

IMAGE – VOL. II

SONS OF GOD

Part 1

By

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God's Puzzle Continued

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SONS OF GOD

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PREFACE

Who are The Sons of God? *The Bible* states The Sons of God are those who came to present themselves before God (Job 1:6). The next verse shows Satan appearing before God and The Sons of God. These Sons of God could have been angels, but the verse does not tell you. It only reveals that Satan was not a Son of God. He was distinctly separate from the others. *The Book of Revelation* reveals there are twenty-four Elders, but it does not state who they are. Many theologians believe these are *angels*, but *The Bible* doesn't tell you this, either. However, *The Bible* does reveal how you can become *a Son of God*. You will discover that it is *a condition* (becoming like God).

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INTRODUCTION

Two Different Groups of Sons of God

Amazingly, *The Bible* gives two separate definitions as to who are The Sons of God. Genesis 5 lists the human beings who were made in the likeness of God. This list extends from Adam to Noah. Cain is not listed as one who was made in God's *image*. Why is this? It is because Seth replaced Abel without any mention of Cain (Genesis 4:25-26). It seems contradictory, or is it? Those who call upon God's name or His authority are made in God's *image* (Genesis 1:26). That is your answer. It is the reason why angels, as The Sons of God, call upon God's name and His authority.

Now, you can understand why Satan is not a Son of God. He is an adversary of God. Those who seek God with *honor* and *fear* (choose to be like Him) will be accepted as Sons. This is exactly what Peter said about those who God accepts as His own, "*Then Peter opened his mouth and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: But in every nation he that fears him and works righteousness, is accepted with him*" (Acts 10:34-35). That is all God requires for you to become one of His Sons. Christians start to be His Sons when they (you) call upon *The Name of The Lord*, which is His *word*. That is why Jesus said, "*Man shall not live by bread [food] alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God*" (Matthew 4:4).

You are adopted by God from human parents to become a *begotten son* (Ephesians 1). Jesus was The First Begotten Son of God because of His miraculous birth. The Holy Spirit was given to Jesus by God at

His birth (Luke 1:35). God's Holy Spirit can make you *Holy*, just as it made Christ Holy. Jesus, as *The Author* or the first one to be God's Son, is in the exact image of God. Others, who follow afterwards and become like Jesus, are Sons of God, also, by adoption from human parents. These two types of Sons of God are part of a process which originates from following God's word. *This process continues* until you become, literally, God's word in The Resurrection.

CHAPTER 1

WHO IS A SON OF GOD?

Job said there are Sons of God in the heavens (Job 1). Quite possibly, they are the angels who are with God rather than those who are with Satan. *Scripture* will tell you they are all *spirits* (I Kings 22:20-22). *The Bible* explains the process to become a Son of God. Since there are Sons of God in the heavens who are *spirits*, mankind can, also, become Sons of God. You need to search *the scriptures* to understand how a human can become a Son of God.

What Are Angels?

God tells you why He created the angels. *The Book of Hebrews* states how Jesus was made higher than the angels, “*Being made so much better than the angels, as he has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. For to which of the angels said he at any time, You are my Son, this day have I begotten you? And again, I will be to him a Father and he shall be to me a Son?*” (Hebrews 1:4-5).

Angels and Christ, from His birth, had God’s Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ was filled with The Holy Spirit “*completely.*” The angels only had “*an earnest*” of The Holy Spirit (II Corinthians 1:22). Christ, at His

birth, was higher than the angels because He had the full measure of God's Spirit (John 3:34 and Luke 1:35).

Jesus was *The Word* and, at His *birth*, He became *The Son of God*. In fact, He was *The First Begotten Son*. Notice the difference between Jesus and the angels, "*And again, when he brings in the first begotten into the world [as flesh], he said, And let all the angels of God worship Him*" (Hebrews 1:6). Christ was *not an angel*. Since Jesus was God's Son from His human birth, the angels *worshipped* Christ as God's Son. Read about angels and their purpose, "*And of the angels he said, Who makes his angels spirits and his ministers a flame of fire*" (Hebrews 1:7). *Angels are spirits* who live forever. As spirits, they look like God who appears as a flaming fire (Hebrews 12:29). They are composed of the same spiritual substance. The reason God created the heavenly host of angels is clearly stated, "*Are they not all ministering [servants] spirits, sent forth to minister [serve] for them who shall be heirs of salvation?*" (Hebrews 1:14).

This is quite simple! Jesus was never an angel. The angels, *as spirit beings*, were to be servants and help serve God's people. That is why God said to *The Heavenly Host*, "*Let us make man in our image*" (Genesis 1:26). Remember, *as spirit beings*, angels look like God – *a flaming fire*. "*You [Jesus] have loved righteousness and hated iniquity; therefore God, even your God, has anointed you [High Priest] with the oil of gladness above His fellows*" (Hebrews 1:9).

Angels were created, by God, to be *servants* who would

grow spiritually with The Gift of The Holy Spirit. Christians are to become *Sons of God*. Becoming a *Son of God* is a *spiritual process*. Christians must go through a *spiritual development process* in order to have a *spiritual heart and mind* like God. Later, they will be *glorified* in The Resurrection.

Adoption To Spirit

You were *born* from human parents who have a carnal (human) nature. Consequently, you are destined to die. This is not easy to contemplate but it is a reality. Humans strive to *survive* just like *animals*. Just as there are different animals, humans have a variety of personalities and drives. (Read the book, *Discovering God*). Christians are to become gentle as sheep (easy to *slaughter*). Other farm animals, like goats or oxen, are more *stubborn* and will *fight* back. The *most violent beasts* are the *lions, bears and leopards*. The worst is to be like a combination of all three. This animal group depicts *The Mark of The Beast*, which is the most *violent* of them all.

This diversity of humans is a result of their birth. Jesus truly lived as a *lamb* who was willing to *sacrifice* Himself. God loves His creation. He proved His love by allowing His only Son to die for you. This kind of love is the height of *all righteousness*. *Christ loved righteousness* and was ready to be *The Savior and Husband of the church* (Revelation 5). The *Bride of Christ* must love Jesus and *The Father*. God will not allow His Son to marry a *woman* who does not love Him as He loves her (Matthew 23:37 and Revelation 19:7-8).

You must be adopted from *human parents* and become like Jesus, who is *a lover of righteousness*. God has *predestined* that everyone should become like His *Son*, who is The Exact Image of *The Father*. God is a Spirit and you need to worship Him *spiritually*. *Spirituality* is *a state of heart (desire)* and *mind*. You must get to know God and His *ways*. Israel never *learned this vital point* (Hebrews 3:10).

What God Has Predestinated

The meanings of the words “*will*” and “*desire*” in Greek are explained in this text, “*That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth; even in him*” (Ephesians 1:10 and Hebrew 1:10). God has *predestined a plan* to accomplish His *will and desire*. *This predestination is an inheritance of His glory* (Ephesians 1:1-12). God gives everyone (the whole world) *the potential to inherit all things*. There is *no time-limit*. God declares *the beginning and the end*. As a result, He will accomplish His *pleasure* through His *Holy Spirit* (Isaiah 46:10). What *a wonderful promise* and what *a loving Father!*

Prophecy Will Fail

Many view prophecy (the future being foretold) as if it is absolute and must occur on some set date. This would make human history automatic and predetermined. You must consider the fulfillment of everything God has predetermined. Those elements are His *desires* and *will*. You are about to discover, scriptur-

ally – “*prophecy is conditional.*” It allows mankind to make *choices*, so conditions may be altered. God’s *intent* and *purpose* is to give you complete free choice or liberty. The Greek *definition* for this concept implies “*no restrictions.*” Being a *Son of God* and receiving an inheritance from God when He *adopts you, is a free gift* (Galatians 4:5-7 and Romans 8:21). “*Charity [love] never fails: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away*” (I Corinthians 13:8). Pretty clear! God will give you an eternal gift – *love.*

Prophecies will fail and *knowledge* or *doctrine* will *vanish.* The Greek word for “*fail*” does not mean it will not occur, but rather “*it will cease, stop or be at rest.*” Prophecy, ultimately, *will happen,* but it will only be allowed to take place when *all conditions are met.* Then, God will take action, “*For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ’s at His coming*” (I Corinthians 15:22-23). These two verses are *full of conditions* that must be met.

The word “*all*” in Greek does not mean “*everyone until specific changes take place.*” Rather, it applies to a state which is “*all conditional.*” This is because of *free choice.* Becoming a *Son of God* is completely conditional based upon a person exercising their own *free choice.* The Greek word “*all,*” when translated into English, is in *the subjunctive mood,* grammatically. It depends upon what *the subject does.* That is *free*

choice. Ultimately, everyone is *to be saved*, but you must consider how *Salvation is an individual condition.* It is your free choice whether you trust God or not.

What is the requirement for being saved? Clearly, *The Bible* declares you must be “*In Christ.*” This declaration is a specific order for every man. What is that order? Jesus was destined to be the first, while the rest of mankind will follow. When is this? You must each, by your *free choice*, come to *repentance.* That is of *your own doing* and it is your personal *decision.* (Read *God’s Will* for more proof). The point is there is *no set date* in reference to *this prophecy.* It is *conditional* and is *on-going* into The Kingdom of God (and will last forever). God is *long-suffering* and *patient.* He is willing to *wait thousands of years* so everyone can *repent* (II Peter 3). *Prophecy* is dependent upon *free choice.*

Things Of The Spirit

Any human who is led by *the flesh* has a *carnal mind* (Romans 8:5-8). “*But you are not in the flesh, but in the spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his*” (Romans 8:9). God’s method of impregnation is through His Holy Spirit. This is God’s very seed (“*sperm*” in Greek) which makes you into *Sons of God.*

Mary was impregnated with Jesus, by being filled with The Holy Spirit (Luke 1:35). The Holy Spirit, not a *human* or an *angelic being*, is creating *Sons of*

God. *The form* that is being impregnated must receive God's Holy Spirit in order to become a Son of God. Even Jesus could not be *a Son of God* without having God's Holy Spirit. Jesus speaks God's *words* because God gave Him "*the spirit without measure*" (John 3:34) (Paraphrased). When you are begotten with God's Holy Spirit, then and only then, can you be *a Son of God*. The Keeping of *The Law* doesn't do it, nor will any *doctrine* do it.

Once God baptizes you with His Holy Spirit, an internal change begins – as with any new birth. Consequently, you are no longer totally *carnal* even though you are still *in the flesh*, "*For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God*" (Romans 8:14). There you have the biblical definition. Once you are begotten by God's Holy Spirit, you must grow into the same *perfect stature as Christ* (Ephesians 4). Perfection is *spiritual maturity*, which comes from *spiritual growth*. Every new creation goes through *a growth process*.

You begin as "*Babes – In Christ,*" but, finally, become like Jesus who is exactly like God, The Father (Hebrews 1:3). Begotten Sons of God have been given *an earnest* of their future *inheritance* (Ephesians 1:12-14).

CHAPTER 2

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Spiritual growth is a process. For example, when a person believes they can do a certain physical activity, such as driving a car, it is natural for them to believe they are as good as most people who drive. But, in reality, the untrained novice lacks experience when the unexpected happens. (Read the book, *Spiritual Growth*).

Spiritual Maturity

You must become like Jesus Christ if you are to be *saved* (Ephesians 4:12-13). The first step is to begin as a “*Babe – In Christ*.” Before you take this first step, you are *carnal* or *like an animal trying to survive*. Jesus specifies all the obstacles to spiritual growth in Matthew 13. Understandably, most people are absorbed in the cares of the world and are only interested in this life. After all, you are *born* to human parents and strive to exist. To exist at any cost, is of the most importance for every human being. Over time, some start to question the purpose of human life. When they encounter opposition or persecution, they cease to pursue the real reason for living.

Now, consider another group – the ones who pursue celebrity status, whether for money, power or fame.

To them, these things take precedence over everything else. Only *a few* seek *The True God*, His will and His purpose. As they continue growing, they begin to understand who God really is and how He thinks. *This underlying truth* motivates Christians to become more and more like Christ. They are on *The Path to Salvation* through faith. You must mature to *The Stature of Christ* (Ephesians 4).

Spiritual Versus Fleshly

Paul warned, “*That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love and to all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God and of The Father and of Christ; In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge*” (Colossians 2:2-3). This is *the spiritual formula* for discerning *The Mystery of God*, which is “*Christ – In You.*” All godly gifts come from Christ through *The Holy Spirit*. (Read the book, *Christ In You*).

Christianity is *logical*. This vital factor leads *a seeking individual* to a certain conclusion. For Christians who have *true wisdom and knowledge*, it makes sense to them. “*Does not wisdom cry? And understanding put forth her voice?*” (Proverbs 8:1). “*Wisdom has built her house, she has hewn out her seven pillars*” (Proverbs 9:1). Jacob had a dream about *a ladder containing seven steps* (metaphorically speaking). This ladder allowed *the worthy* to reach God’s house (Genesis 28:10-19). Angels were ascending and descending this ladder. They help individuals receive Salvation by showing them *the way* to The Holy House of God.

When Jesus became *The Way* to God's House, He stated, "*Verily, verily, I say to you, Hereafter you shall see heaven open [God's house] and the angels of God ascending and descending upon The Son of Man*" (John 1:51). Christ replaced Jacob as *the way* to go up *the ladder*. Jesus came to magnify *The Law* by giving it more honor (Isaiah 42:21). Jesus came to forgive you (John 1:17). Here are *the seven steps to God's house*: 1) *fear*, 2) *mercy*, 3) *wisdom*, 4) *understanding*, 5) *faith*, 6) *judgment* and 7) *love*. *Love fulfills or completes The Law* (Romans 13:10). *The Law is spiritual and is not in The Letter*. It is *magnified*, which gives it more *honor*. God's Law must be, literally, placed in *your heart and mind*. When you are no longer *carnal*, God will grant you *The Gift of Salvation*.

The New Covenant

The Old Covenant (Letter of The Law) only explained what *sin* was. *The New Covenant* put an end to *sin*. *The Law* has become *spiritual* and is now *written into your very heart, mind and nature*. God's Holy Spirit is not represented by a *spirit of fear* but by a *spirit of power through love*. It gives you a *disciplined and sound mind* (II Timothy 1:7). You begin to think *logically* when you have *no personal idols or agendas*. *Your personal desires* get confused or are questioned with *any wisdom* you may receive (Proverbs 18:1).

When you are *motivated* by what *you desire* and think is right, you may end up in a state of *confusion*. You will *lack wisdom and logic*. It is as if you are in *deep, murky waters* without the ability to *see clearly*.

When you have *no agendas* and are filled with God's *love*, you only *think* about what is *good* for God and His *creation*. At that time, you begin to have a *good heart* and *mind*. You become like running waters, which act as cleansing procedures which begin to purify your mind. This allows you to see *clearly with wisdom*.

The Sons of God think just like God. They are on the same path to *life – The Torah*. They have God's *love* and *wisdom* which allows them to make *just judgments*. Consequently, you finally know and understand what is *fair*. You are *no longer in darkness* because, "*God is light and in him is no darkness at all*" (I John 1:5). Because you are *motivated by love* (a right desire), your heart becomes like God's. Then, you can *finally walk together in agreement* (Amos 3:3). You are truly becoming *A Son of God* as you grow spiritually.

The Adoption

You have been *adopted* from *physical parents*. In the past, *survival of the fittest* was *the only necessary desire*. This is exactly like *any animal*. Are you like a *lamb, goat, ox, snake, lion, bear* or *leopard*? Or even worse, do you have tendencies to be like *The Mark of The Beast*, which is the combination of *all three: lion, bear* and *leopard*? Several murderers may have this combination. Humans and animals share many attributes. As a Christian, you must become *as a lamb*, just like Christ. *A lamb* is completely *harmless* and is even *willing to go to its death*. As long as you act like *an animal*, you *do not* know *right from wrong*. *The adoption process* takes time for an individual to become

like *a lamb*. When you have the nature of a lamb, you become an acceptable *sacrifice* to God. God calls this process *spiritual growth*. Eventually, you can have a heart and mind like God.

Human bodies are still *physical* and have all the inherent pulls *of the flesh*. However, you can become *a Son of God* when you lose some of your human traits and replace them with *spiritual traits*.

As God Is

God's Holy Spirit gives you the ability to gain power and control over your own mind (II Timothy 1:7). God's love is so powerful that it can eliminate false *fears*. Jesus warned you to "*fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell*" (Matthew 10:28). You need not fear those who can only kill your physical body. With a disciplined mind, you can finally begin to reason and discern *fact* from *fiction*.

Everyone knows that, ultimately, their bodies will die. Flesh will disintegrate and go back to the earth. Your body becomes dust and *the spirit* which made you "*a conscious being*" goes back to God, who gave you *life*, initially (Ecclesiastes 12:7). Only God has the power to give life. Yet, knowing better, you struggle at all costs trying to remain alive. If you do not believe in God, *you know you will die*. Without God, there is no hope. Yet, inherently, it makes *no sense* that there isn't more to *this present life*. Life must have a more meaningful purpose than mere existence for a person to enjoy temporal pleasures. Those who believe *life*

happened by *accident*, must have difficulty explaining the human ability to reason *logically*. You must have God's *spirit* to comprehend the facts about *reality*, as well as, *discern the difference* between *reality* and *myth* or *fiction*. Animals seem to be content merely struggling to live and perpetuate their species. Only *humans* concern themselves with *peace, joy* and *happiness*. Your mind, *logically*, goes beyond survival and reproduction to *invent* what did *not exist* before. There is a great difference between *the human kingdom* and the animal kingdom. You begin to think about how "*things*" began. You may search for *the real purpose* in your life. You observe the universe and are in awe of its vastness and its complexity. You see *order*, as well as, *destruction*. But in all of this, you continue to try to understand it. There are times when even *the atheists* and *agnostics* try to figure it all out. There are people who truly believe in God and accept His purpose for humans to become *Sons of God*.

The Sons of God continue to discover *the awesome greatness* of His universe. That is why many are willing to accept *The Words of God*. They believe in a God who existed from the beginning. Others are willing to believe in the scholars who can't remember where they put their glasses. Yet, these same scholars try to tell you what happened thousands of years ago. Both viewpoints require *faith* and belief, but *logic* dictates God is *The First Cause*. This makes much more sense than everything being an *accident of nature*. God has given humanity *the ability to reason and think logically*. What is the difference between the mind and the brain? The brain is a physiological object which

enables you to think, reason or understand. To make the brain work as a mind and be able to function requires energy from outside the body. About every one hundred years, *Science* comes up with another *theory of creation*. Every once in a while you hear about *the next “singularity”* to be discovered as the origin of how everything began.

The flesh is the problem. It is why humanity is in such a confused state. You know you exist. The saying goes, “*I think, therefore, I am.*” Hence, “*Consciousness reveals your existence.*” Your enemy is the fact that you are *human*. You are *temporary*, but, inherently, you want and seek *immortality*. Non-believers pursue fleshly or human answers. Those who have faith, believe only God can give *life*, “*For as the Father raises up the dead and quickens them; even so the Son quickens whom he will*” (John 5:21). In Greek, the word “*quicken*” means “*to give life back.*” This is very clear in English. “*The resurrection*” means “*to restore life*” (Matthew 10:28). God can give you life through His Son, Jesus.

Are you beginning to understand why God adopts you from your human parents? When mankind is left to themselves, they *die*. Only God can *restore* you to *life everlasting* after you die. That is why Solomon, the preacher, said, “*Then shall the dust [decayed body] return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return to God who gave it*” (Ecclesiastes 12:7). This means a *spiritual resurrection* must occur. You must become *spiritual* through *The Resurrection* to become a Son of God.

CHAPTER 3

FLESH IS NOTHING

Christ tells you, “*It is the spirit that quickens [makes alive]; the flesh [being human] profits nothing: the words that I speak to you, they are spirit and they are life*” (John 6:63). How much clearer can this be? Christ tells you about the condition of being human. It serves no long-term purpose or usefulness. Only what is *spiritual* is of any value for *experiencing Life Eternal*. How does this adoption, from being *a human* to becoming *a spirit*, actually take place? Jesus reveals the answer to you.

A Tabernacle

Peter said this body was only *a tent, a tabernacle or a temporary dwelling* (II Peter 1:13-15). This kind of residence conveys the idea of *an encampment or temporary dwelling*. When a person loses an arm or a leg, that person doesn't believe he/she is *dead* or even partially dead. They know they are still alive, despite the missing limb. Your bodies are *tents or temporary dwellings* in which you reside. What makes you who you really are? Your consciousness or mind reveals who and what you are. Your neurological brain system is *the source of your mind*. However, no scientist has been able to *affirm* that your brain is where your

mind dwells. God declares that it is His *spirit*, at conception, which gives you *life*. Your *body* was nourished in your mother's *womb*. *The fetus* is the beginning of your *life*. It is God's sperm, "*The Spirit – In Man*," which starts life.

This spirit energy, which is *perpetual*, continues to *energize your brain* (consciousness). This energy, by means of osmosis, triggers life with each intake of oxygen. This ignites the "*fire*" known as "*life*." The process of *these fires* igniting your *cells* to generate "*motion*" is *life*. Your *mind* bestows *the gift of reason* so you can become *a logical, rational being*. So, the *real "you"* resides in *a temporary tabernacle or tent*. Your *mind*, therefore, is *eternal or spirit*, which God gives at conception. Christ said, "*the flesh is nothing* [useless] *and only the spirit or mind is of value to God*" (John 6:63) (Paraphrased). *The flesh* will decay and go back to *dust*. However, *the spirit in your mind* is compared to a cassette tape in a recorder. Everything on that tape will be returned to you when you are resurrected.

The Spirit Is Life

You must be *adopted* from your physical life and inserted into *a spiritual life* in order to become a Son of God. Jesus said, "*That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit*" (John 3:6). Christ told the woman from Samaria, "*God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth*" (John 4:24). Christianity is *an entirely spiritual matter*. It is not accomplished through

any *human works* or *efforts*. Rather, it is *a gift!* God told Cain that *sin* lies at *the door* of his *tabernacle* (his flesh). God wanted Cain and wants everyone to *overcome sin* (Genesis 4:7). *Sin* is in *your genes*. It is *natural for the flesh to sin*. It is *a matter of survival of the fittest*. The rich man's sin was his lust for money. Although he always kept *The Commandments*, *money* was his *idol*. Jesus told him to sell everything he possessed and give it to the poor. Had he done so, he would be on his way to perfection (Matthew 19).

Whatever your *human idol* happens to be, you must put it to *death*. *The faith* which saves you requires *the death of your flesh*. Your body is of *no profit*. (Read the book, *What Is Idolatry*). *Your spirit is life*, but while residing in your human body, you continue to *sin*. God gives you *a sound mind and heart* through His *Holy Spirit* (II Timothy 1:7). You will receive *the earnest of your inheritance (adoption)* to be *The Very Son of God* (Ephesians 1:5, 10 and 14). When Christians *die* or *go to sleep* (lose their flesh), they will, at *The Resurrection*, receive *spiritual bodies* with *spiritual minds*. You will not be corruptible, but *incorruptible* with a *spiritual body, a spiritual mind and a spiritual heart* (I Corinthians 15:44). With your *spiritual mind and heart*, you will be given a *spiritual body*. You, then, will be *completely spirit* like God and Christ. You will be formed in *The Very Image of God* because you will be one of *The Sons of God!*

Flesh Is Dust

The fleshy human body is allowed to decay when it

dies. When Jesus asked a man to follow Him as one of His Disciples, the man said, “*Lord, suffer [let] me first to go and bury my father*” (Matthew 8:21). This was no simple event. The Jews regarded the body as evil and, therefore, placed the cadaver in a cave. After a year or so, they held the funeral and placed the bones in a family coffin or ossuary. This man’s father had already died, perhaps the year before. That is why Christ said, “*Follow me; and let the dead bury the dead*” (Matthew 8:22). The Jews understood *the flesh* was nothing, so they believed the fleshy part should be disposed.

In The Babylonian Mystery System (in Egypt), The Pharaoh was already considered to be *divine*. Therefore, he was preserved in order to be able to go to a Paradise. This is just the opposite from *The Truth of God*. Peter and The Apostles knew the flesh (the body) was merely *a temporary tent* or place for *The Spirit of Life* to dwell. Upon death, only *the spirit* has *the life energy*. It is perpetual since it came from God, *The Life-giver*.

This is the reason Christ said, “*God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit [spiritually] and in truth*” (John 4:24). During *The Resurrection*, once you are given *a new, spiritual body, the mind and heart* will be your new *individual self*. In this life, while you are still in *the flesh*, you begin to *spiritually mature* in your *mind and heart*. Later, with *a spiritual body*, you will be *a Son of God*. *The flesh is nothing*. Consequently, that fleshy element called “*the body*” goes back to “*the dust*.”

A Little Lower

What is an angel? David wrote, “*For you have made him [mankind] a little lower than the angels and has crowned him with glory [God’s goodness] and honor*” (Psalm 8:5). In what way is mankind *a little lower* than the angels? When God gives you His *Spirit*, you are still in the flesh, “*You made him [man] to have dominion over the works of your hands: you have put all things under his feet*” (Psalm 8:6). What a difference this is from what you may have thought. Temporarily, humans have less power because they were created lower than the angels. In The Resurrection, you will rule over *everything* including what God will create in the future.

Becoming *Sons of God* is *very significant* because humans will, eventually, have *control* and *power* over everything God has *created*. *The Kingdom of God* is not only Paradise (His rest), but it is *a continuously growing* Spiritual Kingdom. Wow! Your spiritual growth process in your human existence is of *tremendous significance* to God. Notice what Paul said about it, “*For we know that the whole creation groans and travails in pain together until now*” (Romans 8:22). Why is this? The answer is, “*For the earnest expectation of the creature waits for the manifestation of the sons of God*” (Romans 8:19).

The present universe, in all its glory and magnificence, is *finite* and *subject* to destruction. God has placed His *tent of protection* around *the earth* (the atmosphere), which is *unique* in *the solar system*. The intent was

for mankind to live in *this “tent.”* The Greeks convey *intense yearning* for the world’s *earnest expectation*. The emphasis will be placed upon believers who *wait for the adoption – from flesh to spirit*. You must seek to become God’s *Son* so you can rule with Him and His Son, Jesus. God’s *glory* is all of God’s *goodness and riches*. *The Shekinah* (Glory of God) is limitless in its *wealth and goodness*. *Spiritual growth* from God will *continue eternally* and, as Sons of God, you will be responsible for your part in *The Kingdom!* You are being trained by God to become *heirs* in The Kingdom of God. *The Gift of Eternal Life* will allow you to live in Paradise. But, *The Gift of God’s continual blessings* will multiply just as your good works continue until *Christ returns*.

Your Reward

Christ said, “*And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be*” (Revelations 22:12). You will be given *Eternal Life as a gift*. But, in *The Kingdom of God*, you will be given *rewards* according to *your works* (talents you have gained). What is *the meaning of works*? You cannot earn *Eternal Life* through *works* because *Eternal Life is a gift*. “*Works*” have to do with “*rewards in your future life*.” These rewards are experienced in God’s *Paradise of Rest* (The Household of God). It is time you investigate the meaning and value of *these works*. You may be *surprised* to see what *these works* are.

CHAPTER 4

PARABLE OF THE TALENTS

The Parable of The Ten Talents concerns a man who planned to travel to a far country. He bestowed his goods to three different individuals to oversee his property. To one servant, he gave one talent; to another, he gave two; and to another, he gave five. Eventually, the servants became responsible for The Master's goods. When the man returned, he asked each servant what they had accomplished. The one with two talents and the one with five talents had, each, doubled their value. The servant with only one talent said he was afraid to risk the one talent and he gave it back to The Master. Those who doubled their talents were made rulers over many things. He allowed them to enter into The Joy of The Lord. The servant with only one talent experienced a different outcome. The talent he was given was given to the one who had ten. What is *the lesson* or *doctrine* Christ was teaching (Matthew 25)?

God's Kingdom

The primary subject has to do with being in The Kingdom of God. The Parable, actually, covers *two major*

points: 1) *The two servants rewarded* will enter The Kingdom of God and, 2) The other is *alive*, but he is cast into *outer darkness* and is *punished* until he repents. What is this parable really about? Jesus answers, “*For to every one that has shall be given and he shall have abundance: but from him that has not shall be taken away even that which he has*” (Matthew 25:29). Please notice *the one* who received nothing, is still *alive*. No one is dead. *The two servants* who have increased *their talents* enter The Kingdom of God. What does Jesus refer to when He mentions *the talents* at His Return? Jesus compares all mankind to *sheep* and *goats* (Matthew 25:31-46). *The sheep* are divided from *the goats*. The sheep are allowed to enter into *The Kingdom of God* (Matthew 25:34). *The goats* are cast into *The Lake of Fire* (Matthew 25:41). Now, read the conclusion, “*And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal*” (Matthew 25:46). *The goats* are still *alive* after *The Lake of Fire*, but they are not allowed to have *Life Eternal* in Paradise. Instead, they must repent and continue to grow, *spiritually*, until they are ready.

This will occur after they are resurrected (life eternal). They must become *a repentant* follower, so they can grow *spiritually*. *The fire* is part of their *punishment* and they are to be placed into *outer darkness* as their continued *punishment* (Jude 13). (For all the details, read the book, *God's Will*). Are you starting to understand the difference between *Salvation* (which is a gift) and your *good works*? The good works can only give you rewards. Perhaps, with more rewards, you will be given more important work in The King-

dom. Jesus is going to reward *each person* according to his/her *works* (Revelation 22:12). Those left out of The City of New Jerusalem are *the willful sinners* (Revelation 22:13-15). The City of New Jerusalem is where The Kingdom of God stands. The ones who *blasphemed* God's Holy Spirit are left out (Matthew 12:31-32). They have *no right* to *The Tree of Life* in New Jerusalem (Revelation 22:14). The only recourse for those left out of The City of New Jerusalem is to continue drinking the waters with *the healing leaves* from *The Tree of Life*. This water gushes forth from beneath The Throne of God in New Jerusalem (Revelation 22:1-2).

The potential for *Eternal Life* in The Kingdom of God will continue for everyone. Salvation continues in The Kingdom of God (Revelation 21:5-8). In The Kingdom of God, a person can still become a Son of God when God and *The Firstfruits* rule in New Jerusalem. *The Book of Revelation* is clear about God's *purpose* for everyone to be in His *kingdom*. What are the different rewards for everyone in The Kingdom of God? How will Christ *judge* in *The White Throne Judgment*? “*For I was an hungred and you gave me meat: I was thirsty and you gave me drink: I was a stranger and you took me in: Naked and you clothed me: I was sick and you visited me: I was in prison and you came to [visited] me*” (Matthew 25:35-36).

During The White Throne Judgment, “*Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we you an hungred and fed you? Or thirsty and gave you drink? When saw we you a stranger and took you in? Or naked*

and clothed you?” (Matthew 25:37-38). Jesus answers, *“Verily I say to you, Inasmuch as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to me”* (Matthew 25:45). This is *The White Throne Judgment*. Christ is clearly and simply telling you how *the world* will be *judged*. It has *nothing* to do with *sin*. It has to do with *human behavior*. Jesus said *all sins* will be *forgiven* (Matthew 12:31). Only those who rejected God’s Holy Spirit *will not be forgiven*. That is *the unpardonable sin* or *missing the mark* to be able to eat from *The Tree of Life*.

When Jesus refers to *The Ten Virgins*, He is referring to God’s *people*. Those who will not be in *The First Resurrection* are those who *do not keep growing* in God’s *Holy Spirit* (*oil for lamps*) and will not be included as Christ’s *Bride* (Matthew 25:1-13). You must put all of Matthew 25 together to comprehend the meaning of who will be in *The Kingdom of God* and how you will be *judged*. You are judged by your *spiritual growth* (earning *brownie points* during this human life). Be assured, no one is keeping tabs of all your sins. Why is this? Everyone will confess that Jesus is *Lord* (Romans 10:5-10). All will admit their *guilt* and throw themselves upon God’s *mercy* (Philippians 2:10-12). *All sins will be forgiven*. How transparent do you need it to be? It can’t be any clearer! *Some government officials* claim there is transparency when they change laws or outcomes. However, only, God tells everyone *The Complete Truth*! *The judgment* reveals God’s Holy Spirit, which leads you to *truth*. It is *the rejection* or *blasphemy* of God’s *Holy Spirit* which is *the unpardonable sin*. This summarizes *The Great Plan of God*. It is very clear and very simple.

God's *judgment* will be the fairest known to man. Christ simply states it is *the fruit* you produce that counts in *the judgment* (Matthew 12:33). *The talents* are *the treasures in your heart*. Whether you will be in The Kingdom of God has to do with what you have allowed to be *written in your heart and conscience* (Romans 8). If you are *led* by God's Holy Spirit, you will walk in God's *Holy Spirit*. Then, you become one of *The Sons of God* (Romans 8:14). God's Holy Spirit impregnates you and you become one of *The Sons of God*. You are to be in *The Womb of The Mother* (The Church of God).

The Church of God is not just *any group of people* but those who have God's *Holy Spirit*. If God's Holy Spirit is *growing "In You,"* then, you no longer live in *the flesh* but in *The Spirit*. You are *no longer a servant*, but rather *an heir and a future Son* having received an *earnest of your inheritance* (Ephesians 1). *The decision is yours*. Either continue as a Christian from the time of your *spiritual birth* or *stop your growth*. What determines your *growth*? Christ gave the simple answer, "*If you then, being evil [destructive] know how to give good gifts [talents] to your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things [talents] to them that ask him? Therefore all things whatsoever you would that men should do to you, do you even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets*" (Matthew 7:11-12). *The golden rule written in your human behavior (heart)* is what really counts. *The Works of The Law* or anything else will *not be* counted for you on your ticket to becoming *a Son of God*.

CHAPTER 5

WHAT IS GOD'S KINGDOM?

Jesus was asked a simple question by The Pharisees. They asked Him to identify when The Kingdom of God should come. Jesus said, “*The Kingdom of God comes not with observation: Neither shall they say, Lo here! Or, lo there! For, behold, the kingdom of God is within you*” (Luke 17:20-21). The Kingdom requires a spiritual change. Only Sons of God are destined to enter The Kingdom of God. Christ, standing before those Pharisees, was already in The Kingdom of God, *spiritually*.

God's House

God's *house*, His Holy Temple, is on top of a *hill* (Psalm 24). Only those who are *clean* and *righteous* are allowed into The House of God so they can receive *Salvation*. The City of New Jerusalem is where The House of God will be located. The nations that are *saved* can bring *their glory* into New Jerusalem. Once inside, they will be able to eat from The Tree of Life. *The New Earth* has many *rivers* containing *the healing leaves*. This will begin to heal those who repent and want to grow – *spiritually*. The House of God is His *rest* or *Paradise*. Salvation will continue just as God started it in The Original Garden of Eden. The King-

dom continues giving Salvation during God's and Christ's rule on The New Earth. All this takes place under The New Heavens. There are three areas or regions on The New Earth and under The New Heavens: 1) The place where God will build His *house*, 2) The location of His property which will be *The Promised Land* and, 3) The outside where *the outer darkness* or *the wilderness* will be. Those who are left outside the city must continue to grow until they reach *The Stature of Christ*. Salvation continues because God has a *loving and long-suffering nature*. Sons of God are living in New Jerusalem while *The Guests* (to *The Great Wedding Feast*) can enter New Jerusalem and eat of The Tree of Life. They bring *their glory* or *spiritual riches* into the city. *The rest* are excluded and are in *outer darkness*. They are weeping and searching for *The Way* into The Holy City.

God and Christ are *The Temple*, so those who *enter* will receive *grace* (mercy) and God's *love*. There is no *Tree of The Knowledge of Good and Evil*. Everyone has confessed Jesus is Lord and they *seek* God's *grace* and *truth* (John 1:17). The New Earth, with everything and everyone on it, belongs to God (Psalm 24:1). One day, everything will be of a *higher spiritual quality*. There will *no longer be any tenuous aspects* to live on The New Earth.

The Outer Court

The world you live in is a *wilderness* (*Babylon*) (I Peter 2:4-10). The inhabitants, today, decide what is *good* or *evil* on their own. They think they know *The Way*

to The Kingdom of God. You must understand how everyone has sinned and missed the mark. When these people do not have God leading them, it is almost impossible to stop sinning.

Today, *few* seek The Truth of God or repent and ask for God's Holy Spirit (Matthew 17). God's Holy Spirit leads each of you to Christ. Peter reveals Jesus is *The Chief Corner Stone* of The Holy Temple of God. Notice the result of what The Holy Spirit produces, "*You also, as lively [saved] stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ*" (I Peter 2:5). What will you be doing in The Kingdom of God? "*But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood [Sons of God], an holy nation, a peculiar people; that you should show forth the praises of him who has called you out of darkness into his marvelous light*" (I Peter 2:9). There it is!

You are to be *Priests* in The Temple of God in New Jerusalem. *The World* will be under the control of Christ, *The Chief Corner Stone* and God, *The Father* (Revelation 21:22). The Priesthood of Melchizedek will grow to become a *Holy Nation* proclaiming the praises of God, "*And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that hears say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely*" (Revelation 22:17). The supreme message can't be any clearer! *The potential for Salvation* continues in *The Kingdom of God*. Plainly, these events occur under The New Heavens and on The New Earth. *The Waters of Life* and *the healing leaves* will

flow, continually, from New Jerusalem (Revelation 22: 1-3). Now, for a prophecy, “*And there was given me a reed like to a rod [measure]: and the angel stood, saying, Rise and measure the temple of God and the altar and them that worship therein. But the court which is without the temple leave out and measure it not; for it is given to the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months*” (Revelation 11:1-2). This is *the temple* in New Jerusalem which was turned over to The Gentiles for forty-two months. The fall of *the temple* was in 70 A.D. and, then, the fall of Masada occurred in 73 A.D.

The Court of The Gentiles was not measured when The Gentiles took over *the temple* in Jerusalem. It will be enlarged according to the space needed to accommodate all The Gentiles who still have time to repent and be included. When the exact number of Gentiles is known, The Court of The Gentiles will be enlarged to accommodate them. So, if you are a Gentile, you still can reserve a place for yourself. Repent and ask God for mercy. This includes The Sons of God. The Bride will rule as Priests in The Temple.

During The Jubilee Year, *all debts* will be forgiven. Only *The Gentiles* will remain in *slavery* (Leviticus 25:45-46). The Gentiles, those without access to God and Christ, will be *eternal slaves* until they, finally, repent. They will be in *outer darkness* unless they heed the call of The Spirit and The Bride to come and drink of *the healing waters*. Once they are *no longer Gentiles* (*without* God), they can become *The Sons of God* calling upon *The Name of God* (as in Seth’s day) (Genesis

4:26). In Hebrew, *“to call upon the name of the Lord”* is defined as *“to be called by The Name of God or The Son of God.”* You have traveled full circle from Alpha to Omega (The Beginning to The End). God proclaims, *“Declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand and I will do all my pleasure”* (Isaiah 46:10). You have just read *the entire story of The Bible* in this one statement.

A New Beginning

The New Heavens and The New Earth jump-starts a *New Beginning* which has *no end*. God is making *everything qualitatively new or superior*. The Kingdom of God is not merely *The Government of God* but will be comprised of *spiritual beings* who are just like God and Christ (Hebrews 1:3). The Kingdom of God comprises an internal spiritual change. The New Heaven and The New Earth are not The Kingdom, but The Kingdom of God is on The New Earth. The Kingdom of God consists of those who are *The Sons of God*. *These sons* will be like Christ and *The Almighty Father*. The New Heavens and The New Earth are merely the staging areas for *a New Beginning* without *an end*. The New Heaven and The New Earth will be *forever* with *The Feast of God* (known as *The Horn of Plenty*). Consider, also, the fulfillment known as *The Jubilee*.

The Tree of The Knowledge of Good and Evil will no longer exist. *Every man* will have received *his/her rewards* in *The Kingdom*. This reward will be according

to each individual's *works*. *Salvation*, however, is a *process* that is *eternal*. That is why *the whole creation* longs for *The Sons of God*. *The entire universe is in darkness*, longing for *the light*. God, The Father is "*Elohim*" but He is also "*Yahweh – Sabaoth*" or "*The I Am What I Am of All Hosts*." He is *The Only One* who loves everything and everyone in His *creation*. He will, also, love everything that He will *create* in the future.

Sons Of God

"*Two can only walk together when they are in agreement*" (Amos 3:3) (Paraphrased). The Sons of God are those who are *like God*, just like the law of "*kind after kind*." You must have *the same heart* (motives) and *mind* (wisdom and judgment). Anything less is *sin* and *misses the mark of perfection*. Jesus said, "*And if a kingdom be divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand*." Satan deceives *the world* by keeping God's *people* divided. Only *faith* or full *trust* in God's *word* through The Holy Spirit leads you to *truth*.

Love for each other will bind you as you become "*one body*." The Kingdom of God doesn't come by *observation*, rather it *resides within you* (as Christ). Only when you become a Son of God, will you be in The Kingdom of God.

When God writes His *spiritual law* in your *heart* and your *mind*, you will have *the right motivation* to think just like God. Not only is "*Christ – In You*" but God's *purpose* and *pleasure* is to be "*All In All*" (I Corinthians 15:28). You can, then, walk together with God because

you and your Father will always be in *total agreement*. Because of *this love*, God's Holy Spirit will give you *this gift*. This gift is The Promise of God which is guaranteed. His promise is to give you Paradise in His Eternal Rest. God's *plan* is to adopt you from your human parents and then circumcise your *heart* and *mind* so you can become *a Son of God*. You will be born of God. You will have *a spiritual body* with *a spiritual mind* and *heart*. There are not enough words or meanings which can fully explain the exhilaration you will feel when you are a Son of God. The Keys to The Kingdom of God will open the greatest door to gifts and rewards beyond your wildest dreams. You will find the most wondrous surprises and opportunities you could ever have imagined. All the gold in the world will not compare to *the golden gift* you will be given – Eternal Life.