

Who is the Son of God that I may Worship Him



Who is the Son of God?

That I may worship him!

by Nicholas Jackson
Revival Ministries Australia

Who is the Son of God that I may Worship Him

REVIVAL MINISTRIES AUSTRALIA

an apostolic ministry to the nations

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Bringing the church to maturity by fathering sons Gal.4:19 & 1Cor.4:14-17

The restoration of the five-fold ministry, Eph.4:11

Receiving again grace and apostleship, Rom.1:5

Making known the revelation of the mystery, Eph.3:2-11

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Foreword written by Paul Galligan, apostle of Jesus Christ

Revival Ministries Australia Ltd. ACN 082081098 is a registered church ministry in the Commonwealth of Australia with a mandate to conduct international ministry, and to commission & ordain ministers of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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CONTENTS

Foreword	page 4
The Blessed Hope	page 5
The Generation of Sons is Arising	page 9
Apostolic Succession	page 11
Established in the Gospel	page 14
Chosen to Know His Will	page 18
The Manifestation of the Name	page 25
Washed in the Apostolic	page 35

Two of the sessions, “Established in the Gospel” and “Chosen to Know His Will”, were stimulated by bible studies with Peter Akeck, an apostle and brother in Kenya. He is very gifted in understanding the revelation of the mystery!

FOREWORD by Paul Galligan

This series of teachings by Nicholas Jackson provides a wonderful Scriptural insight to the glory of Christ. Reading through these sessions, having already heard Nicholas present them live in teaching and preaching sessions in our apostolic centre in Toowoomba, Australia, has thrilled and uplifted my spirit and caused me to worship Jesus in spirit and in truth.

Nicholas joined me for discipleship and training in ministry to be prepared for the ministry calling of the apostle in February 2007. He came from another city after accessing our ministry and attending conferences and short term schools in Toowoomba. He made a submission as a son to me as a spiritual father and became as a 'Timothy'. Nicholas has lived with me since February 2007 and has served full-time in the ministry as a disciple and a trainee. We have fellowshipped together morning, noon and night in the word and prayed together much. We have gone to work together and we have gone together to preach and teach in the nations.

In June 2007, Nicholas travelled to share in India and Pakistan, with a senior brother. In September/October 2007 he accompanied me and a team to West Africa and we then went on to the USA for an apostolic conference. In December that year we went to Fiji together doing house to house evangelism.

In March 2008 we ministered together in Myanmar and India, and later in May/June, we were in West and East Africa for a number of weeks. In East Africa I sent Nicholas with a Kenyan son for two weeks and together they shared in pastors conferences. Nicholas was already handling the word of God as a faithful son in ministry.

In February '09 Nicholas was on team again with me in India but for over half the time he was ministering separate to me and did well. Later in May/June we were in Africa again. I sent Nicholas to Ghana with another brother for twelve days and Nicholas led the ministry, preaching and teaching every day in pastors' seminars.

He had men of God, much senior to him in years, saying "Nicholas, you are my father!" This was because of the authority of the word of God in Nicholas. Pastor Don Pitkin who travelled with Nicholas and who is an able minister of the gospel, purposefully sat back and enjoyed Nicholas' ministry. He said after the twelve days, "Paul, I have just been to the best training school ever – listening to Nicholas."

In August 2009 it was my privilege to marry Nicholas to his beloved Rhoda (nee Truss) and together they plan to continue in discipleship and ministry training, being able to be sent out to the nations.

Nicholas has experienced the joy of ministering in the nations to hungry men and women of God who rejoice to receive the pure word of God. This attitude draws revelation from God through the minister. This has been my experience also. I say to people, 'Africa is a place of revelation for me', and I know Nicholas would agree.

We at SHILOH appreciate Nicholas so much for his ***"love from a pure heart, a good conscience and sincere faith"*** 1Tim.1:5. Nicholas is willing to serve selflessly and he and Rhoda have already been busy 'about the Father's business'.

The goal in releasing this manual is that you may come to know JESUS, the Son of God by revelation of the word, in a deeper way.

Chapter One

THE BLESSED HOPE

The Prophetic Ministry

“Now Judas and Silas, themselves being prophets also, exhorted and strengthened the brethren with many words” Acts 15:32. The prophetic ministry **exhorts** and **strengthens with many words**. But what were the words that were used by these New Testament prophets? Many so-called prophets in the church today have used many words but they have not been truly **exhorting** and **strengthening** the brethren in the will and purpose of God according to His word.

God wants us to receive the grace given through the ministry of the prophet so that we can be built up into the mature body of Christ (**Eph.4:7-16**). We need to have more understanding concerning the role of prophets and what words they are to be using.

Giving false hope

In Jeremiah’s day, many self-named prophets spoke in the name of the LORD (“I AM”). However Jeremiah lamented them, and God said of them, *“**They speak a vision of their own heart, not from the mouth of I AM. They continually say to those who despise ME, ‘I AM has said, ‘You shall have peace’; and to everyone who walks according to the dictates of his own heart, they say, ‘No evil shall come upon you.’ I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran, I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied**” Jer.23:16-17, 21.*

Many today would speak in the name of Jesus to the people of God but what is the message? These “prophets” in Jeremiah’s time were encouraging the brethren in their rebellion against God, prophesying from their own heart, not giving the word of the Lord. They were implanting false hope in the people instead of revealing the hope that comes from and is in Jesus!

Building the Wall

God said through Ezekiel *“**Say to those who prophesy out of their own heart, ‘Hear the word of I AM...You have not gone up into the gaps to build a wall for the house of Israel to stand in the battle on the day of I AM. They have envisioned futility and false divination, saying, ‘Thus says I AM’, but I AM has not sent them, yet they hope that the word may be confirmed**” Ezek.13:2, 5-6.*

These men were not strengthening the brethren nor were they going up to fix the breach in the wall. When Peter saw Jesus transfigured he said that it confirmed the prophetic word of Scripture (**2Pet.1:19-21**). These men had not heard from God; therefore, they had no assurance their word would be confirmed. So, in Jeremiah’s day and Ezekiel’s, the people of God were not able to stand in the day of judgement; not able to stand in battle. They were taken captive and lost their lives and their hope.

To Stand

True prophetic ministry is to build a wall for the house, so that in the Day of the Lord, the house can stand. *“**The house of God is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth**” 1Tim.3:15.* The house of God is built upon and with truth! The apostle Paul said to the **Ephesians** that they were to put on the whole armour of God so that in the evil day they could stand (**Eph.6:10-18**).

The entire armour speaks of the truth of God’s word covering us completely, guarding our whole person and strengthening our stand against the lies of the evil one. God said through Ezekiel that there shall be *“**no more false vision or flattering divination within the house of**”*

Israel” (Ezek.12:24). No more personal prophecies that simply yield to a person’s selfish desires; no more prophecies that teach the people to seek to escape tribulation; no more prophecies that promise much but yield no lasting fruit. This is building a wall with **“untempered mortar”** which, when the flooding rain, hail and wind come against it, falls and those in it are consumed (**Ezek.13:10-14**).

The house that Jesus is building has foundations and the prophetic ministry is one of the foundation ministries (**Eph.2:20**). **The prophets are required to build a wall** for the house so that the house will stand the test and stand in battle on the Day of Jesus.

Considering our Destiny

In the book of **Lamentations** Jeremiah is mourning the fall and destruction of Jerusalem and the captivity and exile to Babylon of its inhabitants. He says the reason that she has fallen is that ***“She did not consider her destiny; therefore her collapse was awesome”*** **Lam.1:9**.

The City of God

Jerusalem in the Old Testament was the physical city where God chose to put His Name and Presence. He says of her in **Isaiah** that His delight is in her and that God rejoices over her as a bridegroom (**62:4-5**).

But there is a city which Abraham saw ***“which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God”*** **Heb.11:10**. This is talking of the Jerusalem which is above (**Gal.4:26**), the heavenly Jerusalem (**Heb.12:22**), the New Jerusalem adorned as a Bride coming down from heaven (**Rev.21:2-3**); it is talking of the church, His Bride (**Eph.5:22-33**).

The church has been ruined, ravaged and taken captive in Babylon – the world system. She has gone after worldly philosophies, business principles, methods and means to make herself more attractive to the world – to build numbers in a congregation instead of bringing true worshippers to maturity in Christ. She has not **considered her destiny**.

Prophetic Vision

“Where there is no prophetic vision (revelation), the people cast off restraint” **Prov.29:18**. There has not generally been a true prophetic vision given to the church. Therefore, she has cast off restraint; she has not been confined by the word of God, nor labouring or travelling in the word to bring forth the Perfect Man, the Man Child who is to rule all nations (**Gal.4:19, Rev.12:5**)! She has been led astray by false teachers and prophets and allowed herself to be moved away from the ***‘hope of the gospel’*** (**Col.1:23**).

As the prophetic vision given through the word of God is trumpeted forth it will release the body of Christ to be built up, to mature and to accomplish His will. God has not called us to fall short of His glory; He has called us to be a Perfect Man (corporately), built to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ (**Eph.4:13**), ***“able to comprehend the width and length, the height and depth – to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God”*** (**Eph.3:18-19**). We have been called to be filled with all of God’s fullness! The fullness of the Godhead once again dwelling bodily in the earth! HO!! (**Col.2:9-10**)

The Hope of the Gospel

Faith and hope

The apostle Paul exhorts us to continue in the faith, not being moved away from the hope of the gospel which was preached (**Col.1:23**). ***“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen”*** **Heb.11:1**. In Romans, Paul says ***“but if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance”*** **Rom.8:25**.

We have hope in God’s purpose; His plan will be fulfilled; His outcome will be achieved. We hope in God’s destiny for us. Our faith is in God’s promise that He will get us there. Faith gives us the substance of what we hope for. Faith is now and it is in His word to us

that His destiny for us will be fulfilled! Hallelujah! We have an awesome hope in the gospel and we know it will happen because we believe God according to His Word!

What is our hope?

The hope many of us have preached and adhered to is a diluted false vision. We have preached a ticket to an imaginary heaven; a rapture to take the church out of any trouble; a mansion in the sky and so we have given the church a false hope without the substance of the word of God to base our faith on.

Christians are divided and have even killed each other over very carnal issues because they have not seen the ***“one hope of our calling” (Eph.4:4)***. When tribulation comes, the church has found itself collapsing because we have not known the ***“hope which anchors our souls, sure and steadfast, in the Presence, behind the veil” (Heb.6:19)***.

Rejoicing in hope of the glory

Paul says that ***“we rejoice in hope of the glory of God” (Rom.5:2)***. Our hope is in the glory! It is anchored to Jesus our forerunner who has entered eternal glory (**Heb.6:19-20**). Jesus the Person, His life and His words, are our hope. We have faith in Jesus and we believe He is Lord and that God raised Him from the dead. Our hope is that we also shall follow Him in like manner! We will be raised just as Jesus was. Paul said that it was ***“concerning the hope and resurrection of the dead”*** that he was being judged and persecuted (**Acts23:6**).

Our hope is in God's glory! That He is conforming us to the image of His Son (**Rom.8:29**); that we are being changed by the Spirit to be transformed more into His likeness (**2Cor.3:18**). Our hope is that ***“when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is” (1Jn.3:2)***. It is ***“Christ in us; the hope of glory!” Col.1:27***

A sure hope

This is no vague, dim hope or wishful thinking. It is God's predestined plan; **it will happen!** The real hope is not based on a fable nor on a 'science fiction' version of end-time events. God has not predestined us to be good ministers or successful businessman, even though there is nothing wrong with these things; He has predestined us to be sons (**Eph.1:5**), to fill the earth with the knowledge of His glory (**Hab.2:14**). We are to be completely like Jesus in the earth. His life being completely outlived through His body, the called out ones!

Jesus has a body for His Spirit in the earth! It is His Church, His Bride. She is to be glorious and perfect, without any spot or blemish (**Eph.5:27**). ***“And may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ” 1Thess.5:23***. God is forming His Perfect Man in the earth that will fully manifest Jesus in the world and to the world.

Our hope is in the glory which is to be revealed through the sons of God being manifest and delivering all of creation (**Rom.8:18-19**).

This hope restrains us

“He who has this hope in Him purifies himself just as He is pure” 1Jn.3:3. Peter, speaking in the context of Jesus' coming and all the wicked works being burned up, says, ***“since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the Coming of the Day of God” 2Pet.3:11-12***. This hope is in His Coming! We are ***“looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ” Tit.2:13***.

Jesus' coming is our hope and because of this hope we are restrained, ***“denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, living soberly in this present age” Tit.2:12***. This hope set before us helps us to submit to God's discipline because we understand our Father's plan and allow Him to correct and rebuke us. We are willing to go through anything if by any means we can attain to this hope (**Phil.3:8-14**).

Hope in tribulation

The hope of the gospel helps us endure tribulation because ***“tribulation produces perseverance and perseverance, character and character, hope!” Rom.5:3-4***. When our eyes are enlightened to understand the hope of His calling (**Eph.1:17**), it enables us to persevere and eagerly wait for the hope to be fulfilled. Hope fulfilled is the plan accomplished and it is a tree of life (**Prov.13:12**).

What hope do you preach?

We need to consider our ways. It is time to lay hold of the hope of the gospel according to the word of God, to build a wall that will stand in the day of battle, in the day of the Lord. It will restrain us, keep us on target and produce the purpose of God in our lives individually and as His Body. ***“Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us” Rom.5:5***.

God is calling for preachers to herald the hope! To give the body of Christ a true prophetic vision so that she can be restrained to accomplish His will. If we allow false vision, we will give the brethren false hope. When Peter saw Jesus transfigured on the mount, he said that he was able to make known to the brethren the ***“power and coming of our Lord”*** and he had the ***“prophetic word confirmed which we do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts” 2Pet.1:19***.

*New Testament prophets are to exhort and strengthen the brethren
with sound words concerning the hope. Body of Christ, consider
your destiny and fulfil the hope that is set before you!*

Chapter Two

THE GENERATION OF SONS IS ARISING!

Having the same spirit that was in Caleb and Joshua

It is time to roll away the reproach of Egypt from us (**Josh.5:9**). It is time for a deeper circumcision by the Spirit (**Phil.3:3, Col.2:11**); to enter the Spirit of Sonship like Caleb and Joshua (**Num.14:24, Num.32:12**); to go after the inheritance like Elisha with Elijah (**2Kings2:1-12**). It is time to understand Messiah's inheritance and take all the promises of God which are *"Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us"* (**2Cor.1:20**).

Gentiles are fellow heirs

We Gentiles are fellow heirs with the Old Testament saints and members of the household of God (**Eph.2:19**). We who were far off have been brought near by the Blood of Jesus who has broken down the middle wall of partition that separated us (**Eph.2:13-18**). We are fellow heirs and inheritors of the promises. To us also now belongs the adoption as sons (**Rom.9:4**) – to all who are of the faith of Abraham (**Gal.3:6-9, 26-29**).

Fill the earth

Adam's commission was to *"fill [replenish] the earth"* (**Gen.1:28**). He was not told to occupy one piece of land in the Middle East! He was commissioned to FILL THE EARTH!

Noah was commissioned to *"fill the earth"* (**Gen.9:1**). God made the promise to Abraham to give him the land and that *"all the families of the earth would be blessed through him"* (**Gen.12:3, 13:15**). God said to Moses *"As surely as I live," says I AM, "the WHOLE EARTH will be filled with My Glory"* (**Num.14:21**).

The nations are the inheritance

Psalm 2 says that the Messiah, the Son of God, has *"the nations for His inheritance, the ENDS OF THE EARTH for His possession"* (v.8).

In Joshua's day the wicked were driven out in order to give the people of God their inheritance from Jesus. So also will it be at the end of the age: *"The Son of man will send out His messengers [Gr. 'angelos'] and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend and those who practice lawlessness."* (**Matt.13:36-43**).

Jesus commissioned the apostles to *"make disciples of all the nations"* (**Matt.28:19**) and to bring the nations *"to the obedience of the faith"* (**Rom1:5**). *"And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light [the city], and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honour into it"* **Rev.21:24**.

"A Star shall arise out of Jacob and a Scepter out of Israel" (**Num24:17**). *"The Scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between His feet, until SHILOH comes; and to Him shall be the obedience of the people"* **Gen.49:10**.

JESUS IS GOD

"And without controversy, great is the mystery of Godliness: God was manifested in the flesh; Justified in the Spirit; Seen by angels; Preached among the nations; Believed on in the world; Received up in glory!" (**1Tim.3:16**)

Messiah is the Son of God (**Matt.16:16**). The Great King is God in the flesh! **The Word became flesh! (Jn.1:14)** God rules through the Man He has appointed: ***“He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained”*** – even Jesus the Messiah of Nazareth – and He has proven this by raising Him from the dead! (**Acts17:31**)

The Kingdom of God

Jesus answered Pilate, ***“My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here”*** **Jn.18:36**.

The kingdom of God is righteousness [which comes by faith, **Phil.3:9**], peace [which comes by faith, **Rom.5:1**] and joy [which is our strength, **Neh.8:10**] in the Holy Spirit (**Rom.14:17**).

“Do not fear little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom” **Lu.12:32**. God had promised in **Daniel 7** that ***“the kingdom and dominion and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High”*** v.27. ***“A judgment was made in favour of the saints of the Most High, and the time came for the saints to possess the kingdom”*** v.22.

Messiah died for us

But God demonstrated His love for us in that while we were yet sinners, Messiah died for us (**Rom.5:8**). Our Kinsman-Redeemer came! (**Ruth 2:20, 4:9-22**). Jesus, the Messiah, who was the seed of David according to the flesh and proven to be the Son of God through the resurrection (**Rom.1:3-4**), is our Kinsman-Redeemer. ***“God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption [placement] as sons”*** **Gal.4:4-5**. Jesus died to make us sons, His heirs who would receive the kingdom as the inheritance.

God has come to save His people, to purchase a people separated to Him; a people to whom He can give the kingdom of God in the earth! A people who will look after His possession, who are being created in His image and His likeness (**Eph.2:10, Rom.8:29, 12:1-2**). This recreation takes place in our lives as we receive ***“the spirit of a renewed mind”*** and are being ***“renewed in knowledge after the image of Him who created him”*** (**Eph.4:23-24, Col.3:9-10**).

If we endure, we shall also reign with Him (2Tim.2:12a)

It is time to renew covenant with the God of Israel ***“for you have not yet resisted sin to the point of shedding blood”*** and ***“you have not remembered the exhortation given to sons”*** (**Heb.12:4-5**). We need to endure chastening and allow God to deal with us as sons.

It is time to arise – it is time to take the land, ***“for the city [nations] to be filled with this doctrine”*** (**Acts5:28**). There is no room for the faint of heart. Radical obedient love is required. ***“For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls”*** (**Heb.12:3**). Our King endured the Cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God (**Heb.12:2**). We are ***“to run with endurance the race that is set before us”*** v.1.

Fight the good fight of faith

Jesus is Alive! We must be born from above! We must continue to have the good confession on our lips – declaring who we are and where we are from, even as Jesus did (**Jn.18:36-19:11**). We are sons of God, inheritors of the promises, kings and priests who have been given charge to take the land, to inherit the earth.

Who is the Son of God that I may Worship Him

It is time for ***“the righteous to shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear let him hear”*** Matt.13:43.

Chapter Three

APOSTOLIC SUCCESSION

True Discipleship needed in the nations

When I go on mission trips, travelling overseas, I return home with a clearer vision in my heart and mind concerning the great need of true discipleship in the nations. Mission trips reinforce in me more than ever this need in the nations, and accompanied with it, has come a greater sense of responsibility to remain faithful to the calling and be an example of what we preach.

The apostolic down the ages

Upon returning I have been reading a book, **“The Pilgrim Church”**, by E.H Broadbent. Broadbent traces the history of apostolic believers since the time of the first apostles. It has been so encouraging to see that even through the period of history that we have termed “the dark ages”, there were people who were truly shining the light of the gospel of Christ, walking in the apostolic revelation of the Scriptures.

One such group that deserves mention are the “Waldenses” who trace their history back to the times of the first apostles and mainly lived in the Alpine Valleys of Piedmont in France. These believers did not give themselves that name but referred to each other as “brethren”. They came to the attention of the institutional church of the day in the 12th and 13th centuries, and many lost their lives on account of their uncompromising faith.

In the 16th century new rulers began to take over the area in which they lived. When they were asked about where their religious practice came from, their reply was, *“Let your Highness consider, that this religion in which we live is not merely our religion of the present day, or a religion discovered for the first time only a few years ago, as our enemies falsely pretend, but it is the religion of our fathers and of our grandfathers, yea, of our forefathers and of our predecessors still more remote. It is the religion of the Saints and of the Martyrs, of the Confessors and of the Apostles.”* {page 91-2}

The teaching of Scripture maintained

When these brethren came into contact with the Reformers in the 16th century they said, *“Our ancestors have often recounted to us that we have existed from the time of the Apostles. In all matters nevertheless we agree with you, and thinking as you think, from the very days of the Apostles themselves, we have ever been consistent respecting the faith.”* {page 92}

E.H. Broadbent shows that these believers were not fruit of any reformation *“bearing no traces of the influence of those churches, they indicate, on the contrary, the continuance of an old tradition, handed down from quite another source – the teaching of Scripture and the practice of the primitive Church.”* {page 97}

They had no special confession of faith apart from the Holy Scriptures and no ruler over them, but following Christ was their chief aim. They relied upon the Spirit of Christ abiding in them to open up revelation from the Scriptures to them, being committed to growing in knowledge and understanding of the Word. They baptized those who believed and they regularly shared the Lord’s Supper together, simply coming to remember Him.

In matters of church order they were led by elders and believed in “apostolic succession” through the laying on of hands on those called to receive such grace. These apostles were itinerant while the elders and overseers stayed more permanently based

in their homes and churches. The whole church participated in such ordinations.
{page98-9}

God always has a remnant

It is encouraging to see that there have always been men of faith, untainted by the world religious and political systems, simply obeying the Word that has been handed down generation by generation; a group of people having the Scripture as their sole source for faith and practice, following the pattern set by the Lord Jesus and the apostles that He raised. They continued in such faith and “*contended earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints*” (Jude3). **We also need to be such a people!**

The Rechabites, an apostolic company!

Obeing the commands of their father

In the days of Jeremiah, there was a family line that derived their name from their forefather, Jonadab, the son of Rechab. Jonadab is an example of an apostolic father whose voice was heeded down the generations, even after two centuries. Jeremiah was told by Yahweh (the LORD) to invite Jonadab’s descendants into the House of Yahweh to drink some wine but they would not drink saying, “*We will drink no wine, for Jonadab the son of Rechab, our father, commanded us, saying, ‘You shall drink no wine, you nor your sons, forever’*” Jer.35:6.

There were other instructions given by Jonadab that these men could quote verbatim two centuries after he lived. Even in the presence of a great prophet in the House of Yahweh, they would not become disobedient to the word of their forefather.

Jonadab had been a great man in his day, being used of the Lord to join with the newly anointed King of Israel, Jehu, in destroying the false worship of the day and to bring about the downfall of Ahab’s house and the destruction of Ahab’s wicked wife, Jezebel (2Kings10:15-17). This man, Jonadab, had given commands to his children which were then passed on to their descendents, being obeyed so diligently that it caught the attention of God.

God uses their example to condemn and judge the rest of Israel in Jeremiah’s day by saying, “*The words of Jonadab, the son of Rechab, which he commanded his sons, not to drink wine, are performed; for to this day they drink none, and obey their father’s commandment. But although I have spoken to you, rising early and speaking, you did not obey Me*” Jer.35:14. The reward for such faithfulness was that “*Jonadab, the son of Rechab, shall not lack a man to stand before Me forever*” Jer.35:19.

Being a part of the Apostolic

Jesus is our Father

Being a part of the “apostolic” means being part of a company of people, like the Waldenses and Rechabites, who are faithfully walking in obedience to the commands of their father from generation to generation. Our apostolic father is Jesus. He is the “*Apostle...of our confession*” (Heb.3:1). He is the One who was sent from God to speak the words of God and was given the Spirit without measure (Jn3:34). He is the One in whom we have the full revelation of the Father, as He said to Philip, “*He who has seen Me has seen the Father*” (Jn.14:9). One of His names given to us by God through the prophet Isaiah is “*Everlasting Father*” (Isa.9:6).

To be part of the “apostolic” means to agree with the Word of God that Jesus is our apostolic Father and that we will follow His commands, faithfully delivering them to the next generation without adulteration.

Jesus raised 12 apostles to carry on His apostolic work

Jesus’ apostolic work involved raising twelve apostles who would fully represent Him, *“teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you”* **Matt.28:20**. When the first converts were made to Jesus on the Day of Pentecost *“they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine...”* (**Acts2:42**).

The apostles’ doctrine or teaching was the teaching they had received from their apostolic father, Jesus. The apostles faithfully delivered Jesus’ word to the new disciples and the result was signs and wonders done and the emergence of a loving, faithful and committed community (**Acts2:43-47**).

That the world may know that God sent Jesus

When Jesus prayed to the Father the night before He went to the Cross He explained to the Father that He had been faithful to do the apostolic work of raising twelve apostles whom He could send into the world as the Father sent Him (**John17:4-19**). He then prayed for *“those who will believe in Me through their [the apostles] word; that they all may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You [Father] sent Me”* **John17:20-21**.

Being part of the “apostolic” means being part of this prayer. It needs to be noted that the oneness is not brought about by unity movements, as good as they can be. The oneness comes about as men and women believe the Word that was spoken by the apostles who were taught and trained by Jesus. This is the *“unity of the faith”* spoken of by the apostle Paul in his letter to Ephesus (**Eph.4:13**).

The divisions in the Body of Christ come because men have placed loyalties to denominations and organizations over the apostolic teaching of the Scriptures. Men following the teachings of other men and becoming dogmatic about it brought about the problem of divisions in the Corinthian church that the apostle Paul wrote to. He pleaded with them, *“Now I plead with you brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgement”* **1Cor.1:10**. This kind of oneness can only be brought about by the church becoming “apostolic”, being obedient to the Scriptures, the teachings of Jesus and the apostles.

- It is time to receive again apostles who are bringing forth the apostolic revelation and teaching of the Scriptures.
- It is time to be free from misplaced loyalties and receive Jesus the Apostle as our Father.
- It is time to be part of an apostolic company walking together with brothers and sisters who are committed to obeying the apostolic word given to us in the Scriptures.
- It is through *“grace and apostleship”* that then the nations will be obedient to the faith (**Rom.1:5**) and the world will know that God sent Jesus!

Chapter Four

ESTABLISHED IN THE GOSPEL

In closing his letter to the Romans, the apostle Paul pens a benediction which gives us the keys to understanding how God is able to establish us. He writes, *“Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret since the world began but now made manifest, and by the prophetic Scriptures made known to all nations, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, for obedience to the faith...” Rom.16:25-26.*

Being established

It is God’s will to have us **“established”**. In Peter’s second letter he writes, *“For this reason I will not be negligent to remind you always of these things, though you know and are established in the present truth” 2Pet.1:12.* We need to be established in the **present truth**. The **present truth** is the truth of God’s Word being revealed to us in the present time by the Holy Spirit. It is understanding the purpose and will of God for now which is unfolded for us in the Scriptures; it is having *“the eyes of our understanding enlightened to know...”* the will of God (**Eph.1:18**); it is receiving the *“spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him [Jesus]”* (**Eph.1:17**).

We need to have an **ear to hear what the Spirit says to the churches** and be established in the truth which is present among us. Many have established their statements of faith, their denominations, their structures and systems and have gained their identity in these. But God wants a people willing to move and flow with Him – a people established in the present truth.

There are five key points that Paul shares with us, enabling us to see how God will establish us.

1. According to “my gospel”

Notice that Paul did not even say it was according to Jesus’ gospel, or Peter’s gospel or any other’s gospel – it is *“according to my gospel”*. Paul had made the gospel his; he owned it, he lived it and breathed it. **If you met Paul, you met the gospel.**

When Paul saw Peter and Barnabas beginning to act like hypocrites, withdrawing from fellowship with Gentile believers when certain Jews came, he confronted them because *“they were not straightforward about the truth of the gospel”* (**Gal.2:14**). In the beginning of his letter to the Galatians he says, *“But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed”* (**Gal.1:8**). Paul was serious about this gospel! Are you? Has it become yours? Are you willing to live or die by this gospel?

Paul wrote to Timothy, *“Remember that Jesus Christ, of the seed of David, was raised from the dead according to my gospel”* (**2Tim.2:8**). Paul believed in the gospel – that it is the *“gospel of Christ which is the power of God for salvation for all who believe”* (**Rom.1:16**) and it is for this gospel which Paul says he suffers and is *“willing to endure all things for the sake of God’s elect that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory”* (**2Tim.2:10**).

The gospel declares that there is a new king and that He has won a great victory! Jesus is the promised King, the Christ who has ascended the Throne of David, who rules all things (**Is.9:7; Matt.28:18; Acts 2:33**), and He has defeated sin and Satan (**1Jn.3:5, 8; Col.2:15**) and has *“abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel”* (**2Tim.1:10**).

He wants this gospel to be established in you so that it becomes “your gospel!”

2. According to the “preaching of Jesus Christ”

There are not many today who preach Jesus as the Christ. The majority of the church worldwide has very limited understanding of who Jesus is and what it means to call Him **the Christ**. Christian bookstores are full of teaching on principles “for successful living” and motivational messages that are not what Jesus and the apostles taught.

When Jesus asked His disciples who they said He was, Peter declared, *“You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God”* (**Matt.16:16**). Jesus’ response was, *“...upon this Rock [the revelation of who He is], I will build My church”* (**Matt.16:18**). The first time that Jesus mentioned the “church” was in response to the revelation of who He was!

We need to understand and preach the revelation that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God! Paul said to Titus that the hope of eternal life and the fulfillment of God’s promises are *“manifested in due time...through preaching”* (**Tit.1:3**). It is as we preach Jesus the Christ that we are established in the reality of His life. The Word manifests (becomes real in our experience) only if it is preached!

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us and we beheld His glory...” (**John1:1, 14**) God again wants the Word (who is Jesus Christ) to become flesh, to manifest in human beings! As the Word manifests through preaching, the world will see **His glory!** As we preach the Word of Jesus the Christ, the hope of eternal life manifests and we are established in His glory! Paul charged Timothy before the Lord Jesus Christ to *“Preach the Word!”* (**2Tim.4:2**).

3. According to “the revelation of the mystery”

God establishes us according to *“the revelation of the mystery kept secret since the world began, but now made manifest.”* Already in **Romans11:25** Paul has referred to the mystery of the Gentiles now being partakers of the *“root and fatness”* (v.17) of the promises made to natural Israel. The mystery is that God is *“gathering together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and on earth – in Him”* (**Eph.1:10**). *“For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus...There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus”* (**Gal.3:26, 28**).

Paul writes to Timothy concerning the revelation of the mystery of Godliness, that *“God was manifested in the flesh”* (**1Tim.3:16**). He says that this mystery has no argument against it; it is *“without controversy”*. This revelation is what makes the church *“the pillar and ground of the truth”* (**1Tim.3:15**).

God is bringing all things together in one, things in heaven and on earth – in Him! Heaven and earth came together in Jesus the Christ; God became a man! God, who is spirit (**Jn.4:24**) manifested in a Body! As this revelation truth is established in us, we can see clearly that God is looking to do the same thing in the Body of Christ. He is building us together to be a *“dwelling place for God in the Spirit!”* (**Eph.2:22**)

God is restoring apostles and prophets again to the church in these days to release the revelation of the mystery to the saints, thereby establishing us! (**Eph.3:5**)

4. By the “prophetic Scriptures being made known to all nations”

Jesus has not called us to build big ministries and churches or to make money using the bible as a self-help book for motivational speakers. Jesus told us to *“Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them...and teaching them...”* (**Matt.28:19-20**). We disciple nations! Not create church movements or exclusive clubs. We disciple nations by making known to them the fulfillment of the prophetic Scriptures to all men!

When Jesus appeared to His disciples after He rose from the dead He said, *“These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me.” And He opened their understanding that they might comprehend the Scriptures*” (**Lu.24:44-45**). Jesus made known the prophetic Scriptures and their fulfillment in Him!

Paul said that Christ’s death for our sins, His burial and His resurrection on the third day were all *“according to the Scriptures”* (**1Cor.15:3-4**).

When the day of Pentecost had *“fully come”* (**Acts2:1**) Peter stood up and declared from the prophetic Scriptures that the outpouring of the Holy Spirit was proof that this Jesus was the promised Messiah (**Acts2:33**).

When the Ethiopian eunuch was reading from the prophet Isaiah, Philip asked him if he understood. The Ethiopian man wanted someone to help him and so Philip *“beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him”* (**Acts8:35**). Can you make the prophetic Scriptures known to all nations?

The ministry of the church is to the nations! It is through grace and apostleship that nations become obedient to the faith (**Rom.1:5**). The prophetic Scriptures were written as holy men of God were moved by the Holy Spirit (**2Pet.1:21**). They are of no private interpretation but are to be revealed to all nations that all men may see that Jesus truly is the Promised Messiah, God in the flesh! (**Gen.49:10, Is.9:6**)

5. According to the “commandment of the everlasting God, for obedience to the faith”

The gospel is not a ticket to go to heaven. The gospel is the means by which God brings the nations to obedience to His Word! Paul said that the manifestation of God’s Word through the ministry of preaching was a stewardship given to him *“according to the commandment of God our Saviour”* (**Tit.1:3**).

Who is the Son of God that I may Worship Him

We are commanded to preach the gospel and to disciple nations (**Mk.16:15, Matt28:19**). The result of obeying this command is that nations become obedient to the faith and so the kingdom of God is established. **Isaiah** prophesied this day in **Isaiah2:2-4** saying that the mountain of Yahweh's house will be **established** on the top of the mountains – that is *“far above all principality and power and might and dominion”* (**Eph.1:21**) – and all nations shall flow to it. They will say that they want to be taught the ways of the kingdom of God and His Word will judge and rebuke nations and the result will be, *“Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.”* Hallelujah!

This is **according to the commandment of the everlasting God!** It will happen, it is unstoppable, *“the gates of Hades cannot prevail against the church”* that is built and established on revelation, being obedient to God's commands!

Nations becoming obedient to God's Word! Paul said, *“For I will not dare speak of any of those things which Christ has not accomplished through me, in word and deed, to make the Gentiles obedient”* (**Rom.15:18**). The fruit of the gospel we are looking for is *obedience to the faith*. God establishes us according to his commandments!

It is time to be established in this gospel

It is time to preach Jesus the Christ

It is time to be established in the revelation of the mystery

It is time to make known the prophetic Scriptures to all nations

It is time to be established according to God's commands

for obedience to the faith

Chapter Five

CHOSEN TO KNOW HIS WILL

When Paul was sharing his testimony to the Jews in Acts 22, he recounts what the disciple Ananias had said to him by the Word of the Lord Jesus, ***“The God of our fathers has chosen you that you should know His will, and see the Just One, and hear the voice of His mouth. For you will be His witness to all men of what you have seen and heard.”*** (v.14-15) There are five key points that Ananias shared with Paul that we also need to heed and allow to grip our spirits. Our call is the same!

1) CHOSEN

We are chosen! Ananias firstly wanted Paul to know that he was chosen by the Lord! This man who was ***“still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord”*** (Acts9:1) was actually ***“a chosen vessel”*** of the Lord Jesus (Acts9:15).

Before time began

This is the mystery of God’s grace at work in our lives. Paul says to Timothy that God has ***“saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began...”*** 2Tim.1:9. We are chosen, not because of anything good or bad that we have done but it is according to God’s own purpose and grace! Paul said that he was ***“formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man”*** (1Tim.1:13). God had a purpose in choosing Saul and the choosing had happened in Christ Jesus before time began! When we decide to get real with Jesus, we enter into the predestined will and plan of God for our lives.

In Ephesians1:4 the apostle Paul writes, ***“just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love...”*** Our choosing is in Christ and it separates us to Him so that we can walk before Him. Peter says that ***“you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people”*** (1Pet.2:9). Being chosen gives you the mark of the one who chooses you! You know where you belong and who you belong to!

Knowing the choosing

Jesus said, ***“You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain...”*** (Jn.15:16) Jesus wants us to know that He is the initiator; He is the one who ***“has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry”*** (1Tim.1:12). When you know that it was Jesus who chose you it does not matter what man may think of you. Many today who are stuck in a religious organizational set-up called “church” are insecure in their positions because they are man appointed positions – it is not based on the calling and choosing of Jesus.

In Paul’s experience He knew His “choosing” without a doubt – Jesus told Him personally and through Ananias. We need to know and be convinced of His choosing of us. If we are chosen, that means we belong to Him; we are His responsibility and we can be confident that if we are obedient He will not forsake us! We need to know we are CHOSEN!

2) TO KNOW HIS WILL

We are chosen to know the will of God! We are not to be ignorant of His will. ***“Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.” (Eph.5:17)*** So many believers in the church of today do not have any understanding of what God’s will is. We have tended to major on soul winning as if the sole purpose of God in the earth is to get people a place in heaven when they die.

Reconciling all things

Paul says that God has ***“made known to us the mystery of His will” (Eph.1:9)***. The mystery of God’s will is that, through the redemption and forgiveness that is in the blood of Jesus, God is now able ***“in the dispensation of the fullness of the times gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth – in Him” (Eph.1:10)***. Hallelujah! ***“For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.” (Col.1:19-20)***.

It is God’s will that all things be reconciled in Christ; all things brought into one! No more disobedience in the earth, ***“They shall neither hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of Yahweh [LORD] as the waters cover the sea” (Is.11:9)***. It is God’s intention that all the earth will know Him (Jer.31:34) and the result of that will be ***“new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells” (2Pet.3:13)***. As we see the power of the blood and sacrifice of Jesus to reconcile all things, our sin is removed and judged and righteousness remains. Those who continue to practice lawlessness and cause offense, ***“being enemies of the cross of Christ” (Phil.3:18)***, will be bundled up and thrown in to the fire. ***“Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father” (Matt.13:43)***. We are destined to inherit the kingdom of God in the earth!

Pray to understand His will

Paul said that he did not ***“cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will” (Col.1:9)***. Paul’s prayers were for us to understand the will of God and to grow in it ***“the eyes of your understanding being enlightened to know what is the hope of His calling...” (Eph.1:18)***. It is by having our minds renewed by the Word of God that we are transformed and able to ***“prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God” (Rom.12:2)***.

It is God’s good and acceptable will for us ***“to live a quiet a peaceable life in all godliness and reverence” (1Tim.2:2-3)***. This will happen as we are obedient to the Word and pray for all men and those in authority. It is His desire for ***“all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth” (1Tim.2:4)***. God wants people saved by knowing the truth! We are chosen to **know His will!**

Ananias had told Paul that he was to know God’s will and a good portion of the New Testament writings came from this man. He had ***revelation of the mystery*** and we as the church are also meant to walk in this revelation. It is actually God’s goal ***“For the earth to be filled with the KNOWLEDGE of the glory of Yahweh [LORD] ...” (Hab.2:14)***.

Do not be ignorant

Brethren, it is no longer allowable for us to remain ignorant, *“For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you be wise in your own opinion...”* (Rom.11:25) If we do not have knowledge of God’s will, *“the whole counsel of God”* (Acts20:27), it will only produce religious pride in our own opinions instead of humbly receiving the Word as it is written. We were not chosen to build our own denominations and groups of divided opinions, but we are to be built up and come to the *“unity of the faith”* because we were chosen to **know His will!**

3) TO SEE THE JUST ONE

Did you know that you were chosen to see Jesus! He wants you to see Him! He longs for you to see Him as He is. *“Beloved now we are children of God and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is”* (1Jn.3:2). We tend to put these Scriptures off to some distant event in the future. But it does not say that this is out of our reach but that *“when He is revealed...we shall see Him as He is.”* Has Jesus revealed Himself to you? Have you seen Him?

Seeing Him – a key to inheritance

In **2Kings2** we have the story of Elijah being taken up to heaven in a whirlwind. Elisha was a servant to Elijah, he *“poured water on the hands of Elijah”* (2Kings3:11). As Elijah was doing his last tour around all the companies of prophets he kept asking Elisha to stay behind and look after the prophets in that particular city. Eventually they crossed the river Jordan miraculously and Elijah said to Elisha, *“Ask! What may I do for you, before I am taken away from you?”* Elisha’s response was awesome, *“Please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me”* (2Kings2:9). Elijah said, *“You have asked a hard thing. Nevertheless, if you SEE me when I am taken from you, it shall be so for you; but if not, it shall not be so”* (v.10). Elisha wanted the **double portion**. This is the right of a firstborn son. Elisha wanted an inheritance, not just to remain a servant, but be placed into sonship. It was dependent upon him **seeing!**

Then it happened that Elijah was taken in a whirlwind up to heaven and the **a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire** (2Kings2:11). Then Elisha *“saw, and cried out, ‘My father, my father, the chariot of Israel and its horseman!’”* (v.12) What was the chariot that Elisha saw? What came into him that suddenly changed him from a servant/master relationship to crying out *“My father, my father”*?

The Chariot

Ezekiel says in the beginning of his prophetic book that, *“the heavens were opened and I saw visions of God”* (Ez.1:1). Then in he says, *“Then I looked, and behold, a whirlwind was coming out of the north, a great cloud with raging fire engulfing itself; and brightness was all around it...”* (v.4). This awesome sight was hard for Ezekiel to explain but he said that four living creatures came forth within it, their appearance being as *“burning coals of fire”* (v.13), and there was a wheel beside each creature that turned in the direction that it wanted to go! *“And above the firmament over their heads was the likeness of a throne...on the likeness of the throne was a likeness with the appearance of a man high above it”* (v.26).

Hallelujah! The chariot of Israel is the throne of God and one in the likeness with the appearance of a man sits on this throne. What did Elisha see? He saw the throne! He saw the one who sits in the *“chariot of Israel”*! Elijah in his life **stood before Yahweh** and could command creation what to do (**1Kings17:1**). Elisha wanted

a double portion, the inheritance of Elijah's spirit. What he saw when Elijah was taken was that it was not something special about Elijah, but he saw the one before whom Elijah stood and in that moment he became a son, now able to walk in the inheritance! He saw God; he saw the throne! God became his Father! Now Elisha had the same standing as Elijah (**2Kings3:14**)! We are chosen to **see the Just One**!

Job saw and received the inheritance!

Job had been a good servant of God, doing all the right things, doing the right sacrifices, helping the poor, the widow, the orphan and being an elder in the city. He had a large family and lots of livestock and was doing well until the time of testing came. God wanted to deepen his relationship with Job – He wanted to bring him into his spiritual inheritance!

When the time came, ***“Then Yahweh answered Job out of a whirlwind” (Job38:1).*** After God had spoken to him of all that He had done in creating, declaring His power, Job says to Him, ***“I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, But now my eye SEES You” Job42:5.*** God wanted to reveal Himself to Job. Now Job knew that he was chosen to **SEE** the Just One. Then, ***“Yahweh restored Job's losses when he prayed for his friends. Indeed Yahweh gave him TWICE as much as he had before” Job.42:10.*** After Job had seen Yahweh, he received the double portion, the inheritance of a son!

Jesus saw and received the inheritance!

When Jesus came to full age it was time for him to go meet John the Baptist at the river Jordan to be baptized. ***“When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He SAW the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him” (Matt.3:16).*** In Luke's gospel he says that the Spirit descended in ***“bodily form like a dove” (Lu.3:22).*** Jesus SAW and received the Spirit. Immediately after this, the voice came to confirm and place Him into the position of a mature Son – able to walk in the inheritance! (**Matt.3:17**)

We are chosen to have the heavens opened to us, to SEE the Just One. It is our destiny to stand before His throne and to see Him in His glory. When Jesus took Peter, James and John up the mountain He was ***“transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light” (Matt.17:2).*** Peter says in his epistle that ***“...we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty” (2Pet.1:16).*** They saw Him as He really is! They saw his coming! They saw the Just One!

“But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed [same word as “transfigured”] into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord” (2Cor.3:18).

Ananias told Paul that he was chosen to see the Just One. Jesus wants you to see Him! It will change you – it will cause you to walk in the inheritance, it will cause you to be like Him!

4) TO HEAR THE VOICE OF HIS MOUTH

Not only are we chosen to see Jesus but we are chosen to HEAR the VOICE of His mouth! Hallelujah! God wants you to hear Him. Walking by faith means we need to hear Him because *“faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God”* (Rom.10:17). In the beginning just after Adam and Eve had sinned it says, *“And they heard the sound of Yahweh God walking in the garden...”* (Gen.3:8). The word translated “sound” can also be translated “voice”. Adam and Eve actually **heard the VOICE of Yahweh walking!** Have you heard Him! God is awesome and He wants us to know and be accustomed to hear His voice!

My sheep hear My voice

In John10 Jesus teaches about Himself being the Good Shepherd and that all who come into His sheepfold have to come the right way. In verse 4 Jesus says, *“And when he [the shepherd] brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.”* God’s sheep know His voice and they follow Him – they follow the voice which goes before them.

Resurrection life released by the Hearing of His voice

It is by hearing the voice of the Son of God that we pass from death into life! *“...he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come in to judgement, but has passed from death into life...the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live”* (Jn.5:24-25). The voice of God is so powerful that it can even raise the dead! How were you born again? By hearing the Word of God that quickened your spirit to life, *“...having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever”* (1Pet.1:23).

Even when Lazarus had been dead for four days, Jesus, interceding and groaning in the Spirit, *“cried out with a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, come forth!’ And he who had died came out...”* (Jn.11:43-44). This was a sign of the day *“in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth – those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation”* (Jn.5:28-29). The Voice of the Lord is indeed powerful and *full of majesty* (Ps.29:4).

Wickedness destroyed by the voice of His mouth

Paul says in his letter to the Thessalonians that, *“then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming”* (2Thess.2:8). It is by His Word, the voice of His mouth, and by seeing Him, the brightness of His coming, that the lawless one is destroyed! Many people have ideas of who this is talking about but in our own life we can see this at work.

Saul was a lawless man. Even though he was one of the greatest keepers of the law, he found himself fighting against God by persecuting the church. When Jesus appeared to him and spoke, the **lawless one** in him was revealed and destroyed! When we see Jesus and hear the voice of His mouth, the lawless one in us is revealed and destroyed!

In Isaiah11:4 the prophet says that Jesus will *“strike the earth with the rod of His mouth and with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked.”* It is by God’s

voice speaking through the Son (**Heb.1:2**) that all wickedness is destroyed and burned up and only righteousness remains! *“Is not My word like a fire?” says Yahweh* (**Jer.23:29**). When the fire of God’s word passes through there remains only a *“new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells”* (**2Pet.3:13**).

His voice is like many waters

John says in **Revelation1:15** that, *“His voice is as the sound of many waters.”* Ezekiel knew the same voice, *“...like the noise of many waters, like the voice of the Almighty, a tumult like the noise of an army...”* (**Ez.1:24**). The voice of Jesus is as the sound of a tumult, as of an army! Jesus is the God who is in the midst of His people who are arrayed for battle.

The apostle Paul says that Jesus loves the church and gave Himself for her that, *“He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the Word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle...”* (**Eph.5:26-27**). By the Word He is washing us as with water and it is making us in to a glorious, perfect church of called out ones – an army reflecting the glory of Jesus Himself. It is by His voice, His Word. The greek word used for “Word” in this verse is “Rhema”, which is the quickened, spoken word that proceeds from God’s mouth – it is by “hearing the voice of His mouth” that we are cleansed and sanctified to become perfect! The waters of His voice cleanse us, *“You are already clean because of the Word which I have spoken to you”* (**Jn.15:3**).

We have been chosen to hear the voice of His mouth!

5) YOU WILL BE HIS WITNESS TO ALL MEN

When you are chosen to know the will of God, to see Him and to hear Him then you are given the ability to witness of Him to all men! We can only be a witness of what we have *“seen and heard”* (**Acts22:15**).

The Word is a person to experience

The apostle John begins his epistle by saying, *“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 concerning the Word of Life—the Life was manifested, and we have seen and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us...”* (**1Jn.1:1-2**). The early apostles experienced the reality of the *“Word became flesh and dwelt among us and we beheld His glory...”* (**Jn.1:14**), and because of this they were able to bear witness to all men and bring people into *“fellowship with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ”* (**1Jn.1:3**).

Jesus is to be experienced! We can only testify to people of something that we have seen or heard or touched or tasted! *“Taste and see that the Lord is good”* (**Ps.34:8**). Do you have a personal testimony of Jesus? The apostle Paul was able to use his testimony on two reported public occasions in the book of Acts. Paul became a witness!

We need the Holy Spirit to testify

The reality of knowing Jesus comes by the Spirit of God and it is by the Spirit of God that we have the power to witness. The apostle Paul writes, *“...no-one can say*

that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit.” (1Cor.12:3). We experience Jesus by the Spirit of God, by Him “enlightening the eyes of our understanding” (Eph.1:18). Jesus told the apostles that, “...you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses...” (Acts1:8). We need the Spirit of God “for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy” (Rev.19:10).

Jesus said, *“But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me. And you also will bear witness, because you have been with Me from the beginning” (Jn.15:26-27).* We need two things to be a witness – we need to receive the Spirit who testifies of Jesus and we need to have been with Jesus, learnt from Him, seen Him, heard Him and handled Him.

It is time to get real with Jesus!

It is not enough to know some historical facts about who Jesus is and what He did. It is not enough to have an intellectual understanding of the Scriptures. Paul was a Pharisee of the Pharisees; he knew the Bible and was zealous for who he thought God to be. *“And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers” (Gal.1:14).* But when he came into contact with the Risen Lord Jesus he cried out, *“Who are you, Lord?” (Acts9:5).* Through all his learning and training in the law, he did not know who the Lord was! When confronted with a revelation of God in reality, he realized he did not know the Lord; he immediately asked, *‘Who are you, LORD?’* He did not know the LORD!

God is looking for people who will be bold to stand up and witness to Jesus in their life according to the Word of God.

He wants us to experience Him so that we can give a true testimony of what we have seen and heard.

Seek God, know Him and testify that this Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, God manifest in the flesh!

Chapter Six

THE MANIFESTATION OF THE NAME

I have manifested Your name

When Jesus' was praying to the Father the night before He was crucified, He was giving an account to Him about how He had ***"finished the work"*** that He had been given to do (**John17:4**). In **verse 6** Jesus says that one of the main works He had completed was, ***"I have manifested Your name to the men You have given Me out of the world."*** **Jesus manifested the name of the Father!** This is very awesome and in it is hidden much revelation for us in explaining who Jesus is.

In **1Cor.3:11** Paul writes, ***"For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ."*** The only ***"sure foundation"*** that we can build on is the revelation of who Jesus the Christ is. By the time that Jesus was to leave the disciples to go to the Cross and rise again He told the Father that He had successfully ***"manifested Your name"***. **Jesus was saying that He was the manifestation of the Father's name!** Who Jesus is reveals the Father! ***"For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily"*** (**Col.2:9**).

In **1Timothy3:16** Paul writes that the mystery of godliness is that ***"God was manifested in the flesh."*** In this chapter, we want to look at how Jesus could say ***"I have manifested Your name"***.

How did Jesus manifest God's name?

Why is Jesus the name above all names?

We see that Philip in Samaria ***"preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ"*** (**Acts.8:12**). **Philip preached the name!** There is a revelation for us to receive which is foundational to our faith. The revelation is in God's name!

The name of God revealed in the Old Testament

God reveals Himself many times in the Old Testament by His name. But on one specific occasion with Moses He clearly identifies His name saying, ***"This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations"*** **Ex.3:15**. God was wanting to send Moses to deliver His people from the land of Egypt and the control of Pharaoh, and Moses asked God, ***"Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What is His name?' what shall I say to them?"*** God answered by saying, ***"I AM WHO I AM."*** **And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you'"** **Ex.3:13-14**. The name that God revealed to Moses that would be a ***"memorial to all generations"***, was the eternal name ***"I AM"***.

In Hebrew it is the name **Yahweh** or **Yehova** or **Jehovah**. It means that

He is the eternal one;

always was, always is and always will be.

His name reveals who He is. To have revelation of God's name is to have revelation of who He is. The writer to the Hebrews said that the first step of faith is to believe that ***"He is and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him"*** **Heb.11:6**.

In our English translations of the Bible, most have translated the name to be ***"LORD"***. This is not a good translation of the name because His name does not mean

“Lord”. We will look later at why this has been translated as such and how Jesus is the manifestation of that title also!

Jesus said that He **manifested the Father’s name**. Jesus is the manifestation of God in the flesh (1Tim.3:16, Jn1:1, 14).

HOW DID JESUS MANIFEST THE NAME?

The Yehovistic [Yahwehistic] names of God

There are nine times in the Old Testament that God uses His name “**Yehova**” as a compound name to reveal something of who He is in His eternal nature. We will look at each one and see how Jesus manifested this name in His life, revealing who He is.

1) YEHOVA YIREH – “I AM will Provide”

In **Genesis 22**, Abraham was receiving his greatest test from God. God said, *“Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him as a burnt offering on one of the mountains which I will show you”* (v.2). This is foreshadowing the giving of God’s *“only begotten son”* (Jn.3:16). Abraham’s son was to become an offering. The son who was given as a promise to Abraham was to be offered as a sacrifice to please God.

In **verse 7**, Isaac is wondering what is happening and asks Abraham, *“My father!...Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering.”* Isaac knew that God required a lamb for a sacrificial offering! Abraham replied, *“My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering”* (v.8). Then Abraham proceeded to bind Isaac to the altar and was about to slay him when the Angel of Yehova called to him to stop him. When Abraham looked up he saw a ram caught in a thicket and Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt offering (v.12-13).

Abraham then had a revelation of God’s name to be *“Yehova Yireh (the LORD will provide); as it is said to this day, ‘In the mount of Yehova (the LORD) it shall be provided’”* (v.14).

Who is our provision?

Jesus is God’s provision for us! In the Mount of the Lord it has been provided! After Jesus was baptized, *“John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, ‘Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is He of whom I said, ‘After me comes a Man who is preferred before me, for He was before me’”* (Jn.1:29-30). Notice that the provision of God is a **lamb**. This lamb is an offering to take away the sin of the world. Even though Jesus was born after John, John says that this Man, who is the Lamb of God, *“was before me”*. **Jesus is the Eternal One who is the provision that God has made for the sin of the world!**

“And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins...” (1Jn.3:5). In **Revelation 13:8** we see that the provision of God was eternal, *“...of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.”* From the foundation of the world this provision was made. The Eternal God, Yehova, was manifested to take away our sin, to be our provision.

Jesus has manifested the name, “Yehova Yireh”!

2) YEHOVA ROPHEKA – “I AM your Healer”

In **Exodus 15:26** the Eternal God reveals Himself to be the One *“who heals you.”* We are healed by the name of the One who heals us. When the children of Israel were coming out of Egypt, which speaks to us of God’s people coming out of the world into the kingdom of God’s Son (**Col. 1:13**), they came to a place of bitter water. The people complained and God showed Moses what to do and the waters were made sweet. God then made a statute saying, *“If you diligently heed the voice of Yehova (the LORD) your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I AM heals you.”* God’s promise to us is that He is our healer and none of the diseases of the world need to stay on us.

Who is our healer?

Matthew writes that early in Jesus’ ministry, *“His fame went throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all sick people who were afflicted with various diseases and torments, and those who were demon possessed, epileptics, and paralytics; and He healed them”* (**Matt. 4:24**). In **Matthew 9:35** we see Jesus again, *“healing every sickness and every disease among the people.”* Jesus is the One who heals you!

When the apostles were released by the Holy Spirit after Jesus rose from the dead, they went preaching. In **Acts 3** we see the apostles Peter and John coming across a lame beggar outside the temple. In **verse 6** Peter says, *“Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.”* Peter used the name of the One who heals and in the authority of His name the man rose up!

When Peter was explaining the reason for this man’s healing he told the people, *“And His name, through faith in His name, has made this man strong, whom you see and know. Yes, the faith which comes through Him has given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all”* (**Acts 3:16**). Peter had no doubts as to the name! In **Acts 4:10** Peter has to talk to the rulers of the people about this awesome healing and he says, *“let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole.”*

The name that God has given that brings healing to people is the **name of Jesus!** He is our Healer!

Jesus has manifested the name of “Yehova Ropheka”!

3) YEHOVA NISSI – “I AM your Banner”

Not too long after the children of Israel had moved on from the place of healing they encountered some enemies. The Amalekites came against them and they were in battle while Moses was on a mountain overlooking the battle with the *“rod of God in his hand. And so it was, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed; and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed”* (**Ex. 17:9, 11**). Moses had to hold up God’s rod of authority, and while the rod was held up they were prevailing! Two men had to help him keep his hands up and they won the battle (**v. 12-13**).

Then *“Moses built an altar and its name, Yehova (the LORD) is my Banner...”* (**Ex. 17:15**). The Eternal One revealed Himself to be our banner, the One who gives us victory. We fight under His name. The notes in the New Spirit Filled Life Bible say that *“A banner is the pole-like standard beneath which armies or communities*

rallied. When lifted up, it called the people together for battle, for meeting, or for instruction. The phrase could have been a battle cry!"

The Eternal God is our banner. We come under Him and find refuge. When His **rod of authority** is held up we come to it and find victory! When we cry out His name to be our banner we have victory over our enemies!

Who is our Banner?

When Jesus knew He was approaching the time of His death He said, *"Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out. And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to Myself."* *This He said signifying by what death He would die" (Jn.12:31-33).* It had come time to judge the enemy of God and God would do it by Jesus being **lifted up from the earth!** **Jesus is our Banner of victory!**

Jesus won the victory by *"wiping out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it" (Col.2:14-15).* Sin and Satan were defeated by Jesus, God's Rod of authority, being **lifted up from the earth!** *"For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil" (1John3:8).*

Jesus has manifested the name of "Yehova Nissi"!

4) YEHOVA M'KADDESH – "I AM Your Sanctification"

The Eternal God is the one who sanctifies and sets His people apart to Himself and from all things that displease Him. In the book of **Leviticus** Yahweh is giving His laws and statutes regarding morality, cleanliness and how to worship and approach Him in terms of the priesthood, sacrifices and the Tabernacle set up. In **Leviticus 20**, Yahweh is telling Israel that if anyone turns away from the true worship of God and worships Molech or turns to spiritists and mediums for guidance they will be *"cut off from his people"* (v.6). He then tells Israel to *"Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I, Yahweh, your God. And you shall keep My statutes, and perform them: I, Yahweh who sanctifies you"* (v.7-8). It is by following His commands and doing what pleases Him that He sets us apart to Himself.

Who is our Sanctification?

The apostle Paul writes that *"Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God – and...sanctification"* (1Cor.1:30). God is now sanctifying us through Christ Jesus – He is our sanctification from God! We are set apart by Him and in Him. *"For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren, saying: 'I will declare Your name to My brethren' (Heb.2:11-12).* Jesus is the One sanctifying us and so He is not ashamed to declare the name of God amongst His brethren. Jesus said, *"I have manifested Your name to the men you have given Me..." (Jn.17:6).* It is by His name that we are set apart!

Sanctified by the name

After explaining to the Corinthians how we cannot inherit the kingdom if we are involved in practicing gross sin and immorality and then naming the types of sins that were obviously prevalent in their society (as also ours), he says to them, *“And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God”* (1Cor.6:11). We are actually sanctified in the **name of the Lord Jesus!**

How does this happen expressly?

- It is first by calling on the name of Jesus for salvation (**Rom.10:13**)
- then by being baptized in that **name** – *“but you were washed!”*
- the name of **Jesus** sets us apart to God for His service
- the name of **Jesus** cleanses and washes us through baptism. We are baptized into the *“name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit”* (**Matt.28:19**)
- the name that reveals and manifests the Godhead – the fullness of God – is the name of **Jesus**. Ananias told Paul to, *“Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord”* (Acts.22:16). Peter told the brethren who were cut to the heart from his preaching that they were to, *“repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins”* (Acts2:38).

Jesus has manifested the name of “Yehova M’Kaddesh”!

5) YEHOVA SHALOM – “I AM your Peace”

In the book of **Judges** there is a story of a man named Gideon who is living in a time when the Israelites are oppressed by the enemy, the Midianites. Gideon is hiding and threshing wheat in a winepress! In the midst of this time, Yahweh, the Eternal One, appears to him as the **Angel of Yahweh** (**Ju.6:12**). It is only later that when Gideon made an offering to Yahweh that he realizes who he has seen and he cried out, *“Alas, O Lord Yahweh [GOD]! For I have seen the Angel of Yahweh face to face.’ Then Yahweh said to him, ‘Peace be with you; do not fear, you shall not die.’ So Gideon built an altar there to Yahweh, and called it Yahweh Shalom [The LORD is peace]”* (**Ju.6:22-24**).

It was through an offering that the Angel of Yahweh was revealed to Gideon. In this story you see that the **Angel of Yahweh** is the same as **Yahweh**. It interchanges between saying that the Angel of Yahweh is talking then saying that Yahweh is talking. Gideon saw Yahweh in the Angel of Yahweh! **We see God in the One whom God has sent!** Jesus said, *“If you have seen Me, you have seen the Father”* and *“...if they receive Me, they receive the Father”* (**Jn.14:9, Matt.10:40**). Gideon saw Yahweh and was afraid at first because Yahweh had told Moses that, *“You cannot see My face, for no man shall see Me, and live”* (**Ex.33:20**). But Paul writes that, *“The light of the knowledge of the glory of God is seen in the face of Jesus Christ”* (**2Cor.4:6**). Gideon saw **JESUS!** And He was revealed through an offering as his peace!

Who is our peace?

“But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation... And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have

access by One Spirit to the Father” (Eph.2:13-14, 17-18). Peace has come through the blood of Jesus Christ. Peace with God and peace with each other. **Jesus is the manifestation of God’s peace! HE IS OUR PEACE!**

“For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross” (Col.1:19-20). There is no longer any separation between God and men, between heaven and earth, because in Jesus the fullness dwelt and by Him he has reconciled all things and made **PEACE!**

Jesus ministered peace

Before the Cross Jesus was talking to His disciples of His departure and He said, **“Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, nor let it be afraid” (Jn.14:27).** He spoke very similarly to Gideon! He ministered to peace to His brethren telling them not to fear! He was about to destroy Him who had held all people in bondage to fear of death (Heb.2:14-15). He said to them, **“These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace” (Jn.16:33).** We have peace in Jesus!

After the resurrection Jesus appeared to His disciples in the midst of the house that they were in and He said, **“Peace be with you... Peace to you. As the Father sent Me, I also send you” (Jn.20:19, 21).** Jesus is our peace and when we are sent by Him, we are to go and minister that peace to people. After commissioning them He **“breathed on them, and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit’” (Jn.20:22).** The Holy Spirit is given as we receive Jesus as Peace!

Jesus has manifested the name of “Yehova Shalom”!

6) YEHOVA ROHI – “I AM your Shepherd”

The revelation of the Eternal One being our Shepherd came through David in **Psalm 23:1** which says, **“Yahweh [the LORD] is my Shepherd, I shall not want.”** By providing for us our needs, tending, caring, healing and guiding us, He is our Shepherd. As the Shepherd, **“He restores my soul” (v.2).** There were many prophecies in the Old Testament that talk of God being a shepherd and also talk of the one who will come to shepherd the people of God. Ezekiel prophesied, **“David My servant shall be king over them; and they all have one shepherd; they shall also walk in My judgements and observe My statutes, and do them” (Ez.37:24).** God was to come as a shepherd to His people through a King in the line of David. One of the roles of the shepherd is to lead the flock into good pasture and rest, which translates for us into our inheritance!

Who is our Shepherd?

Jesus said, **“I AM the Good Shepherd” (Jn.10:11).** Jesus made it very clear that He is the fulfillment of “Yahweh Rohi”! He is also the door of the sheep and through Him we find pasture (Jn.10:9). He is the king that Ezekiel prophesied about who would be the one shepherd!

In **Hebrews 13:20** it says, **“Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to do His will.”** He is the great shepherd who makes us complete!

In exhorting his fellow elders, Peter says to them, that if they continue to shepherd the flock of God well, **“when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive**

the crown of glory that does not fade away” (1Pet.5:4). Jesus is the Chief Shepherd, the manifestation of God’s name, “Yahweh Rohi”, calling us to *“come unto Me... take My yoke upon you and learn from Me... and you will find rest for your souls” (Matt.11:28-29).*

Jesus has manifested the name of “Yahweh Rohi”!

7) YEHOVA TSIDKENU – “I AM your Righteousness”

Jeremiah was prophesying in his day of a great ruler to come from the line of David who would reign and act wisely, executing *“judgement and righteousness in the earth. Now this is the name by which He will be called: Yahweh [the LORD] our Righteousness” (Jer.23:5-6).* The name of the ruler, the Messiah to come, would be the Eternal God, the “I AM”, our Righteousness!

Again in **Jeremiah 33:15-16**, Jeremiah says that not only will He be called this name but also Jerusalem, the city of God, will be called by the same name, *“Yahweh our Righteousness”*. The Eternal God is the One who makes us righteous and He is the One who is righteous and full of justice (**Deut.32:4**).

Who is our Righteousness?

The apostle Paul declares in **1Corinthians 1:30** that Christ Jesus *“became for us wisdom from God – and righteousness...”* Jesus the Christ is our righteousness! The apostle John says that *“if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous” (1Jn.2:1).* Jesus is the Righteous One and that enabled Him to be *“the propitiation for our sins” (1Jn.2:2).* By being the propitiation God made *“Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him” (2Cor.5:21);* and so we have the fulfillment, the manifestation of the name, “Yahweh our Righteousness”. It is His name and we receive His righteousness by faith, manifesting the same name!

The apostle Paul says, *“that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith...” (Phil.3:8b-9).* Being found in Christ means being in Him who is our righteousness!

Jesus is the manifestation of the name “Yahweh Tsidkenu”

8) YAHWEH SHAMMAH – “I AM There”

The prophet Ezekiel was looking ahead to the day that the city of God would be established and built with the temple inside. This is not a literal place in Jerusalem to be rebuilt but the city which Abraham saw, *“which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God” (Heb.11:10).* Ezekiel saw the completion of this city, *“and the name of the city from that day shall be: Yahweh [the LORD] IS THERE” (Ez.48:35).* When the eternal city is completed, the Eternal God will find His rest in this city and He will be found there!

Who is There?

When Jesus was teaching on binding and loosing concerning a sinning brother in the church, He says that, *“For where two or three are gathered together in My*

name, I AM There in the midst of them” (Matt.18:20). He is there! When two or three are in agreement and harmony and unity in the name of Jesus, the name of “Yahweh Shammah” is manifested! ***“I AM There in the midst of them!”***

When Jesus was preparing His disciples for His departure He tells them that He will send the Spirit of truth, ***“whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you” (Jn.14:17).*** How did the Spirit of truth dwell **with** them? Because He was standing right in front of them in Jesus! He then says not only will He be **with** you but He will be **in** you! ***“I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you” (Jn.14:18).*** Jesus will be there! He will be in you by the Spirit! He is there!

Jesus is in the midst of His church

After the resurrection of Jesus, His disciples were hiding in a house together and suddenly, ***“Jesus came and stood in the midst...” (Jn.20:19).*** In the book of **Revelation** John says that he saw, ***“in the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man... I AM the First and the Last. I AM He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I AM alive forevermore... and the seven lampstands are the seven churches” (Rev.1:13, 17-18, 20).*** Jesus is the revelation of the Eternal God in the midst of the church. He is the One who is There!

Finally John says that he saw, ***“the holy city, the New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God... And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, ‘Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God’” (Rev.21:2-3).*** God is in the midst of His city, He is There! The mystery of the church is that it is God’s dwelling place ***“in the Spirit” (Eph.2:22).*** When the church is walking in maturity and completeness, all people will call it “Yahweh Shammah” because they will find that Jesus is There!

Jesus is the manifestation of the name “Yahweh Shammah”!

9) YEHOVA TSABAOTH – “I AM of My Armies”

Just before the Israelites were to take Jericho, Joshua as the leader of the people went out to seek God. They were to enter into the inheritance and Joshua it would seem was preparing his heart for the next phase of the journey. ***“And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, a Man stood opposite him with His sword drawn in His hand. And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, ‘You for us or for our adversaries?’ So He said, ‘No, but as Commander of the army of Yahweh [the LORD] I have now come.’ And Joshua fell on His face to the earth and worshipped, and said to Him, ‘What does my Lord say to His servant?’” (Josh.5:12-14).*** What an awesome encounter. Joshua met with the Commander of the army of Yahweh and he worshipped Him. If this was not God, Joshua would never have been allowed to worship Him – this was an appearance, a manifestation of God in the likeness of a man, who commanded Yahweh’s armies.

Joshua was being reminded that he was not in charge of the army that was going into Canaan, but that the army was Yahweh’s and Yahweh is in the midst of His army fighting the battle Himself!

Who are the armies?

We as believers have tended to have a very spiritual, heavenly minded view of all the Scriptures which has made us blind to seeing some simple truths. In **Exodus 6:26** it says, ***“These are the same Aaron and Moses to whom Yahweh said, ‘Bring out the children of Israel from the land of Egypt according to their armies.’”*** This word *armies* is mostly translated **“hosts”** when describing the Eternal God as **“Yahweh [the LORD] of hosts”**.

In **Exodus 7:4** it says, ***“But Pharaoh will not heed you, so that I may lay My hand upon Egypt and bring My armies (and) My people, the children of Israel, out of the land of Egypt.”*** Now if you have a New King James Version bible you will notice that the **“and”** in this verse is in italic font. This means that the word is not in the Hebrew script but was added by the translators to help us make sense of it. However in this case, and in many others, you can see the translators were battling with the same mindsets that most of us have had. We have tended to think that the **“armies”** are heavenly angels but if you read without the **“and”**, which was added, it says, ***“and bring My armies, My people, the children of Israel...”*** Hallelujah! The armies are God’s people! God was not delivering heavenly angels from Egypt – He was saving His people and bringing them out as His armies!

This changes the whole way that we have seen the armies. Yes, God is the God of the angelic armies also, but on most occurrences He is revealing Himself to be the Eternal One who is seen in His armies, His people. He manifests in triumph through His people!

The first mention of the name **“Yahweh Tsabaoth”** is in **1Samuel 1:3** in the context of sacrificing to Him at Shiloh. It is mentioned well over 200 times in the Old Testament! He is known to be the God of His armies, the God of His people!

Jesus the commander of the armies!

Joshua worshipped God when He came in the likeness of a man! That is Jesus! He led Joshua into the Promised Land and so He will lead us! ***“Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place”*** (**2Cor.2:14**). Jesus leads us in victory; our enemies being defeated! Within this army, the fragrance of Christ is manifested! He is the One in the midst of His army!

Paul said to Timothy, ***“You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ”*** (**2Tim.2:3**). Timothy was a soldier in Jesus’ army. In the book of **Revelation** John writes, ***“And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS and LORD OF LORDS”*** (**Rev.19:14-15**). Jesus rides victoriously as the commander of His army. His army is clothed in fine linen. They are not angels from heaven but, ***“These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb”*** (**Rev.7:14**). Jesus is leading His army out of Egypt and into the Promised Land. He is **“Yahweh of armies”** – the Eternal One of His people!

Jesus has manifested the name of “Yahweh of Armies”

The Revelation of the Eternal One

In John's gospel, the times are recorded when Jesus reveals Himself to be the Eternal One. There are eight occasions especially in John's account where Jesus uses the awesome statement, "**I AM**" to reveal Himself, manifesting the name of God!

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| i. <i>"I AM the Bread of Life"</i> | Jn. 6:48 |
| ii. <i>"I AM the Light of the world"</i> | Jn. 8:12, 9:5 |
| iii. <i>"I AM the Door"</i> | Jn. 10:9 |
| iv. <i>"I AM the Good Shepherd"</i> | Jn. 10:11 |
| v. <i>"I AM the Resurrection and the Life"</i> | Jn. 11:25 |
| vi. <i>"I AM the way, the truth and the Life"</i> | Jn. 14:6 |
| vii. <i>"I AM the True Vine"</i> | Jn. 15:1 |
| viii. <i>"Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham, I AM"</i> | Jn.8:58 |

The **eighth** occasion was the most direct. Jesus was talking to the Pharisees and they could not understand when He said that He knew Abraham. They said, *"You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?" Jesus said to them, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM'"* (v.57-58).

The name of the Eternal God in the Old Testament revealed Him to be "**I AM**". Jesus was the manifestation of that name in a man! The Eternal One made flesh! **Jesus is the "I AM"**! *"Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved"* (Acts4:12).

Jesus said, *"I have manifested Your name to the men You have given Me."* Jesus, through His life and being, revealed the name of God to men. God's name was revealed in **Jesus!**

JESUS IS THE MANIFESTATION OF GOD'S NAME!

Chapter Seven

WASHED IN THE APOSTOLIC a revelation of the Son of God – John 9

Jesus saw a man blind from birth

v.1 In **John9:1** the apostle John writes, *“Now as Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth.”* This man was a Jew; he was one of the people of God, in the “church” of his day. We read later in this story that the Jewish religious leaders, the Pharisees, take this man to question him, which shows that he was a part of their religious grouping.

This man was in the family of God but he had a problem – he was blind and had been blind from **birth!** It is possible to be born again and part of the church, part of God’s family and still be blind – blind to the will and purpose of God. All over the church world there are born again believers who have born again into a church denomination or system that does not allow the fresh revelation of God’s word to change them. They get stuck in a place of religion that is rigid and incompatible with the flow of revelation that comes from God’s throne to His people.

We need our eyes **opened! Jesus noticed this man!**

The disciples look for the solution

v.2 In **verse 2**, it says, *“And His disciples asked Him, saying, ‘Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?’”* Many of us today are looking for the reason why we are a certain way, why we have some problems – maybe our great grandfather did something wrong and we are paying the consequences for his sin. The disciples, like us, were looking for the root cause of the problem and by doing so it affected their ability to be in tune with God. They were missing God’s plan and heart.

v.3 *“Jesus answered, ‘Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him’”* (v.3). Jesus’ response was simple. He is not complicated. He said to His disciples to stop looking for the problem and realize that God wanted him healed! God wanted him restored, He wanted His works to be revealed in His life! Jesus did not come to be a spectator and observe the problems in the world – He came to save us, deliver us and restore to us our sight! May we get this heart in us that we walk with God in such a way that we see how He wants to outwork His plan in our every day life.

Working the works of the One who sends us

v.4 *“I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work”* (v.4). After telling them that God wanted to work in this man, He then said that He must work the works of Him who **sent** Him. The word for “**sent**” in this verse is the Greek word “**pempo**” which means *to dispatch or to send*. There is another Greek word for “**sent**” mentioned in the Scriptures which is the Greek word “**apostello**”. This is where the english word “**apostle**” comes from. Sometimes these words are used nearly interchangeably; however, the word “**apostello**” suggests a more authoritative commissioning. Jesus said, *“But I have a greater witness than John’s; for the works which the Father has given me to finish – the very works that I do – bear witness of Me, that the Father has sent Me”* (Jn.5:36). In this verse Jesus

uses the word “**apostello**”. Jesus, as the apostle of God was **sent** to do a work by the Father. There are many believers all over the world who are trying to go and do the work of God without being **sent**. We need to be sent. When we are sent we are in the will of God and we have authority to do the works of God in the sphere to which we are sent.

Jesus sent His apostles

In **Matthew 10** Jesus sent His apostles to do some work in the cities of Israel. The Scripture says, *“These twelve Jesus sent out and commanded them saying, ‘Do not go into the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter a city of the Samaritans. But go, rather to the lost sheep of the House of Israel. And as you go, preach, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give”* (v.5-8). The apostles were sent to work the works of God and they had authority to do it in the sphere that Jesus gave them. If they had gone anywhere else to try to do what Jesus had said, they would have had no authority to do it, and probably would have ended up like the seven sons of Sceva in **Acts 19:13-16**.

We need to know the One who sends us!

When we go in the authority of the Christ who sends us, we have His authority to do what He has told us to do. There are many lawless Christians in the world who will not submit themselves to be sent. They want to work for the Lord but they want to do it their way. Jesus said, *“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’”* (**Matt. 7:21-23**).

Jesus said that He must **work the works of Him who sent Him!** We need to do the same: look for what our Father is doing and do the same (**Jn. 5:19**). God wants the blind to see! He wants His children to grow up in revelation knowledge of the Son of God (**Eph. 4:13**).

The Light of the World

v.5 *“As long as I am in the world, I am the Light of the world”* (**Jn. 9:5**). Jesus saw a blind man and His answer was, *I am the Light of the world!* Jesus is the Light we need. *“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void, and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. Then God said, ‘Let there be Light; and there was light’”* (**Gen. 1:1-3**). Into the darkness of this world God released Light; He sent Light! It was shapeless, empty and dark and the first thing God needed to do was release Light! This light was revelation. It was wisdom, understanding and knowledge released into the world to reveal how to build, how to establish and how to fill (**Prov. 24:3-4**). After the light was given, the creation was restored!

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not

comprehend [extinguish, snuff out] it” (Jn.1:1-5). The Word is Light. It is life and darkness cannot extinguish it. The light is the revelation of Jesus. Jesus saw this man, one of His own, and he was blind; blind to the things of God, blind to His purpose, greatness and love. Jesus said that, ***“As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”*** It was time to reveal the light to this blind brother and see him restored!

Anointed but still blind

v.6 ***“When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay”*** (Jn.9:6). After being born again, which includes baptism into the Body (1Cor.12:13), we need to be anointed with the Holy Spirit. We need to have the baptism in the Spirit to release power for us to witness (Acts.1:8). However, the anointing, even though it releases power, gifts and ability to function, does not release the full revelation that we need. Remember those people who were doing all the works but they were lawless. This man was now anointed but he still was not able to **see!** Jesus wants to open our sight.

The Pentecostal experience is not the ultimate. It is necessary for us; that is why Jesus anointed this man. The Pentecostal experience does not necessarily open our eyes to God’s eternal purpose. It gives us faith and confidence and it is the guarantee of our inheritance (Eph.1:13). However, this man was still walking around in a dark world. The Pentecostal church for the most part is still walking in the dark. We are anointed and many powerful things are being done but it is time to see the fullness of God revealed!

Go wash in the pool of Siloam

v.7 ***“And He said to him, ‘Go, wash in the pool of Siloam’ (which is translated, Sent). So he went and washed, and came back seeing”*** (Jn.9:7). After Jesus anointed this man, He told Him to go wash in the Pool of “Sent”, the pool of “apostello”, the pool of the apostolic! It was only after he washed in this pool that ***“he came back seeing”!*** Hallelujah! We are in the days of the apostolic restoration – coming back to the apostolic foundation that Jesus laid in the church and there is great revelation!

Some people can say that this is being pedantic to major on the use of this word, “sent”. However, there are only four times in John’s writing that he tells us the translation of words from Hebrew to Greek. He translates “Rabbi” to be “Teacher” (Jn.1:38); He translates the word “Messiah” to be “Christ” (Jn.1:41); he translates “Cephas” to be “A Stone” (Jn.1:42); and then he translates “Siloam” to be “Sent”. Obviously the Holy Spirit thought it was important for us to know – we need to take heed because there is a revelation for us.

We need to wash in the Pool of “Sent”! It will change you; you will have recovery of sight! No longer blinded! You will come to the revelation of the mystery, ***“which has been hidden from ages and generations, but now has been revealed to His saints”*** (Col.1:26). There is an apostolic pool that we can wash in. It is Jesus, ***sanctifying and cleansing her [the church] with the washing of water by the word that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish”*** (Eph.5:26-27). It is by the word of the Lord that we are washed! Jesus said, ***“Go wash in the Pool of Siloam (which is translated, sent).”*** Jesus is telling us to be a people who are apostolic;

a people who are **sent**. We have the word abiding in us and so we have authority. But we need to wash first so that our eyes can be opened!

The apostolic revelation – setting the Body in order

After washing in this pool He was healed and restored. Coming into the apostolic revelation brings order into us. In **Ephesians 4:12** Paul writes that Jesus has given the five-fold ministry gift in order to, *“equip [perfect] the saints, to do the work of the ministry and to build up the Body of Christ.”* The word **“equip”** in the classical Greek language meant to set a broken bone during surgery. It means a “making fit, preparing, training, perfecting, making fully qualified for service.”

The apostolic ministry as the primary ministry amongst the five comes to set the broken bones of the Body in order. Jesus restored this man to sight so that He could come into place. Washing in the apostolic revelation will help you see how God is building His house, which is His church, which is His Body, *“the fullness of Him who fills all in all”* (Eph.1:23).

Having a testimony – bearing the name of Jesus

V.8 Now this man had a testimony of Jesus in His life. When those who knew him saw him they were confused, *“Therefore the neighbours and those who previously had seen that he was blind said, ‘Is this not he who sat and begged’”* (Jn.9:8). They knew this man as a beggar. But suddenly he was not begging anymore. There are many beggars in the churches today. They are up on every altar call to “get more anointing”, to “be healed”. It is not wrong to go up on altar calls but when it becomes your habit and your means of relating to God there is a major problem. These people have not been taught how to walk with Jesus and so they are always looking for a man to pray for them. This is not good. It is the word that heals and restores (Ps.107:20) – not men with power. We need to come out of being beggars and get a testimony of Jesus in our life.

Those who recognized this man were amazed. Suddenly he was walking around without any guidance of human beings – he can see clearly for himself. He is learning to walk by the **Light of the World**, Jesus. He has a confidence and authority that was not there before – he had washed in the Pool of **the apostolic**!

V.10 *“So they said to him, ‘How were your eyes opened?’”* (Jn.9:10) They wanted to know why he has changed. When we come in to a revelation of the apostolic then we will be changed and our denominational friends will want to know what has happened. **How do you see the revelation of God’s word now? Why are you so excited about the Bible? Why do you say that you can see God’s plan now?** They will want to know because suddenly you are not fitting into their mould anymore. You are out of the box they had put you in and they see a freedom in you that they want to know about.

V.11 *“He answered and said, ‘A Man called JESUS made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, ‘Go to the Pool of Siloam and wash.’ So I went and washed, and I received sight”* (Jn.9:11). His testimony was not of his church programs and how good the speaker was on the weekend. He testified of a Man named **Jesus**! He now began to bear the name of **Jesus**! Washing in the apostolic is coming out of religion, denomination, institution and into a testimony of Jesus! Being called by His name – identifying with Him!

Bearing the name of Jesus

The apostle Paul bore the name of Jesus

After Paul received a revelation of Jesus, Jesus told Ananias the disciple about Paul, that ***“he is a chosen vessel of Mine, to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel”*** (Acts9:15). People who are apostolic, who have washed in the pool of Sent are able to see and will bear the name of Jesus. The church does not belong to men! The church is not called by the name of your denomination! The church in the Scriptures is called by the name of Jesus! Jesus said, ***“I have come in My Father’s name and you do not receive Me: if another comes in his own name, him you will receive”*** (Jn.5:43). We need to identify with Jesus and not have mistaken loyalties to men!

Jesus represented the One who **sent** Him! Jesus had a revelation of the apostolic! Jesus said, ***“He who receives whomever I send, receives Me; and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me”*** (Jn.13:20). Jesus fully represented the Father and we are to fully represent Jesus, our Father. Go wash in the Pool of **Sent**! Bear the name of Jesus. Be sent by Jesus and by the apostles that He sends. If you receive the apostles that He sends, you receive Him! Hallelujah! This is the revelation of the apostolic!

You will be persecuted

V.13-14 ***“They brought him who formerly was blind to the Pharisees. Now it was a Sabbath when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes”*** (Jn.9:13-14). The Pharisees were the religious leaders of the Jewish nation. They were the church leaders and one of their programs got messed up by Jesus. Jesus had a habit of doing wonderful things on the Sabbath. This really made the Pharisees angry because it kept distracting the people in their church meetings. The Pharisees had no revelation of the Sabbath. They were bound by religion, duty and man-made traditions that kept them from seeing that Jesus was bringing the fulfillment of all the Sabbath pointed to.

The Sabbath was about entering into God’s rest! The fulfillment of the Sabbath is entering the eternal rest of God, entering into the fullness of God’s promises and being at rest in Him. The writer to the **Hebrews** says, ***“There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. For he who has entered His rest has himself ceased from his works as God did from His”*** (Heb.4:9-10). Jesus was bringing people into this inheritance. On the Sabbath day Jesus did many miracles that brought people out of bondage and into rest. He was fulfilling the Sabbath if they had eyes to see.

V.17 Now this man was brought before the religious leaders to be interrogated as to his healing. When the move of God happens there will always be those who do not understand and they will fight God because it does not happen the way that they thought it should – according to their program. **But this became an opportunity for this man to testify of Jesus!** When the Pharisees debated about who they thought Jesus was, thinking He must be a sinner for doing the healing on the Sabbath, they asked the man who was formerly blind what he had to say about Jesus. His response was, ***“He is a prophet”*** (Jn.9:17). That was a good revelation and it was correct but God wanted to take him deeper!

An experience is greater than a system

Do not be surprised when you have your eyes opened to the reality of God – by the Light of the world – that those in religious authority will stand against you and question you. ***“But beware of men, for they will deliver you up to councils and scourge***

you in their synagogues...But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you will speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak” (Matt.10:17, 19).

V.24-25 An experience is greater than a system! After asking the man’s parents to verify his blindness from birth they again asked the man, ***“Give God the glory! We know that this Man is a sinner.” He answered and said, ‘Whether He is a sinner I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see.’***” Once you catch the revelation you cannot help but testify. You cannot help but speak the truth! A witness is someone who has experienced something in reality by touch, taste, sight, hearing or smelling. God is real! When He opens your eyes it is done – there is no turning back or denying it! God is raising true witnesses in the earth who have been washed in the apostolic pool!

You will be thrown out

V.27 After the Pharisees heard him testify he asked them if they wanted to be his disciples (v.27). They began to speak of being disciples of a dead man – Moses’ disciples. How often do we like to set up a tradition after a man. There are many denominations now that have been formed around men of God in the past. Most of these men were great, but their greatness was not in them – it was in the One who worked through them. Jesus had said previously, ***“Do not think that I shall accuse you to the Father; there is one who accuses you – Moses, in whom you trust. For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me” (Jn.5:45-46).*** There was no salvation in Moses but there was salvation in the One that Moses pointed to! Do not follow men – follow the One who gave the men their authority!

V.32-34 The Pharisees argued that Jesus was not of God because they did not know where He was from. The man who was formerly blind said, ***“Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind. If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing.’ They answered and said to him, ‘You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?’ And they cast him out” (Jn.9:32-34).*** When we cannot handle revelation sometimes it makes us insecure and we want to throw it away. That is what these men did to this formerly blind man. Out of the church! He was no longer part of Jewish worship; he was excommunicated from the system. Hallelujah! This is a good place to be! He handled the testing, the tribulation. He did not recant on what he had experienced. He had proved faithful and this is pleasing to God.

Many who have come into the apostolic revelation have experienced the same things by their denominations and church organizations. Many say, ***“But we do not know where they are from. We keep the tradition of John Wesley or Martin Luther or whoever.*** Brethren it is time to come out of the bondages and entanglements of religion. ***“Out of Egypt I called My Son!” (Hos.11:1).*** Out of confusion, which chains and binds us to thinking within a context that does not allow revelation. This man was now called out of the world and God had something to show Him!

A revelation of Jesus, the Son of God

A sign of maturity

One of the signs that the church is coming to maturity is that ***“we all come...to the knowledge of the Son of God” (Eph.4:13)***. This man had an experience with Jesus; he had received his sight and now was no longer bound to the religious system of the day. This caused him persecution and excommunication but he stood the test. He never denied the reality of what had happened but he remained faithful to testify of the truth.

v.35 When this happened, ***“Jesus heard that they had cast him out” (Jn.9:35a)***. You need to know that when they persecute you, insult you and throw you out, Jesus hears about it! Jesus was following the proceedings – seeing how this man would fare through the test. Jesus recognizes us and nothing escapes him. We are to remain faithful and Jesus will hear about it!

After hearing about it [***“when He had found him...” Jn.9:35b***], Jesus will come and find you. When you receive apostolic revelation, you no longer fit in the system; you may be cast out; but this should comfort you. The first thing that happens is that Jesus comes and finds you! You get to meet Jesus! You meet Him ***“outside the camp, bearing His reproach” (Heb.13:13)***. He comes to you and draws alongside you because He wants you to receive revelation of who He is. This man, like the religious Jews of the day, had a certain view of who they thought the Messiah would be. But Jesus does not fit into categories and man’s definitions. **He is! He is what He is and He will be what He will be!** He comes by revelation!

Do you believe in the Son of God?

When Jesus came to this man He asked him, ***“Do you believe in the Son of God?” (Jn.9:35)***. What an awesome question! It would be good to allow Jesus to ask us this question. If you answer with revelation you will be blessed forever. If your eyes are opened to the full reality of this question, you will be completely changed! **Do you believe in the Son of God?** Why did Jesus ask this question? Why did He not ask him if he believed in the Christ? It was because everyone at that time believed in the Christ, but, ***“What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is He?” They said to Him, “The son of David.” He said to them, “How then does David in the Spirit call Him ‘Lord’, saying, “The LORD [Yahweh] said to my Lord, sit at My right hand, Till I make your enemies your footstool”? If David then calls Him, ‘Lord’, how is He his son?” And no one was able to answer Him a word...” (Matt.22:42-45)***. The religious people of the day had no problem with the Christ coming just as many believers today have no problem with understanding the Christ coming. But whose son is He?

This is the contention. Worldwide it is a problem in the church that many do not understand who He is. When Saul [later Paul] got the revelation of Jesus on the road and was subsequently filled with the Spirit and baptized it says that, ***“Immediately he preached the Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God. Then all who heard were amazed...” (Acts9:20-21)***. Saul got a revelation that changed him. He thought he knew God but when confronted with God, he said, ***“Who are you, Lord?” Then the Lord said, “I AM JESUS...” (Acts9:5)***. He got the revelation of the Son of God!

The Son equal with the Father

“Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with

God” (Jn.5:18). This is the mystery. It is: *“the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ...”* (Col.2:2). What is the mystery? It is that: *“I and My Father are One”* (Jn.10:30). It is the mystery of Godliness, that *“God was manifested in the flesh...”* (1Tim.3:16). Being the Son of God does not mean that God had a baby, it means that God became a man!

The Son of God is God in the flesh!

Jesus said to the man, *“Do you believe in the Son of God?”* Jesus was asking if he believed that God would become a man. He was asking if this man believed that God could show up and reveal Himself fully in a man. He was asking him if he believed that God was in the earth!

Jesus is God revealed

^{v.36-37} *“He answered and said, ‘Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?’ And Jesus said to him, ‘You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you’”* (Jn.9:36-37). Ho! What an answer! The man believed but wanted clarification. Jesus gave it to him. **You have both seen Him and He is talking with you!** This man’s eyes were not just opened naturally – they were opened spiritually to see the Son of God! He now had revelation of the Son of God!

He worshipped Him

^{v.38} *“Then he said, ‘Lord, I believe!’ And he worshipped Him”* (Jn.9:38). **HE WORSHIPPED HIM!** You do not worship a man! You only worship God! When Jesus was being tempted by the devil in the wilderness, the devil tried to get Him to worship him, but Jesus quoted from **Deuteronomy 6:13**, *“Away with you Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship Yahweh [the LORD] your God, and Him only shall you serve’”* (Matt.4:10). This man got the revelation! Jesus is God!

Seeing beyond the veil

This man saw beyond the veil! The writer to the **Hebrews** said we now *“Have boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh”* (Heb.10:19-20). This man saw past the human exterior, past the flesh and outward appearance; he saw past the form of a man and he saw that *“God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself...”* (2Cor.5:19). This man saw God and he worshipped Him. How did he see God – He saw God in Christ! He saw God in Jesus!

There is no revelation of God outside of Jesus. Jesus is the revelation of God for *“In Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power”* (Col.2:9-10). This man was made complete at the revelation of the Son of God! He saw the fullness of God in Jesus!

It is time for us to enter in behind the veil. *“Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him thus no longer”* (2Cor.5:16).

It is time to see Jesus as He is!

- not as a religious teaching we follow
- nor as a set of facts we believe

Who is the Son of God that I may Worship Him

- but as the true and living God who became flesh!
- He is the Son of God – God revealed in human form!
- It is time to look past the flesh of Jesus and see beyond the veil,
- to get the revelation of God in Christ!
- *“To worship Him in the beauty of holiness*
- *To behold the beauty of Yahweh [the LORD] and to inquire in His temple”* (Ps.29:2, 27:4b).

Peter said that he was an *eyewitness of His majesty. For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: ‘This is My Beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased’*” (2Pet.1:16-17).

When we wash in the apostolic pool, we come out of dead religious works to have *“the eyes of your understanding enlightened”* (Eph.1:18), and to come to a living revelation knowledge of Jesus as the Son of God!

“Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?” When we enter into this revelation we become victorious, even being *“filled with the fullness of God”* (Eph.3:19).

We are being made *“complete in Him who is the head of all principality and power”* (Col.2:10). Authority flows from the one who knows and believes in the name of the only Son of God (1Jn.5:13).

*“And we know that the Son of God has come
and has given us an understanding,
that we may know Him who is true;
and we are in Him who is true,
in his Son Jesus Christ.*

THIS IS THE TRUE GOD AND ETERNAL LIFE”

1Jn.5:20