory other than Him: it is not a Glory outside of Him. But because He brings us into Himself, we have been brought into this Glory! But back to **Luke 1:32:** "He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: 33: And

he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end." So now we can see that here is a Kingdom that has no end. Folks, what does "Jacob" mean? You know many times look at Jacob, and his name really did mean "Supplanter". He was a conniver. But in Romans we find that the Word of God says that these boys that were conceived in Rebekah's womb were two nations. It was talking about something different. **Romans 9:13:** "As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated." Now what is the comparison here of what God is saying to Jacob?

Remember in Genesis 32 that Jacob had wrestled with the angel all night. **Genesis 32:26:** "And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me. 27: And he said unto him, What is thy name? And he said, Jacob. 28: And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed." You see, Jacob's name was changed; and I am leading up to something. Do you realize that Israel came out from one man? Just as The Body of Christ is out of One Man – it's One Body, not many bodies. It is many members, but only One Body. Now I went there because we read he shall reign over the House of Jacob forever. He was speaking of how His reign in His Kingdom would be an Everlasting Kingdom. And Jacob here was speaking of The Seed which is Christ. Do you remember God said to Israel, "Thou art My Son." Israel is My Son. Ultimately we know in Matthew 2 that it tells us that Jesus is The Son of God. So ultimately all of Israel were representing Jesus Christ: those that were joined unto Him.

What I am saying to you is that many times people only see the Name of Jesus and they take it so lightly: like today it's almost something that is in the past. We read so many scriptures about The Son of God, about The Lord, and all of this; but let me tell you when He ascended back into the heavens, and He ascended back into the realm of the Spirit that He was in before He came to the earth - He declared that in **John 17:5**, "And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was." What kind of glory was that? He was God! And God took on the form of flesh when He was on the earth. His Name shall be called Emmanuel: here is God with us in the Person of His Son! My Lord! How exciting, and how real and how precious that is! So that's why The Lord began to stir me about "The Name" because we deal a lot about The Son of God, and I love it. I love it – "This is My Son in whom I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:17) He's The First Begotten from among the dead! You can go on through the scriptures and see all of this. But there was an honor, there was a real exalting in what God was doing in this Name. It was given in such an honor and a highness that The Father never wanted us regardless of the revelation, regardless of the knowledge and the understanding that you and I may come into and understand this Son in us, and we in that Son - regardless of that He never want us to forget THE NAME JESUS. We shouldn't be preaching to show our intelligence, but preach JESUS and make it real. There is no other Name and there is no other Way but HIM.

Jesus said in **John 10** that anyone that tries to climb up any other way is the same as a thief and a robber. There is no other way! I realize there are people who might read the Koran, and have been raised in all kinds of things; but when the heart turns to God, The Spirit is going to turn their heart to see The One that GOD ordained from before the foundation of the world. God had ordained this One. He had ordained that That Word that He was would become flesh. He ordained that in This Son, and in this Name that all power would be given to Him in heaven and in earth as **Matthew 28:18** says. No other

power and no other dominion but in this Name. And in this Name here comes a power and when God was heralding this message unto Mary, He was declaring unto them how The Holy Ghost would come.

But let's read a little more in **Luke 1:34:** "Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?" My God – God doesn't need a man – does He? **35:** "And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God." Now this was not just anything: this was not a fleshly or carnal view that was in the heart of the Father concerning This Son concerning this Name, and I tell you, people do. People don't like it today and they discredit it today in so many ways. But look at what He says. The HOLY GHOST shall come upon thee and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: and the Holy Thing that shall be born of thee shall be called **THE SON OF GOD!**

Hallelujah! The Son of God! How wonderful it is to have that Son of God dwelling, living, abiding: having that Son as Life because Jesus said in **John 10:10:** "... I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." How amazing, how wonderful it is to realize that this Son of God has come in the form of the Holy Spirit to live in you and to live in me. That this same Holy Ghost as it overshadowed Mary has come in you and I. We could go to John the Baptist – what a man! John the Baptist was a forerunner of Jesus Christ: he was a preparer of the Hope of Israel and of the Hope of the whole world: that Christ Himself, the Messiah would come and He would be a Savior. And I encourage you to read the second and third chapters of Luke and see how God brings forth that John was baptizing in water. And he was preparing the way: he was

the forerunner of Christ. He was a declaration of a Kingdom, of a Person, of a man, of The Son, of Christ Himself that would be greater than him. I believe with all of my heart that when John was saying "He must increase, but I must decrease." (John 3:30) he was talking about Christ. And I believe he was talking about the decrease of that Law: the decrease of the Old Covenant, and bringing forth the Kingdom into view. Christ came preaching the Kingdom of God has come. We are looking at this "Holy Thing". John said I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, that you might believe on HIM that is coming after me. But when HE shall come, He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire. Matthew 3:12: says, "Whose fan is in his hand, and he will throughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." The chaff is the flesh.

God brings forth A Son: not that we can just see Him with the natural eye. No, but that we can see Him through the heart of God; we can see Him through the heart of the eyes of The Spirit - to know and to realize that He has come! And where has He come? He has come now in you: He has come now in me! He dwells in His Body! I love that. So we find that this thing came forth, and as Mary had this Babe. He comes forth, and He begins to go forth and begins to be raised up and go forth and minister unto the House of Israel. Why? Because the Bible says that Salvation came first to the Jew, but Ephesians 2 shows us that Salvation wasn't just to the Jew. Salvation was also for the Gentile. Yes, the Gentile was in the outer court. They were those that were known as heathen and pagans and outcasts. They were not of the Covenant and of the Promise. But then... THE CROSS. Ephesians 2. At The Cross He took the Jew and He took the Gentile, and He took them into His death, and there came forth ONE NEW MAN! One New Man - neither lew nor Greek, but the true Israel of God. Why? Because Jacob's name

was changed. "Thou art a prince, for thou rulest ... thou prevaileth..." He prevailed. How do we prevail today? We prevail because we stand firm in this Gospel, in this Truth: that there is no other Way, there is no other Name wherein anyone can be saved and come to this knowledge of Truth.

I am just touching some highlights here, but it just began to ring in my heart. **Zechariah 14:9:** says, "And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one." Is He LORD this morning to you? Is He Master? Are you ashamed of that Name? What did Jesus say? Luke **9:26:** "For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father's, and of the holy angels." No, do not be ashamed of that Name because God honors that Name because Jesus died and was buried, and was raised from the dead and ascended back again. That Name never was done away with. That's why in the book of Acts, especially chapter 4, they said we command you not to speak any more in that Name. Jesus said this to His disciples: IN MY NAME they shall put you out of the synagogues; IN MY NAME they will hate you; IN MY NAME will they despise you. He didn't say that would happen in other names. He said IN MY NAME. I remember ministering many years ago: what is The Name of God? What is the Name of YOUR God? Is it Jesus or is it some other Name? Do we identify with names, or do we bring in all of these names: even in the Old Testament you can find many names relating to Him. But Zechariah was declaring that The Lord shall be King over all the earth, and in that day there shall be One Lord and His Name ONE!!!

And folks, God has been dealing with me about this. We use the Name "Son". I don't belittle any of that, but let's not take The Son and make Him different to what His Name is. Because His

Name was Jesus: The Son was Jesus: The Lord is Jesus. That's why you will find in the Old Testament, "...The Lord saith... The Lord saith..." In Isaiah he said I know no other Savior, I know no other One. And he goes on and says and you are My witnesses: that I AM God. And you see, this is what God is doing in this day. He is bringing forth a people in that Name to declare the Witness of HIM – that He is a Living God! He is not dead! I know years ago people were saying God is dead. I'm telling you HE IS NOT DEAD! JESUS IS NOT DEAD – HE IS ALIVE! He is alive in His Body! He is alive in His Church today!

He goes on to say "I am the first, I am the last". He shows that in Isaiah. Who is He talking about? Go over to the book of Revelation? See who this I AM was? I AM the Door, I AM the Shepherd, I AM the Way, I AM the Truth, I AM the Life. Go on and read the scripture. And in Revelation He declares "I am Alpha, I am Omega, I am the beginning, I am the end, I am the first, I am the last." Was it a different God? No it wasn't: it was the same One being shown all throughout the Old Testament. All through the New Testament we see this Reality of this Name, this Name to be glorified, this Name to be exalted. And folks, where this Name is exalted it is in character. I am not doing away with that. It is a character and it is a nature of a Living Christ, of a Living Word that is being manifested in you and me, and others in Christ. It is you that is as a City that is set upon a hill that can't be hid. But the Light in your City is CHRIST. The Light is CHRIST. **Revelation 21:22:** "And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it. 23: And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof." The City that you and I are in does not need the natural sun and the moon. It needs the SON of God - shining forth as the brightness of Him!

We could go back to Isaiah 65 and see if Isaiah wasn't speaking there in prophecy, and Revelation 21 is declaring the fulfillment of it. Not a day "to come", but a day that "has come" IN THE LORD JESUS that has been established in Christ. So we see all of this. You are a City that sitteth upon a hill, yet you can't be hid. Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works. And it is the works of HIM: that your heavenly Father is glorified.

Beloved, God was working in Christ. 2 Corinthians 5:19 says, "To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself..." I tell you Brother Jason Henderson said one of the most powerful things in his book on "The Appearing of The Lord". It just hit me in a way that it never hit me before. He was drawing circles showing how The Son came out from The Father. And he showed how God was working in Christ. He came out of God, and He came into this earth in order that He might gather: God The Father gathering through The Son unto Himself. And this is another thing that it says and means in John 14. This was The Father's House. This was The Household of God, a place of fellowship and union through The Cross through His death that He was going to bring a people into. And Jason went on through three or four different stages: how God was in Christ reconciling the world. And then he went to Isaiah – and this was the thing that stood out to me. Isaiah **55:11:** "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." Beloved, I am telling you that is exactly what God has done through Christ: reconciling those that would come: those that would believe: those that would put their trust in Him. And He would reconcile them and He brought them into The Father's House! He brought them into union and relationship.

Colossians 3:1: "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things

which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God." That's a higher realm than the flesh. Verse 2: "Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth." That is the realm of the Spirit that God has brought us into. **Verse 3:"** For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God." Do you realize that through Jesus Christ He has taken you into The Father's House? He has brought you into union and relationship with The Father and we have become One with Him, as He and The Son were! John 17 declares that. John 17:21: "That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us..." And so what did He do? Jesus through God reconciling the world finally goes back into the realm before He took on the form of flesh; the form of Spirit. God is Spirit! And He went back into that form, but on the Day of Pentecost, here it comes! In John 14 He declared I WILL COME TO YOU! John 14:16: "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;" That "another" is another form. It is not Him coming in the flesh form. He came in the flesh form to fulfil the Will of God. "... a body thou hast prepared me" He said in **Hebrews 10:5.** And that body was prepared as a sacrificial Lamb to fulfil all of the sacrifices that were under the Old Covenant.

My God, the Lamb that was found in Exodus, and how Jesus became the Lamb that was slain! Oh my folks, He didn't have a Plan B because Adam failed. He had a Plan out of Himself. In that beginning that God would fulfil, and that God would gather through Him unto Himself a people that would come. And Jesus said, "Father I have brought them unto You. Here they are. I brought them home!" My God, people are waiting to die naturally "to go home." Jesus said, "I brought them home, Father. Here they are. They are Thine. I brought them home. I brought them into the house of

fellowship and glory. I brought them into a place that now they can live and be a manifestation of Me in the earth: that I can live My Life in them, and show My Life to those who are in darkness." That's what it is all about. A City set on a hill that cannot be hid. That the Light and that manifestation of The Living Christ is shining in the midst of the darkness.

Isaiah 60:1: "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee." Now I realize that was speaking of Israel, but it was speaking to a true Israel: it was speaking to more than just natural Israel. It was speaking more than that because the heart of The Father was that all could come to Him: that all mankind could come to Him, and whosoever will, may come. **Isaiah 60:1:** "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee. 2: For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. 3: And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising." Israel were to be a people who were a light to the Gentiles. What are you and I to be? You and I are to be a people in Christ, and those that are in darkness and those that are lost and know not Christ: that those may see not you and me: that they hear not you and me - but that they would see HIM, The Indwelling One that lives and abides in you. Creation is waiting to see that! They are waiting to see that manifestation of That Son, and a people that is bearing That Name, That Nature, bearing That Image, that He would be glorified in all of the earth.