

# *The Gospel Truth*

*A Message from Jesus*

Through His Friend  
Joseph M. Smith

***The Gospel Truth***  
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## Have You Heard the True Gospel from Christ?

If you were asked to explain the gospel, as taught by your church or denomination, could you? Many Christians do not know the doctrines of their own church well enough to explain them to anyone!

Does the gospel you've heard go something like this, "Jesus was born by the virgin Mary on Christmas day in a manger at Bethlehem in Judah. He lived a perfect life and died to pay for our sins. After He died on the cross on Good Friday, He was resurrected on Easter Sunday then went back to Heaven. If we accept Jesus as our personal savior, we can be saved and when we die we will go to Heaven and so shall we ever be with the Lord"? Is that the main thrust of the message you have heard?

The Apostle Paul, in writing to the Galatians, said, "I marvel that ye are so soon removed from Him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel [a different gospel was being preached]" (Gal. 1:6). Paul went on to place a double curse upon anyone that would "preach any other gospel" other than he had taught (vv. 7-9).

By around A.D. 67, Jude, the brother of Jesus, was well aware of the imminent apostasy and assault against the true gospel from Jesus Christ. He said, "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and **exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.** For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying [rejecting the teaching and instructions of] the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ" (Jude 1:3-4).

**Did you get that? Denying the Words of our Lord Jesus Christ—refusing The Truth!**

When Jesus came down to earth from heaven, He didn't come to do His own thing. He didn't show up with His own authority. He didn't bring His own message, ideas, or agenda to this earth. In John 6:38 He said, "For I came down from heaven, not to do Mine own will, but the will of Him that sent Me." Jesus went on to say, "...the words that I speak unto you I speak not of Myself: but the Father that dwelleth in Me, He doeth the works" (John 14:10).

Jesus was the son of God and a man, yet He came into this world under authority of the Father. He brought a message and an announcement from God the Father! What was that message or gospel Jesus preached?

**It is important for us to know and to teach the true gospel!**

So, let's look into the Word of God to determine the real and True Gospel as

delivered by Jesus Christ. **You might be shocked and surprised to learn of the Gospel He brought!**

Jesus came to do and to accomplish much at the Father's direction. But one of the main reasons for His mission was that of being an Ambassador for the Father. He was a representative of another age and a different government.

The coming of Jesus to the earth as a baby, living a perfect life, and dying to pay for our sins was all carried out to give us right standing with the Father. But all this was only part (a very important part) of a much larger plan and not an end in itself.

**Christ's first coming was not intended by the Father to be the complete or total gospel! Jesus was not to be the end of the gospel at His first coming. He was the beginning!** His first coming was only a portion of the message He brought—not the whole gospel!

He IS THE WAY. His first coming was not the entire message! Jesus said, "...I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me" (John 14:6).

Did you understand what Jesus said? Jesus said **He was the way to the Father! The plan God had from before the foundation of the world was to have a family and Jesus was, and is, the only way to that relationship with the Father!**

Let's listen to Jesus and hear from His own words the reason He came and the message He delivered. "And He [Jesus] said unto them, '**I must preach the kingdom of God** to other cities also: **for therefore am I sent**.' And He preached in the synagogues of Galilee" (Luke 4:43-44).

**Jesus is the way to the Kingdom of God! He came with the Good News of the Kingdom of God! Jesus didn't come saying I am the reason I came, but rather, "I must preach the Kingdom of God"! It is another way of saying, "I must preach the Kingdom of My Father"!**

Luke said of Jesus, "...that He went throughout every city and village, **preaching and showing the glad tidings [The Good News] of the kingdom of God...**" (Luke 8:1). And later Jesus, "...called His twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases. **And He sent them to preach the kingdom of God**, and to heal the sick" (Luke 9:1-2).

Saul (before he became the Apostle Paul) was making havoc of the Church; entering every house, hauling off men and women, and committing them to prison. "Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word. Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ unto them." And, "...when they believed Philip **preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ**, they were baptized, both men and women" (Acts 8:4-5, 12).

“Then **Paul** dwelt two whole years in his own rented house, and received all who came to him, **preaching the kingdom of God and teaching the things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ** with all confidence, no one forbidding him” (Acts 28:30-31 NKJV).

In Jesus Christ’s great prophecy of Matthew 24 and 25 He said, “And **this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached** in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and **then shall the end come**” (Matt. 24:14).

So, how much of the **GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD** do you hear being preached today? Most Christians know almost nothing about the kingdom.

What is the Gospel of the Kingdom of God?

Most have a mental vision of going to heaven as a Christian and that is about the extent of their understanding of the future of a believer.

Jesus said to His disciples, “...Take heed that no man deceive you. For **many shall come in My name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many**” (Matt. 24:4-5). Jesus was prophesying there would be a false or counterfeit gospel going around the world saying, He, Jesus, was the Christ and lead many astray. **He said many would be preaching about Jesus being the Christ but they would not be preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom of God as He did!**

Today that is exactly what is happening! The Apostle Paul warned about this taking place when he said, “Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first [a desertion from the Gospel Jesus Christ brought—the Gospel of the Kingdom of God], and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God” (II Thes. 2:3-4).

To further explain this point, we read in the New Living Translation the words of Paul that are rendered this way, “Now, dear brothers and sisters, let us clarify some things about the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and how we will be gathered to meet Him. Don’t be so easily shaken or alarmed by those who say that the day of the Lord has already begun. Don’t believe them, even if they claim to have had a spiritual vision, a revelation, or a letter supposedly from us. Don’t be fooled by what they say. For that day will not come until there is a great rebellion against God and the man of lawlessness is revealed—the one who brings destruction. He will exalt himself and defy everything that people call god and every object of worship. He will even sit in the temple of God, claiming that he himself is God.”

“Don’t you remember that I told you about all this when I was with you? And you know what is holding him back, for he can be revealed only when his time comes. For this lawlessness is already at work secretly, and it will remain secret until the One who is

holding it back steps out of the way. Then the man of lawlessness will be revealed, but the Lord Jesus will kill him with the breath of His mouth and destroy him by the splendor of His coming.

“This man will come to do the work of Satan with counterfeit power and signs and miracles. He will use every kind of evil deception to fool those on their way to destruction, because they refuse to love and accept the truth that would save them. **So God will cause them to be greatly deceived, and they will believe these lies.** Then they will be condemned for enjoying evil rather than believing the truth” (II Thes. 2:1-12).

Who is it today that sits in the temple of God (among those looking for or seeking God—1 Cor. 3:17) and says he is the Vicar (acts in place) of Christ?

**It is astounding to see how cleverly Satan has twisted the true Gospel from a message about the Kingdom of God into a message about Jesus! Satan has a cruel plot to smother the true Gospel given by Jesus Christ!** When the Kingdom of God is preached in its totality, the message of the demise of Satan and his sway over human beings is proclaimed. You see, Satan does not want human beings to know he has lost the battle!

**Satan wanted the Gospel to stop where it started—with a baby Jesus!** Satan would have us know nothing more about God’s plan than a baby in a manger. The Kingdom of God will put Satan out of business with the Second Coming of Jesus Christ as King of kings and Lord of lords!

**If your church or denomination has stopped preaching the Kingdom of God, then it has stopped preaching the Gospel Jesus brought!**

## **The Complete Gospel**

God’s secret plan is revealed in the Gospel Jesus Christ gave to the Church. However, many churches do not realize the complete Gospel nor do they preach it today. This same plan was shown to Israel centuries ago.

God gave an outline of His plan to the children of Israel after they came out of Egypt. The Gospel was preached to the people of Israel (Rom. 10:16-20; read this also in the New Living Translation). They lived out and experienced a shadow of God’s plan even though they may have never fully realized it. This plan was portrayed in the Holy Days given to them.

While the Holy Days are not a mandatory part of the New Covenant, what Israel experienced through these days offers insight and understanding for us today.

Offering animal sacrifices was over but these days were part of the traditions of the New Testament Church. The early Church still observed “holy convocations” on these

days; the Passover (Matt. 26:2, 17), Days of Unleavened Bread (1 Cor. 5:7), Pentecost (Acts 2:1, 20:16; 1 Cor. 16:8), Atonement (Acts 27:9), Feast of Tabernacles (John 7:2), and Last Great Day (John 7:37).

God has always revealed His plan to His people through His servants the prophets. These days were scheduled holy convocations based on the Sacred Calendar given to Moses. They are found in Leviticus 23:4-44. The following days are an outline of God's plan that has been hidden away in obscurity. There is much that could be said about each one of these days. This, however, is just a brief overview.

**PASSOVER**—Christ became our Passover Lamb. The Passover looked to the time when Jesus the Christ would come and die to allow mankind access to the Father. The veil of the temple was torn from top to bottom at the moment Jesus died. This act allowed, for the first time, all humanity direct access to the Father through the atoning blood of Jesus Christ. Jesus has completed this part of God's plan of Salvation for mankind. Many think the Gospel stops here, when Christ's First Coming was only the beginning!

**DAYS OF UNLEAVENED BREAD**—picture the putting away of sin in our lives. Jesus made this possible by being our Passover and was accepted by the Father as our wave sheaf offering for sin on the first day of the week during the Days of Unleavened Bread. The putting away of sin and its consequence (second death) is behind us if we accept this sacrifice for sin and live by faith in Jesus Christ.

**PENTECOST**—means fifty count. Fifty days were counted from the Sabbath day during the Days of Unleavened Bread. (This always places Pentecost on the first day of the week.) Jesus remained here on earth for forty days after His resurrection then returned to heaven. The disciples were told to stay in Jerusalem until the Holy Spirit was sent. Ten days after Jesus left, when the day of Pentecost was fully come, the Holy Spirit was given to the Church. This event, giving the Holy Spirit, happened precisely on schedule fifty days after the wave sheaf offering.

**FEAST OF TRUMPETS**—represents God's intervening in the affairs of men. What this day pictured is well underway. Notice there is more than just one trumpet. The day encompasses the entire **DAY OF THE LORD**, as mentioned in more than thirty prophecies throughout the Bible. The **DAY OF THE LORD** is the **SEVEN TRUMPETS** of the book of Revelation.

Mankind has chosen to reject the laws of God and refused to accept Jesus Christ so God has sent problems upon the earth to get our attention. The last, or Seventh Trumpet, is the Second Coming of Jesus Christ as King of kings and Lord of lords. He will bring with Him the saints and all His holy angles. When Jesus comes again, He will also bring the vengeance of Almighty God and pour out the Seven Last Plagues upon the wicked. Part of the seventh trumpet is dispensing God's judgment through these Seven Last Plagues. To understand more about these trumpet plagues, please read our free book *The Day of the Lord, Understanding the Book of Revelation*.

**ATONEMENT**—is a day that pictures being at one with God. All mankind will finally be reconciled to God through Jesus Christ. Atonement represents the putting away of Satan and the demons. It is a time without evil influences when God’s government of peace comes to the earth.

**THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES**—depicts the KINGDOM OF GOD or the KINGDOM OF HEAVEN—a fulfillment of the GOSPEL Jesus brought! It will be a wonderful time where the Government of God will be here on earth with Jesus as our King of kings and Lord of lords. Satan and all the demons will be bound for a thousand years and the world will finally have peace. (See Rev. 20:1-4.)

**LAST GREAT DAY** (John 7:37) portrays the great white throne judgment. This day was attached to the Feast of Tabernacles as a continuation of the Government and Kingdom of God. “But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished...” (Rev. 20:5). “And I saw a great white throne, and Him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is *the book of life*: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works” (Rev. 20:11-13).

See Isaiah 65:17-25 which shows this to be a 100- year period. Also read Ezekiel 37. All who have ever lived that were not part of the first resurrection and who never had knowledge sufficient to accept Jesus as their Savior will be resurrected and will live 100 years in the atmosphere of the kingdom of God. Man will learn God’s way and walk in all His paths.

Do you see, with this outline from God given to Israel for these days, the gospel being preached in most churches today only covers the Passover, Days of Unleavened Bread, and Pentecost? The last four events of Trumpets, Atonement, the Feast of Tabernacles, and the Last Great Day are also parts of the Good News of the Kingdom of God and the wonderful world tomorrow which are not being preached today! Yet the Gospel of the Kingdom of God Jesus brought looked forward to the Government and Kingdom of God here on the earth!

At the sounding of the seventh trumpet, this mystery about God’s Government and Family will be fulfilled. You see, the dead in Christ will be resurrected at the seventh or last trumpet with the converted Christians who are alive. They will all rise to meet Christ in the air. The Government and Family of God will be a reality! This event is recorded by John, “But that in the days of the trumpet call to be sounded by the seventh angel, the mystery of God, as He announced to His servants the prophets, should be fulfilled” (Rev. 10:7 RSV). This secret plan from the Father will be an actuality as we are changed from mortal to immortal and receive a new spirit body and eternal life!

## **The Kingdom of God Now and In the Future**

As followers of God, the first action we are to do is, “...seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you” (Matt. 6:33).

When did the message of the Kingdom of God start being openly and publicly announced? In Luke 16:16 we find, “The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it.”

Mark said in Mark 1:14-15, “Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, ‘The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.’”

So both John and Jesus preach the Kingdom of God. John announced the King—Jesus Christ. And Jesus brought the Good News of the Kingdom of God.

Jesus said in Mark 4:11 that we can understand the mysteries surrounding the Kingdom of God, “And He said unto them, ‘Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without, all *these* things are done in parables.’”

It is given unto us to know and to understand the mysteries of the Kingdom of God.

What is the Kingdom of God like? Of what is it composed?

In Luke 13:20-21 we read, “And again He said, ‘Whereunto shall I liken the kingdom of God? It is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.’”

We can't see leavening in flour. So it is with the beginning of the Kingdom of God.

We will see the result of the Spiritual work God is doing in the lives of people just as you eventually see the result of leavening in flour.

“...So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground; And should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how. For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear. But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come. [We will eventually see the fruit of this Spiritual Kingdom.]

“And He said, ‘Whereunto shall we liken the kingdom of God? Or with what comparison shall we compare it? *It is like a grain of mustard seed*, which, when it is sown in the earth, is less than all the seeds that be in the earth: But when it is sown, it groweth up, and becometh greater than all herbs, and shooteth out great branches; so that

the fowls of the air may lodge under the shadow of it.’

“And with many such parables spake He the word unto them, as they were able to hear *it*. But without a parable spake He not unto them: and when they were alone, He expounded all things to His disciples” (Mark 4:26-34).

The Kingdom of God is a Spiritual Kingdom. It is not now visible to the average person. Yet its foundation has already been constructed and the building has begun. And it is growing as you read.

## **Our Attitude Regarding the Kingdom of God**

Mark 10:13-16 says, “And they brought young children to Him, that He should touch them: and *His* disciples rebuked those that brought *them*. But when Jesus saw *it*, He was much displeased, and said unto them, ‘Suffer the little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.’ And He took them up in His arms, put *His* hands upon them, and blessed them.”

Our attitude and desire must be as that of a little child. With wide-eyed love and longing we must approach our Father and His kingdom.

In Luke 17:20-21 we see, “And when He was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, He answered them and said, ‘The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: Neither shall they say, “Lo here!” Or, “Lo there!” For, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.’”

The Kingdom of God begins in the hearts and minds of all the believers God has called.

The Pharisees didn’t have the Kingdom of God within them at that time. But Jesus was showing the Spirit of God is placed within us and this “seed—the Holy Spirit” will grow in us.

“And He said unto the disciples, ‘The days will come, when ye shall desire to see one of the days of the Son of man, and ye shall not see *it*. And they shall say to you, “See here”; or, “see there”: **go not after them, nor follow them.** For as the lightning, that lighteneth out of the one *part* under heaven, shineth unto the other *part* under heaven; so shall also the Son of man be in His day” (Luke 17:22-24).

In Zechariah 14:1-3 we read, “Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when He

fought in the day of battle.”

When Jesus comes again as King of kings and Lord of lords His feet will stand that day upon the Mount of Olives. “And His feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which *is* before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives... And it shall be in that day [when Jesus Christ comes again], *that* living waters shall go out from Jerusalem; half of them toward the former sea, and half of them toward the hinder sea: in summer and in winter shall it be. And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and His name one. All the land shall be turned as a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem: and it shall be lifted up, and inhabited in her place, from Benjamin’s gate unto the place of the first gate, unto the corner gate, and *from* the tower of Hananeel unto the king’s winepresses. And *men* shall dwell in it, and there shall be no more utter destruction; but Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited.

“And this shall be the plague wherewith the LORD will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth. And it shall come to pass in that day, *that* a great tumult from the LORD shall be among them; and they shall lay hold every one on the hand of his neighbour, and his hand shall rise up against the hand of his neighbour. And Judah also shall fight at Jerusalem; and the wealth of all the heathen round about shall be gathered together, gold, and silver, and apparel, in great abundance. And so shall be the plague of the horse, of the mule, of the camel, and of the ass, and of all the beasts that shall be in these tents, as this plague.

“And it shall come to pass, *that* every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to **keep the feast of tabernacles**. And it shall be, *that* whoso will not come up of *all* the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain. And if the family of Egypt go not up, and come not, *that have no rain*; there shall be the plague, wherewith the LORD will smite the heathen that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles. This shall be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all nations that come not up to **keep the feast of tabernacles**” (Zech. 14:4, 8-19).

So, we see, the Kingdom of God starting out in obscurity as yeast in flour or as a small mustard seed and finally appearing with power and great glory. It starts in us by God giving His Holy Spirit to us. It will come into full power and focus when Jesus comes again. “For as the lightning, that lighteneth out of the one *part* under heaven, shineth unto the other *part* under heaven; so shall also the Son of man be in His day” (Luke 17:24). This will be the Seventh Trumpet.

Some, over the years since Jesus returned to heaven, have doubted that He will ever return. People are now saying the kingdom of God is in our hearts and Christ has already come. While it is true the Kingdom of God does start within us through the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, this does not negate the second coming of our Lord as King of

kings and Lord of lords!

Don't be of the crowd that thinks the return of Jesus Christ is an old myth.

See what Jesus Christ said, "Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh. Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over His household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when He cometh shall find so doing. Verily I say unto you, That He shall make him ruler over all His goods. But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, 'My lord delayeth His coming'; And shall begin to smite *his* fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunken; The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for *Him*, and in an hour that he is not aware of, and shall cut him asunder, and appoint *him* his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth" (Matt. 24:44-51).

None of us knows how long we will live. That is why we are told to be alert and watch! We are as the grass of the field or as a delicate flower. We are here today and gone tomorrow. When will the Lord come? It will be at your last breath! So don't be of the group that thinks the Lord has delayed His coming!

## **What is Required for a Kingdom?**

To have a kingdom there must be four major components: a king, territory, subjects, and laws.

### **1. A King:**

Every kingdom must have a king (Psa. 146:10; Isa. 24:23; Jer. 23:5-6; Micah 4:7; Rev. 19:16).

Luke 1:31-33, "And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call His name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of His father David: And He shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of His kingdom there shall be no end."

This Kingdom of God is a Spiritual Kingdom. Jesus Christ is Spirit. He is our King and He is coming again. Every eye will see Him.

Revelation 1:3-8, "Blessed *is* he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time *is* at hand. John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace *be* unto you, and peace, from Him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before His throne; And from Jesus Christ, *who is* the faithful witness, *and* the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto God and His Father; to Him *be* glory and dominion for

ever and ever. Amen. Behold, He cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see Him, and they also which pierced Him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of Him. Even so, Amen. 'I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending,' saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty."

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

Jesus is to reign over Israel and the whole world forever.

We have a Spiritual Kingdom with a Spiritual King. And the time is coming when He will come again as King of kings and Lord of lords.

"And hath made us kings and priests unto God and His Father; to Him *be* glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen" (Rev. 1:6). We will reign with Christ for a thousand years (Rev. 20:4). We, too, will then be Spirit beings reigning with Christ here on this earth.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, "But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive *and* remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent [precede] them which are asleep. For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words."

Zechariah 14:4, "And His feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which *is* before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives..." When Christ comes again He will bring the saints (the resurrected and those who are alive) with Him.

## 2. A Territory:

**The Earth**—Revelation 5:10, “And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.”

Revelation 12:5, “And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and *to His throne.*”

## 3. Subjects:

Revelation 19:15, “And **out of His mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it He should smite the nations: and He shall rule them** with a rod of iron: and He treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.”

Revelation 12:5, “And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and *to His throne.*”

## 4. Laws and Rules:

Micah 4:1-4, “But in the last days it shall come to pass, *that* the mountain of the house of the LORD [Kingdom of God] shall be established in the top of the mountains [above all other nations], and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. And many nations shall come, and say, ‘Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths’: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And He shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make *them* afraid: for the mouth of the LORD of hosts hath spoken *it.*”

We see a **Spiritual Kingdom** arrive on the earth with Jesus as our **Spiritual King**. We will become Spirit Beings and reign with Him for a thousand years (Revelation 20:4). **The Territory** will be the earth. **The Subjects** will be the physical people yet alive and all who will later be resurrected to physical life (Ezek. 37). **The Laws** and instructions from the words of Jesus will flow throughout the world. People will finally learn to live in peace and they won’t be learning or participating in war any more.

When will the Kingdom of God be set up? It will come into full view at the second coming of Christ. That’s when it will be visible for all to see.

We are all given encouragement in the words of the Apostle Paul as we wait for the coming of our King Jesus Christ, “We proudly tell God’s other churches about your endurance and faithfulness in all the persecutions and hardships you are suffering. And God will use this persecution to show His justice and to make you worthy of His Kingdom, for which you are suffering. In His justice He will pay back those who persecute you. And God will provide rest for you who are being persecuted and also for us when the Lord Jesus appears from heaven. He will come with His mighty angels, in

flaming fire, bringing judgment on those who don't know God and on those who refuse to obey the Good News of our Lord Jesus. They will be punished with eternal destruction, forever separated from the Lord and from His glorious power. When He comes on that day, He will receive glory from His holy people—praise from all who believe. And this includes you, for you believed what we told you about Him” (II Thes. 1:4-10 NLT).

## God's Family

So where does all this leave us today? We see a literal, yet spiritual kingdom of God coming to earth with power and great authority at the return of Jesus Christ.

How do we fit into God's plan? Are we then servants of God as slaves for all eternity? Are we spirit-created beings as the angels? Or will we have a higher existence than the angels?

Let's see what the Word of God says about our condition in eternity, “I have said, Ye *are* gods; and all of you *are* children of the most High” (Psa. 82:6).

**To deny that we are children of the Father would mean we believe the Father to be impotent and unable to have children!** To call the Father “Our Father” and not believe that God is able to reproduce is a contradiction in terms (an oxymoron) when using the name “Father.” This thinking, to believe God is not able to be a father, would impose a limitation on God and He would not be almighty. How foolish it is for us to even think that way!

Why is it that we can see, admit, and believe that God made all creatures in our world to reproduce after their “kind” and then think God can't reproduce after the “Godkind”?

Some will say, “Come on, look at us. We are flesh, how can you think we are gods?” God has a marvelous way of looking at everything. In Rom. 4:17 (ASV) we see, “...God, who giveth life to the dead, and calleth the things that are not, as though they were.” God sees the end from the beginning and He views us through His power and ability. He knows His plan for us, our potential, and our future.

Arguments often arise around the statements made in John 1:14, 18, 3:16, 18 about Jesus Christ being, “The only begotten of the Father,” “The only begotten Son,” “His only begotten Son,” and “The only begotten Son of God.” People are often confused by these phrases. They jump to the conclusion that Jesus is the only true son of God and the rest of us are not really God's children, but rather, kind-of-adopted into the family but not given all the privileges of true children born into the God Family. They do not understand that we are actual children of our Father in every sense of the term “children” and God the Father is really our procreator.

Let me explain. The term, “The only begotten Son of the Father” means Jesus Christ

is, and will always be, the only Son of God conceived in the womb of a woman by God the Father. Christ is the only begotten of the Father. We have been conceived or begotten in the womb by an earthly father and later received the Spirit of our heavenly Father by His grace through faith. We are born into the God Family through faith in Jesus Christ. “Every one who believes that Jesus is the Christ is a child of God...” (1 John 5:1 RSV).

In Romans 8:16 we see, “The Spirit itself beareth witness [testifies jointly; corroborative evidence] with our spirit, that we are the children of God.”

Some have turned to Romans 8:15, 23, 9:4; Galatians 4:5; Ephesians 1:5, where the Apostle Paul uses the Greek word for adoption to prove that we will never be born into the God family. The Greek word for adoption, *uihotesia*, hwee-oth-es-ee'-ah means, “the placing as a son, or sonship in respect to God.” This word indicates office, position, or rank as related to the Father and the Son. They are the Godhead, we are in the God family, or are born into the “Godkind,” but we will never be the Godhead.

Satan would have us believe that we worship a Father that is incapable of having children. Satan has fostered a huge lie to deny Christians the knowledge of their inheritance!

Which one of us is willing to place a limit on God by saying He doesn't have the ability to reproduce after His kind—the “Godkind”? He has already proved He can reproduce after the Godkind—Jesus' birth and subsequent return to Glory has already proved this fact. How dare we even think God has limits! The only limitations God has are self-imposed.

God chose to live the way of love, for He is love. He desired to share everything He has with His children. God started from before the foundation of the world with His plan for Jesus to lay down His life for us. What He intended will result in the Kingdom of God and bring many sons into the family of God for all eternity.

In Hebrews 2:9-10 we read, “But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that He by the grace of God should taste death for every man. For it became Him, for whom *are* all things, and by whom *are* all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.”

In John 10:34-36, “Jesus answered them, ‘Is it not written in your law, “**I said, Ye are gods?**” **If He called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken**; Say ye of Him, Whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, “Thou blasphemest”; because I said, “I am the Son of God?”’”

**If God calls us gods, why can't we believe Him? Who are we to argue with God?** Jesus confirms the words in the “Psalm of Asaph” from Psalm 82:6 when He said, “...the scripture cannot be broken” (John 10:35).

**If I say we are part of the God Family, why would you say I lie or blaspheme when it was God Himself that said we are gods and Jesus came to confirm that statement and testify the scriptures can't be broken?**

**Yes, Jesus is the firstborn of many brothers and sisters!** In Romans 8:29 (NLT) we read, “For God knew His people in advance, and He chose them to become like His Son, so that His Son would be the firstborn, with many brothers and sisters.” That Jesus Christ is called “the firstborn” means there will be many others to follow—more to be born into the God family!

We will never be the Father nor will we ever be Jesus, the Firstborn of many brethren, but we are children of the most High—children of our Father. If there is anything in the Holy Bible that in any way resembles a trinity, this is it. This is the part of the reality of the mystery of God spoken of in Revelation 10:7 (NASB), “But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, then the mystery of God is finished, as He preached to His servants the prophets.”

There will be no more mystery about God or His Plan. The seventh angel, or seventh trumpet, will clarify God and His plan. Let's look at 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18, “For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.”

In Weymouth's *New Testament in Modern Speech* we see, “There shall be no further delay; but in the days when the seventh angel blows his trumpet—when he begins to do so—then the secret purposes of God are realized, in accordance with the good news which He gave to His servants the Prophets” (Rev. 10:7).

Did you notice that it was the mystery about God and His plan that was to be cleared up and understood? With blowing the seventh trumpet will come the clarity and understanding about God that has been hidden in mystery even though it was spoken of by the prophets down through the ages. The Apostle Paul stated it this way, “But let me reveal to you a wonderful secret. We will not all die, but we will all be transformed! It will happen in a moment, in the blink of an eye, when the last trumpet is blown. For when the trumpet sounds, those who have died will be raised to live forever. And we who are living will also be transformed. For our dying bodies must be transformed into bodies that will never die; our mortal bodies must be transformed into immortal bodies” (1 Cor. 15:51-53 NLT).

**The secret purpose of God that has been hidden in mystery is that God is going to have a family!**

Jesus said to those who overcome, “...I will write upon him the name of My God,

and the name of the city of My God, *which is new Jerusalem*, which cometh down out of heaven from My God: and *I will write upon him My new name*. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches” (Rev. 3:12-13).

Jesus said:

- (1) “I will write upon him the name of My God.” Your last name will be “God.”
- (2) “The name of the city of My God.” The angel told John in Revelation 21:9-10, “...I will show thee the bride, the Lamb’s wife. And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem...” The Bride of Christ — the Lamb’s Wife is the Holy City and New Jerusalem.
- (3) We will have Jesus Christ’s new name. We will carry Jesus Christ’s new name as the Bride of Christ.

God is not fooling around! He is creating a family! And those who overcome will be placed in the very heart of the family of God!

Why do we have such a hard time believing Jesus when He tells us the truth? How can we read the Holy Word—Jesus and not believe Him? Jesus confirms the words of scripture that Asaph wrote in the Psalms. Jesus didn’t deny any part of that quote from Psalm 82:6, “I have said, ‘Ye *are* gods; and all of you *are* children of the most High.’”

If you would like to learn more about God’s plan to have a family, please write us for a free copy of *The Godhead, The Holy Spirit, The Family of God*. Or you may simply go to our website [www.thelittlebook.com](http://www.thelittlebook.com) and download the booklet. Either way, it is free.

Thanks be to God for His marvelous Gospel about the Good News of His plan for mankind! All praise, glory, and honor be to God for loving us so much! What a joyous plan God has set in motion for us. This wonderful Good News of the Kingdom of God was designed from before the foundation of the world. It was set in motion by sending Jesus to prepare the way for all of us to follow Him into an awesome relationship with our Father, as His children, for all eternity!

Halleluiah! Praise, glory, and honor be to our everlasting Father! Amen!

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