

THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH

TEMPLE – VOL. VI

PART 4

**BY
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PREFACE

Who is right? Is The Sabbath on Saturday or is it Sunday? *The Bible* declares God's Sabbath is Saturday, The Seventh Day of The Week. There is not *a single scripture* declaring Sunday as The Sabbath. That is a serious allegation. Consider the following: Only humans decided to worship on *the first day* instead of on The Seventh Day. Who is right – *biblically*?

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INTRODUCTION

The Sabbath *debate* between Saturday and Sunday (The Seventh Day or the first day of the week) seems to go on endlessly. Which day does God consider Holy? And how are Christians to keep it? Few people realize, The Seventh Day Sabbath began when God created Adam and Eve. Later, according to historical records, The Israelites and some Gentiles claimed The Sabbath as their own.

The Bible clearly states how The Sabbath or The Seventh Day is *a sign* which designates God's *chosen people*. Moses was told, "*Speak you also to the children of Israel, saying, Verily my sabbaths you shall keep: for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that you may know that I am the LORD that does sanctify you*" (Exodus 31:13).

The Bible is quite clear. The Seventh Day is "*a sign.*" When keeping The Sabbath, Christians are *sanctified* (set apart) by God for a special reason. However, keeping The Sabbath according to *The Commandments* becomes a complex issue. Keeping The Sabbath is more than the day itself, as it also concerns what *the day* represents (as a sign). It is important to know what God's *intentions* are for a special group of people, such as the ancient Israelites (who were told to keep The Sabbath). Remember, The Seventh Day was a special sign to show God's people *the truth*. God would sanctify or make His people Holy.

The Jews, themselves, debate about how to keep The Seventh Day *Holy* and have oral (human) laws numbering into the hundreds. There are man-made rules

on how to keep God's *day* Holy. Some examples are: No sewing, no cooking, no writing, no buying, no selling, no lighting fires and a host of other forbidden activities. However, there is more. The Seventh Day "*keepers*" and many Christians differ within their own congregations concerning how to keep The Sabbath. In fact, it is difficult to find two individuals in the same Christian *denomination* who keep The Sabbath the same way.

Surprisingly, even God differs concerning how His people should keep The Seventh Day Holy. You are about to discover that God has different purposes, reasons and ways for His people to keep The Sabbath. The Sabbath "*sign*" was intended to reveal how God will make His people Holy. They can become Holy, but not through any human works involving *The Law*. Only God is Holy therefore, only God can make you Holy. God's only intention is to make man in His "*image*" (Genesis 1:26).

THE SEVENTH DAY IN THE GARDEN

After six days, God completed His *work* of reshaping the earth (Psalm 24:1). When He dwelt in The Garden of Eden, it was The Holy House of God. This Land of Eden was a Paradise and a very pleasant land. This Garden was situated on a hill (Psalm 24:1-3). God protected this earth by placing *a tent* or *tabernacle* over it. This protective tent was called "*heaven*." It is comprised of the atmosphere. The earth was sanctified by God as "*heaven on earth*" (Genesis 1:7-8). God's *house* was a tent or tabernacle, a Holy place where God dwelt in His rest. Everything was very good (Genesis 1:31). Before Israel sinned, God orally

gave them *The Seventh Day Commandment*. The Sabbath had different purposes. The reason for keeping it after *the first couple* sinned changed – drastically. This change occurred when Moses brought down the second set of clay tablets from God’s Holy *mountain*. (Refer to *the purpose* God gave for keeping His *Fourth Commandment*).

Before Israel built the golden calf, God orally stated the purpose for their keeping The Seventh Day Holy, “*For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and hallowed it*” (Exodus 20:11).

Quite obviously, The Sabbath was a sign long before Israel sinned. In The Garden, The Sabbath was Holy because God is Holy. Why is this? The reason is because only God can make a nation, a person or an object Holy (Ephesians 1 and Genesis 2:1-3). Israel was to be a Holy nation, and The Seventh Day Sabbath was Israel’s *sign* for them to become a Holy people. What a wonderful God! Peter repeated this in his first Epistle (I Peter 2:9). How are Christians, therefore, to keep God’s Sabbath?

When Moses went up the mountain to receive the stone tablets (*The Ten Commandments*), Israel after *forty days* became tired of waiting for him. When in Egypt, they had learned the Babylonian mystery system of worshipping idols. They built a *golden calf* and began to worship it after, *orally*, receiving *The Ten Commandments* from God. They knew they were not allowed to worship idols. God warned Moses there will be *no idol worship*. However, that warning did not stop *the*

rebellious Israelites.

When Moses returned and saw their idolatry, he could not control himself. He slammed down the tablets, breaking them into pieces. God, too, was angry with the people and was about to kill them for *this capital crime* against Him and His Law. However, Moses prayed to God to forgive the people. God heard Moses' prayer and gave *mercy* to The Israelites. Moses went back on the mountain and received "*the second set of tablets*" (Exodus 34:1-5). This time, God changed *the purpose* of *The Fourth Commandment*. The second set of stone tablets had a different purpose than the first ones. The Israelites learned the reason they rested from their work was for a different purpose. Read what *The Sabbath Commandment* meant after they came out of slavery in Deuteronomy 5:12-15.

Deuteronomy is "*the added law*" that God included in *The Torah*. This *Law of Moses* was a *special covenant* made with Israel and not their fathers (Abraham, Isaac or Jacob). This *Old Covenant* was made for a very special reason (Deuteronomy 5:3). *The grace and mercy* God gave to Moses was *the reason* He made this new *fourth commandment*, "*Wherefore then serve the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed [Jesus] should come to whom the promise was made [to Abraham]; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator [Moses]*" (Galatians 3:19). This time, after the people sinned, the two tablets had to be changed, because it was for a different purpose. Now, God's Seventh Day Sabbath *sign* is changed from having Paradise (eternally), to bringing them out of slavery and introducing them to *repentance*. Then, *The Law* had *curses or judgments* when the people committed

sins, especially when they transgressed the slightest point (I Timothy 1:7-10 and James 2:10). Now, The Sabbath becomes *a sign* of God's people being delivered from slavery rather than entering into God's *rest*. God's *purpose* concerning the keeping of The Seventh Day and not working on The Sabbath was for them to, "*Remember that you were a servant [slave] in the land of Egypt and that the LORD your God brought you out then through a mighty hand and by a stretched out arm [Moses]: therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the sabbath day*" (Deuteronomy 5:15). Now, Israel had to repent in order to remain God's *people*. God demanded repentance by means of The Seventh Day Sabbath *sign*.

Remember, The Sabbath was not a sign of God's *rest* in The Garden, but it was instituted because the people had sinned. Consequently, they needed God to deliver them out of slavery. They had become *idol worshippers*. As idolaters, they were slaves to sin. Slaves must work each and every day. By keeping them from working on The Sabbath, they could rest from their works. The solution was for them to go into *the wilderness* to be tried and tested.

According to The Abrahamic Covenant, this Sabbath Commandment put an end to God's *rest* in The Promised Land. This commandment was not *the covenant* which had been made with Abraham. Rather, this one was made with Israel, "*For we [Christians] which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation [beginning] of the world. For he spoke in a certain place of the seventh day on this wise, And God did rest the seventh*

day from all his works” (Hebrews 4:3-4). Paul said, God finished His works in The Garden and The Seventh Day represented His *rest* (not Adam and Eve’s). God changed how His Seventh Day Sabbath was to be kept. Adam and Eve did not do any of the work for this original Sabbath.

No longer would God allow Israel to enter The Promised Land. They did not work on The Sabbath, thus it gave them *a rest*. Showing *faith* and *trust* in God was the only way to enter God’s *rest*. They rested on The Sabbath from their own works and not because of God’s Sabbath, where He finished *the work* for them. Adam and Eve never did any of the work, but were in God’s *rest*.

While resting on The Seventh Day, The Israelites remembered that, as slaves, they worked seven days a week. Until they grew in *faith*, they kept The Sabbath and rested from their work. *Biblically*, this proves how only God can make a day Holy. Only God can do *the work* to create His Holy House (Hebrews 4:9). You are going to study *scriptures* and learn how to keep The Sabbath.

CHAPTER 1

THE ORIGINAL SABBATH

The Seventh Day Sabbath was not started because of a certain race, ethnic group or gender. Rather, it began as a benefit for the entire human family living in The Garden of Eden. Later, as Adam and Eve's family grew into a nation (Israel), they were expected to keep The Sabbath as *a sign* which designated that God called them *His chosen people* (Exodus 31:12-18). To understand, how The Seventh Day Sabbath was to be viewed by all people, you need to read how the original Seventh Day Sabbath was sanctified (Genesis 2:1-3).

BLESSED AND SANCTIFIED

There are four commands which God decreed The Israelites must keep regarding The Seventh Day Sabbath rest (Genesis 2:2-3). The four designations were: 1) God ceased from His *work* of creation; 2) He rested; 3) God blessed The Seventh Day; and 4) God sanctified The Seventh Day. God rested from His *work* on that day and said, "*it was very good*" (Genesis 1:31). Adam and Eve never had to do any work, because God prepared everything for them. Adam and Eve knew God made that day *special* for them and their future children. To understand this first Seventh Day Rest,

you must define the specific Hebrew meaning:

- 1) What work did God create? Creating everything was His work. God stopped being The Creator and *rested* when He finished creating. This was God's *creation*, which only He had the power to do. This was God's *profession*, or career, and only He could perform it. In Hebrew, the word "*work*" means an "*effort which produces a profit*." "*Work*" is the fruit of one's labor, just as it is with a farmer, fisherman or hunter. Adam and Eve were given professions as gardeners to dress and keep The Garden (Genesis 2:15). Adam and Eve dwelt with God in His *house*. God wanted His *house* to be kept in very good order. They were servants of God and were to be *the keepers* of His earth. Everything in The Garden was very good and Holy. No sin existed.**

- 2) God rested from His work of the creation. This "*rest*," in Hebrew, does not mean not doing anything, or just studying, praying, sitting and laying around. This "*rest*" means to "*stop doing what makes profit or produces some kind of fruit*." The "*rest*," also, means "*to cease from one's profession*," or "*what their life's work may be*."**

- 3) God blessed the day. In Hebrew, the word "*barak*" means "*to kneel*" or "*to bless God as an act of adoration*." When one knelt, they were making a request for something good or**

exceptional. The Sabbath was to be “*a day of good works*” but not “*a day of self-profit*.” It was to be a happy day or a day of *great delight*.

- 4) Finally, God sanctified The Seventh Day, which means “*set apart or to be clean*” in Hebrew. This day was supposed to be *Holy or without flaw, which is a perfect, sinless day*. Remember, everything in The Garden was “*very good*.”

This was the first Sabbath Day. Adam and Eve could follow their profession for self-profit for six days, but not on The Seventh Day. Creating is God’s profession for both profit and pleasure (Ephesians 1). You can now understand how the true Seventh Day Sabbath is to be kept and not simply observed. It was a day of blessings and joy. The Seventh Day was to be a happy day, not one of boredom. It was a sinless day, needing to be kept Holy. Everything was good. It was not a day of suffering, or not doing good deeds in any sense. Everything, on that day, was exactly as God said, “*very good*” (Genesis 1:31).

SIN ENTERED

When Adam and Eve disobeyed, this rebellious act ended God’s *rest* in The Garden. Everything in The Garden was for their own good. They had the chance to live *forever*. This was God’s *rest* and the fruit of His work produced a Paradise. During this “*rest*” in The Holy House of God, Adam and Eve lived in God’s “*rest*.” The Seventh Day was more than a day, but a

day when God rested with His *family*. The Sabbath's *rest* was, eventually, lost to the whole world. Jesus Christ had to come and save (restore – Matthew 18:11) what was lost (The House of God and a place of rest for His family).

A SIGN

A *sign* gives information. What type of information did The Seventh Day Sabbath reveal? A *sign* has to be seen or observed. Now, The Sabbath was no longer a place of God's "*rest*", but a day observed, as a "*sign*" for those who were chosen to become God's "*people*." God's "*rest*," which began on The Seventh Day, was to continue eternally, but was lost and became something observed only as a *sign*. The Sabbath's "*rest*," as a place, or condition for you to be in Paradise, was lost. Paradise was lost and had to be restored as a *rest*, or dwelling place for God and mankind. Christ came to *Save The World* and to be in God's *rest* or Paradise (I John 4:14). God's entire plan will be made known step-by-step, for you. God's Sabbath "*rest*" is what God and Christ are doing until all mankind is in *The Image of God*.

CHAPTER 2

GOD'S SABBATH SIGN

In keeping The Sabbath, The Israelites had to cease from all forms of their labor. Remember, Sabbath *observance* began in *the wilderness* long before they could enter The Promised Land. The people rested from their labor on The Seventh Day. God's creation *work* in Genesis had nothing to do with this "*rest*." Adam and Eve and later The Israelites, could never be a part of God's "*rest*," until they developed *faith* in God with a pure heart (Hebrews 3:8-19).

A SABBATH'S SIGN

This Sabbath was beyond The Seventh Day Sabbath in The Garden of Eden. On God's original Seventh Day, Adam and Eve never did any of *the work*. They were living in God's *rest* while residing in The Holy House of God. When they rested on The Sabbath, was because of God's work and not theirs. Everything had been provided for them in The Garden. This was a contrast from *the wilderness*, where The Israelites lived and had to work to survive. Israel did not know what God was doing with them, survival was their main concern. The people complained to God, ten times, for water and grumbled about the food they had to eat. God, because of Moses, gave *mercy* to Israel and

miraculously, supplied them with all their needs. God was very demanding, whenever He intervened and supplied their needs. For example, The Sabbath was to be observed, rigidly. Exodus 16 explains how God provided Israel with angel's food (manna) throughout their wilderness journey. They received twice as much on "*the sixth day*," because there was no manna supplied on The Sabbath (Exodus 16:26). Remember, their Sabbath *keeping* was constantly to remind them of their former *seven-days-a-week slavery* in Egypt. The Israelites had no *rest* in Egypt. In *the wilderness*, God gave them *rest* on every Seventh Day. They could not enter His "*rest*" (The Promise Land in Canaan) until they *trusted* God and had *faith* in Him.

The Sabbath was more than *a sign*, but *a place* (The Holy House of God). Their Father would provide everything in The Holy House of God.

This Sabbath sign, the observance of The Seventh Day, was very strict. They were forbidden to go out and pick manna on The Sabbath. God did not give them any manna on The Sabbath because it was a "*Day of Rest*" (Exodus 16 explains The Promise Land and The Holy House of God). In the same way, The Pharisees reprimanded Jesus when His Disciples picked corn on The Seventh Day. They thought The Disciples had broken The Sabbath, which Israel had always kept; however, they did not understand the reason. (Keep in mind Christ brought *The New Covenant* which disannulled *The Old Covenant*). Israel was instructed to remember their time of slavery in Egypt, when they had to work every day, and there was no *mercy*. So, *The*

***Law* had to be strictly obeyed (Exodus 23). This was *an added Law* for Israel, because they had criminal hearts (I Timothy 1:7-10). The “added” or *The Added Law* meant keeping *The Sabbath* which became *a cardinal point of sin* for Israel.**

Over the years, their *oral laws* (which God *allowed*) became burdensome (fear of God). He made strict demands upon those who had *a wrong heart*. That is why Jesus said, “*The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses’ seat. All, therefore, whatsoever they [Pharisees] bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not you after their works: for they say and do not...But all their works they do for to be seen of men*” (Matthew 23:2-5). These oral laws were observed since the days of Jethro, Moses’ father-in-law (Exodus 18). God made the oral laws binding.

The Sabbath was intended as *a sign*, showing they were God’s *people*. They never seemed to understand God or His *ways* (Hebrews 3:10). Therefore, God demanded they keep His *Laws* (*The Old Covenant*). He made this extreme observance, because His followers did not know Him as *The True God*. Even *the oral laws* of The Pharisees were binding upon Israel (Matthew 23:1-4), because Christ said so. You will later read how *The Christian Sabbath* was changed.

The Rabbis, although God-fearing, had a wrong heart. Each time, Israel had to be punished, God increased the number of oral laws. Now, you have *The Talmud, Mishnah and Halakah* (Jewish) *laws* along with many others. When a nation lacks faith, God always in-

creases their man-made laws.

No laws would have been needed if mankind had a *right heart, faith* in God and kept His *Commandments*. A *right heart with faith* is what God wanted Israel to glean from all these “rules” and “regulations” (Deuteronomy 5:29). Instead of Israel observing The Sabbath *merely as a sign*, they could have become a part of God’s “rest.” He would provide for all their needs, exactly like the original Sabbath in The Garden. Now, The Christian Sabbath is completely different.

Since Israel never had *faith* in God, that particular generation had to die in *the wilderness*. Because of their lack of *faith*, Joshua and Caleb led the new generation into God’s *property*. As Israel’s leaders, this new generation had to be circumcised before crossing The Jordan River. They promised to keep *The Letter of The Law*, because they “*were the children of unrepentant parents.*” To be citizens in God’s land, *The Old Covenant* had to be kept *perfectly*. No undocumented aliens were allowed. This was a nation with *laws*, because the people had a wrong heart. They had no *faith* in God. *The Law of Moses* and *The Old Covenant* was added to *The Torah* as Israel’s constitution.

Throughout history, Israel neither kept the property given to them as God had intended, nor did they keep *The Letter of The Law* as He intended. They kept adding more burdensome *oral laws*, like prescribing a Sabbath Day’s journey. They did not understand that God wanted them to obey Him. *The Law* was only to lead them “*To Christ*” (Galatians 3:19). Then,

Christ magnified *The Law* by giving *mercy* and *grace* without adding works. (And Christ brought a secret gift – Salvation).

Many Seventh Day Churches are still arguing over the correct “dos” and “don’ts” of a Sabbath Day’s journey. These often cause outsiders to wonder. No one seems to know how to keep God’s Sabbath.

Ultimately, Israel went after their lovers (The Gentile Nations) and completely, misunderstood God’s Holy and *righteous Law*. This was the reason Israel was sent into captivity. They had to learn a huge lesson.

God’s *property* and *house* were given to The Gentiles (their lovers) and, thus, The Time of The Gentiles began.

In 586 B.C., Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon took over God’s Holy *house* – *the temple*. Then, The Amorites turned God’s Promised Land into a place of violence. Then, when Israel did the same, they lost the right to God’s *property*. The land became violent and filled with wars. The Amorites and Israelites had to build *walled cities* to protect themselves.

The United States is now in the same predicament, where there is a dire need to erect a wall on the southern border to keep the illegal immigrants out. Some individuals do not like waiting to legally enter The United States. The United States is, also, guilty of not enforcing their own laws to the fullest extent. (Read all of Isaiah 1 for an overall perspective).

SABBATH CHANGES

The Sabbath is the only day God made Holy, and only God decides which day should be Holy. No man or minister can make that decision. Christ said, when He was human (susceptible to sin), only God was good (Matthew 19:17). When you are completely within God's *glory*, then you, too, will be Holy. That is why Jesus asked God to give Him, "*the glory which I had with you before the world was*" (John 17:5). No one, or any group of men, can make any day Holy, including those with God's Holy Spirit. No man has the right to change which day The Sabbath should be.

Church leaders cannot decide how to keep a day Holy, no matter what ideas they may come up with. To be Holy, one must become perfect, like God and, for the time being, there are *no perfect individuals*. Individuals are perfect, only, when God makes them Holy by giving them His *glory*. The same glory Christ received after His *resurrection*. God changed how His Sabbath is to be kept. God's Sabbath *rest* was to be kept, as in The Garden of Eden, when The Sabbath meant more than just a day. The Sabbath is a place and a condition and not merely the observance of a day, as *a sign* to His *people*. Keeping The Sabbath demanded multitude of oral human laws, which had become burdensome, but fulfilled several different purposes. *A sign* to God's *people* entering into His *rest* was *one purpose*. The second purpose was also *a sign for bringing God's people out of slavery*. There is great depth to God's *love* and *patience*. Now, you are at the point in time, when God began to bestow His *property* on The

Gentiles, which, *biblically*, is called The Time of The Gentiles (Luke 21:24).

CHAPTER 3

TIMES OF THE GENTILES

Many are in a quandary concerning what God refers to, when Christ said, “*The times of the Gentiles must be fulfilled before he can return*” (paraphrased) (Luke 21:24). Jesus was referring to The Holy House of God and His property. It was time to give His land over to The Gentiles. Israel, God’s chosen people, corrupted themselves along with “*the temple*” and His land. How was this corruption accomplished?

ISAIAH

The Book of Isaiah is a prophecy occurring at a critical time in world events. Adam and Eve sinned, so God gave the prophecy of a Promised Seed. Christ was to come and restore Salvation to the fallen race. This promise was to be fulfilled because of The Abrahamic Covenant.

The Book of Isaiah covers the complete prophecy of Christ from Israel’s time forward. The name “*Isaiah*” in Hebrew means “*God saves.*” *The Book of Isaiah* also covers the end of Israel living in God’s land and the fulfillment of The Times of The Gentiles. Read God’s indictment and judgment, of those who were against His people (Isaiah 1:2-15). This indictment

concerns the whole world, “*Hear, O heavens and give ear, O earth: for the LORD has spoken, I have nourished and brought up children and they have rebelled against me*” (Isaiah 1:2). Then God asks, “*Why should you [want to] be stricken [suffer] any more?*” (Isaiah 1:5). It could not be denied that they were deeply religious, and made sure they kept all The Works of *The Law*.

Here is what God said, “*Bring no more vain oblations [stop bringing meaningless offerings]; [your] incense is an abomination [detestable] to me; the new moons and sabbaths, the calling of assemblies [convocations and appointed feasts], I cannot away with [I cannot bear]; it is iniquity, even the solemn meeting. Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hates: they are a trouble to me; I am weary to bear them [they have become a burden to me]. And when you spread forth [out] your hands [in prayer], I will hide my eyes from you: yea, when you make [offer] many prayers, I will not hear [listen]: your hands are full of blood*” (Isaiah 1:13-15). They were loyal churchgoers and completed all the works of *The Law of Moses*, however, they still continued sinning. He said, “*Do not pray because I will not hear you.*” Then, God told them their problem, “*Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil*” (Isaiah 1:16).

The Israelites followed the culture of The Gentile Nations around them. They took advantage of the poor, orphans and widows by allowing them to go hungry. They loved to pray and do all the rituals, including keeping The Holy Days (acting so pious), but they were hypocrites. Their great sin was following The Gentile

nations, which they loved to imitate. Basically, they were criminals transgressing the weightier matters of *The Law*, as Jesus said during His days on earth (Matthew 23:23). They made a show of tithing, but tithed only to flaunt their religion. *The Law of Moses* was supposed to create “*church-going people*” with “*restored faith*.” However, they did not change their behavior, so it was time for The Promised Land to be returned to The Gentiles. Israel was very religious but they stole, bribed, cheated and acted like their sinning neighbors (The Gentiles). It was time for The Gentiles to take control of The House of God, His *land and people*.

FOUR GENTILE KINGDOMS

Four Gentile Kingdoms ruled the world (Daniel 2). This will be the case until The Messiah comes. Now, God’s people (Israel) must keep *The Works of The Law* while living in captivity. They had to be martyred before they learned their lesson of hypocrisy. These four kingdoms ruled God’s *Kingdom* on earth. The four world rulers were Babylon, Media-Persia, Greco-Macedonia and Rome. Each Gentile *Kingdom* remained in power, as long as their rulers acknowledged God, as the absolute ruler (Daniel Chapters 7-8). That is why Nebuchadnezzar became a wild man in the wilderness for seven years. After seven years *in the wilderness* and learning his lesson, Nebuchadnezzar praised God as “The Supreme” God and Ruler. God restored him to his Kingdom as *the head of gold*. This situation is the same with every world ruler, until The Gentile *rule* is completed and Christ returns,

which will be “*the end*” of The Gentiles and Satan’s rule! *The Book of Isaiah is the prophecy about The Times of The Gentiles.* (Request the free book, *Satan’s Image*).

CHRIST’S EARTHLY MINISTRY

The time for comfort and peace has come (Isaiah 40:1-11). Judah and Israel’s *time of trouble and war* was over. God forgave the sins of His people. The Last Days were at hand. When was this prophecy to occur? A voice in *the wilderness* proclaimed it is, “*The Year of Our Lord.*” Whose voice was this? It was God’s messenger (Elijah), “*in spirit,*” who came as John, The Baptist (Matthew 11:7-11 and Malachi 3:1). This messenger announced The Coming of The Bridegroom (John 3:28-29). Jesus went to *the temple* for The Wedding Feast that God had prepared, but found *the temple* utterly corrupt (John 2:13-16). Jesus had come for His Bride during The Engagement *period*, but Judah was not ready (Matthew 22:4 and Matthew 21:43).

Therefore, invitations to The Wedding Feast were sent to the whole world (The Gentile world). This time, Christ’s *Bride* would be selected from all nations, from both *the good and the bad* (Matthew 22:8-10). These were The Last Days of Daniel 2, but not, as of yet, The End of Days (Daniel 12). In the days of Jesus’ ministry, The Roman Government was bribing the priests. King Herod (a Gentile Edomite) and The Jewish Priests selected by The Roman Government were all evil. The Sadducees were chosen as The Priests élite in Rome, yet they never believed in “*the*

resurrection.” A curse was placed upon the earth, so **The Times of The Gentiles** continued, until the fruit of its rule manifested the truth (Malachi 4:6). **Gentiles, without God, only had human nature to rely upon, which is a mixture of *good* and *evil*.**

The world truly was cursed without God. (Read Matthew 24, Luke 21 and Mark 13 to learn the outcome of The Gentiles before The Wedding Feast can take place). **For the curse to end, thousands of years would transpire** (Galatians 3:13). **The Bride has to be ready to be The Groom’s wife. Repentance is the critical issue. The Times of The Gentiles continues *the world curse*. God’s *house* (the earth) is destined to remain as a *wilderness* (just like Israel was in *the wilderness*) (Psalm 24). God’s *property* and The Holy House of God were given to The Gentiles. To this day, Judah owns part of The Land of God, but The Gentiles still claim their ownership. God calls this present conflict “*troublesome times*.” A fight is occurring in the world over who has the deed, or the right to God’s land. Politicians claim, “*Peace, peace; when there is no peace*” (Jeremiah 6:14). God’s Sabbath *rest* will not come until Jesus, The Christ, returns at the conclusion of The Times of The Gentiles (Luke 21:24). At that time, His Bride will be ready to become His Wife (Revelation 19:7). When will this be?**

CHAPTER 4

HEBREWS 3 – HEBREWS 4

Were you aware there are two chapters in *The New Testament* which define what The Christian Sabbath is all about? Chapters 3 and 4 of *The Book of Hebrews* reveal The Sabbath can be “*a day*,” “*a place*” and/or “*a condition*” – it is a broad application for a narrow concept concerning The Sabbath. There will always be debates over The Seventh Day versus *the first day*. The controversy is so divisive that some *seventh day* ministers will preach to congregations on The Seventh Day and then, again, on *the first day*. However, through careful study, they know what Paul said to the Roman Church. The Roman Church knew which day *a believer* was to worship. Little by little, after Christ was crucified, the keeping of the first day (Sunday) became popular.

ROMANS 14:5-6

Paul understood the process in becoming a – Christian was having “*Christ – In You*.” He knew this spiritual growth evolved over time. The word “*repentance*” means “*change from a human mind to Christ’s mind*” (the very mind of God) (Philippians 2:5-12). Christians become responsible for their own Salvation. The mat-

ter of Salvation is not one for the church to decide, but is *a choice* everyone must make on their own. Paul said, each person possesses *a part* of the truth. Therefore, you are required to strive and do what has been proven to be the truth. Your life's endeavor cannot ever be canceled out, "*For we know in part*" (I Corinthians 13:9). Quite clearly, *Salvation* is a personal process and does not concern any one group. Paul called "*denominational*" Christianity "*carnal*." Why? It causes division and competition in the church (I Corinthians 3). *Love, not dogmatic doctrine*, keeps The Body of Christ together. What is taught and understood doctrine is only for an individual's growth process. Being stuck on *one teaching* will stifle your growth and can lead you to The Lake of Fire (Matthew 25). It is far better to be open-minded, so new truth can be investigated and determine if this doctrine is acceptable or not. Until an individual knows every word of God concerning a doctrine, it will not be understood.

What does Paul say about weak Christians? The Greeks define the word "*weak*" as "*sickly*" or "*a lack of strength*," referring to people who lack faith and are often *self-righteous* (like Job). Paul said, "*One man esteems one day above another: another esteems every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind*" (Romans 14:5).

Your decision to worship God is your personal choice, "*He that regards the day, regards it to the Lord; and he that regards not the day, to the Lord he does not regard it. He that eats, eats to the Lord, for he gives God thanks; and he that eats not, to the Lord he eats not and*

gives God thanks” (Romans 14:6).

The meaning is clear. Gaining *spiritual growth*, or achieving the mind of God, is an individual matter. There is no “*think-tank*” to direct you. Thus, you must, individually, strive to receive The Gift of Salvation. *Denominational* or *divisive dogma* always leads to division which, in turn, creates more denominations. Even the founders of America understood the benefit of religion, as a testament of personal growth. However, they did not feel religion should be mixed with matters of government. This notion led to the *separation of church and state*. The founders were not *deists*, but *Christians* who believed *spiritual growth* was a personal choice that everyone had to make. The founders believed The United States Supreme Court had no right to decide questions about religion.

Why is this? Congress does not have the authority, or *right* to make laws concerning religion. The Supreme Court can only consider laws which Congress passes, but on the other hand, religion is transferred to each person’s preference. Whenever a religious point comes before the courts, they should, constitutionally, reject it and refuse to make a decision regarding any religion. They should only make decisions when it concerns a *law-breaking crime*, or prohibits criminals from causing harm.

The founders of the Republic understood human nature and, therefore, understood *The Bible*. Some use human imagination to tie in things like being a vegetarian with *the day*, they esteemed to God. The

problem is *The King James Bible erroneously translated the word “esteem” to have many meanings. The Greek word for “esteem” is “krima,” meaning “an indictment.” The three Greek words for “judgment” are: 1) “Krima” which means “a judgment” or “to indict;” 2) “Krino” which means “to try” or “argue” and 3) “Krisis” which means “a crisis” or “a critical or stressful time.” “Krima” is not “esteem,” but “a process of individual judgment” and is the same word translated as “judging another man’s [Christ’s] servant” (Romans 14:4). Christians are not to judge (krima) another Christian’s *spiritual growth* or their level of understanding. Spiritual growth is *an individual matter* (Philippians 2:12).*

As Christians, you are *not* permitted to argue about another’s faith, unless you are asked to comment. *Spiritual Christians* are never to offend other Christians regarding doctrine. The Greek language does not have any words that have to do with *vegetarianism*. That is why Paul said, “*For whatsoever is not of faith is sin*” (Romans 14:23). *One’s faith* reveals a Christian’s *level of spiritual understanding*. These individuals are not argumentative. God and Christ are your masters and will judge you (“*krima*”) – *spiritually*.

GOD’S SABBATH REST

Keeping The Christian Sabbath has to do with God’s Holy Spirit. Until you grow *spiritually* into God’s *rest*, you cannot receive the inheritance (dwelling in The House of God) (Hebrews 3:6-7). Adam and Eve could only be in God’s Sabbath “*rest*” by keeping The Sev-

enth Day Holy, because they refused The Tree of Life (God's Holy Spirit) and God's Sabbath "*rest*." When God finished all His *work*, it was known as God's *rest* (Hebrews 4:3-4). This meaning is very plain! On God's Sabbath *rest* (a place and a condition), God said, they would not be able to enter His *rest*. This Sabbath was more than The Seventh Day, but was Salvation which depended upon the first couple eating from The Tree of Life. From the time of Adam and Eve, God's *rest* could not be given until The Messiah came. The Promise of Christ, The Messiah, had to come first. Jesus came to Save The World, so He could restore (save) what had been lost (I John 4:14 and Matthew 18:11). This is the true Christian Sabbath which started on The Seventh Day. God's *rest* is *a condition and a place*.

SABBATH – A SIGN

The Seventh Day became a sign to *identify* God's *people*. The difference is, they had to do the work in order to enter God's *rest*. The Seventh Day Sabbath became a day of many *dos* and *do not's*. Finally, those restrictions included hundreds of oral laws (examples previously given). One restriction was *how far they could walk* on The Sabbath. Jesus changed the approach to The Keeping of The Sabbath by removing not only "*the oral laws*," but changed other restrictions that *The Law* required. When Christ came, He magnified *The Law*. They were not required to do The Works of The Law. So, when Christ and His Disciples picked corn from the edges of the cornfields, they committed no sin. They did not pick corn from sun up to sundown. They only needed a few kernels of corn be-

cause they were hungry (Exodus 16). Amazingly, Paul clearly defined The True Christian Sabbath as a future prophesied *rest*. The real Sabbath rest is defined by the word “*Sabbatismos*.”

Most translations give *this word* – the true meaning, “*There remains therefore a rest [sabbatismos] to the people of God*” (Hebrews 4:9). This Sabbath *rest* means just that. This is The True Seventh Day *rest* in The New Garden of Eden and on The New Earth with New Jerusalem, where God’s Tree of Life (The Holy Spirit) will be restored. New Jerusalem will have The Tree of Life (Salvation) with its *healing leaves*, which will restore the nations (Revelation 22:1-2).

Salvation, which is *The Gospel of The Kingdom of God*, will be restored to the world. Christ will fulfill His *purpose* and Save The World (I John 4:14). This is God’s real Sabbath *rest* and not merely a *sign* signified by a day. This is the real Christian Sabbath known as The Kingdom of God. This is God’s ultimate “*rest*” where God does *the work* which no human could possibly do. So, most of the Christian’s *divisions* are for *nothing*, except to reveal a group’s level of *spiritual understanding*.

CHAPTER 5

GOD'S REST IS NOT A SIGN

The purpose of Moses and *The Old Covenant* was to be, “*a testimony [a witness] of those things which were to be spoken after*” (Hebrews 3:5). What type of witness was this?

GOD'S GLORY

A witness usually testifies about *what happened*, “*For this man [Christ] was counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as he who has built the house has more honour than the house*” (Hebrews 3:3).

God's Sabbath “*rest*” has everything to do with God's “*glory*” which is “*Shekinah*” in Hebrew. God's *glory* is all of God's *goodness* (Exodus 33:18-19 and II Corinthians 3). Israel's problem was, they rejected God's *glory* and failed to remember this important fact. Furthermore, *The Letter of The Law* blinded them into thinking they were “*the only ones*” who had to keep God's *Law*. In reality, they were afraid of God's *glory*, especially, since Moses had to wear a vail over his face every time he came down from the mountain.

The people felt whatever God said, they would do, but they were afraid to see His *goodness* and *glory*. *The Letter of The Law* became their *righteousness* and they

took *pride in doing the work* (Deuteronomy 6:25). *The Law* blinded them, because they were afraid to see **The Glory of God** (II Corinthians 3). **Jesus brought more *glory and honor* to the nation because He built **The Temple of God** (The Church of God) (I Corinthians 3:9, 16). **God's Holy Spirit, where God's glory dwells, is in each and every *true Christian*. This allows them to become His *Holy Temple*.****

GOD'S GLORY

The Sabbath "*sign*" no longer denotes the people belonging to God. The Holy Spirit is an earnest (down payment) of God's inheritance which is now the sign of God's *people* instead of The Seventh Day Sabbath. God's Seventh Day Sabbath is *the former sign* of His people, before they received His Holy Spirit. Once God's Holy Spirit is granted, the inheritance of God's *land* is given as a down payment (Ephesians 1).

***The debate* in Acts 15 was over circumcision and God's *Law*. James, as The Bishop of The Jerusalem Church, reasoned that since God was giving His Holy Spirit to The Gentiles, this gift became *a new sign* revealed to His people.**

God's people with His Holy Spirit have an earnest (down payment) of God's *glory* which makes Christians *Holy*. Therefore, faith and God's Holy Spirit give you Salvation. The *righteousness* of *The Law* cannot give you Salvation. Christians, by having total faith in God as children, are guaranteed God's *glory* at "*the resurrection*." Jesus was their example (John 17:5).

GOD'S SEVENTH DAY SABBATH

“God’s Holy Spirit” is “*the sign of the people of God.*” What significance does The Seventh Day Sabbath play? As it turns out, it plays a big part. God’s *fourth commandment is the sign* for people *who do not have a right heart*, God’s Holy Spirit. Those who have a right heart and work for six days can rest from their work.

On The Sabbath, God does *the work*. Keeping *The Ten Commandments to The Letter* is *the first talent* that God gives. Humans can strive to receive the last talent which is *love*. They are following this path so they can receive the gift of Salvation (Matthew 19:16-17).

It is *a must* that you come to *the love* of God, just as it was for Israel and will be again during The Groom and Bride’s Engagement Period throughout The Millennium. Once God’s Holy Spirit is offered, you must *spiritually* continue to increase in faith. You must repent, or be willing, to change human nature in your human mind. When you do change, you will begin to have The Mind of God. God’s Sabbath is *a sign* for His people. You must grow to become *perfect* in order to receive Salvation (Matthew 19:20-21).

At the time of a person’s repentance, a new mind is born through God’s Holy Spirit. Ultimately, you are destined to receive *the same glory* that Christ received when He was resurrected (I Corinthians 15). God’s *Laws* are written in your heart and mind (Hebrews 10). You no longer need *The Letter of The Law* to tell you what sin is (I John 3:4). Christians must grow “*spiritually*”

in order to receive God's *righteousness* which allows them to become perfect (Matthew 5:48 and I John 5:17). Moses' *glory*, which was hidden with a vail, could only be a witness to, or a testimony of what God was doing (but could never give Salvation). Merely keeping *The Letter of The Law* is not enough, because it only tells what sin is and, is only a sign (shadow) of all the good things to come (Colossians 2:16-17).

“*The Christian Sabbath*” is “*not a day*” but a *condition* (God's Holy Spirit) on a *place* (New Jerusalem), as *The Scriptures* tell you. That is why Paul said, it is a Christian's choice to judge regarding what day a person is to *worship* God (Romans 14:6). Everyone is at a *different understanding or growth level* in their personal *faith*. For this reason, some Christians started to keep the first day of the week as if it were The Sabbath. The author of this book believes, because of The Seventh Day's physical sign, he chooses to worship on God's Seventh Day. There is no *Bible scripture* to keep the first day as a Sabbath. It is purely a matter of human choice.

Before His *resurrection*, Jesus started to change the keeping of *the fourth commandment* along with the many dos and don'ts. The change was made to *the spiritual keeping* of The Seventh Day Sabbath. *Biblically*, The Christian Sabbath is a condition of having God's Holy Spirit, as well as, being a literal place (New Jerusalem). No longer does a day *signify* God's people. Instead, it is through *the fruits* by which Christians live and show their good works. That is *the true sign*. Christ told you how you can identify

His people, “*Wherefore by their fruits you shall know them*” (Matthew 7:20). That is *a sign* of God’s people once they receive God’s Holy Spirit (Hebrews 4:7-11). The Holy Spirit reveals that when God’s people are in His *rest*, God and Jesus will be doing *the work*. God’s Holy Spirit is what makes you *Holy* like Jesus, The Son of God. “*Christ – In You*” is your Sabbath’s Rest (Matthew 11:28-30).

CHAPTER 6

CHRIST CHANGES THE SABBATH

The difference between *The Old Covenant* and *The New Covenant* is significant – you need to understand that difference. *The Old Covenant* was made for people who do not have a *right heart*. *The New Covenant* is for people who have a *right heart*.

WHAT IS A RIGHT HEART?

King David was a man who committed many heinous sins. On one occasion, he broke two of God's commandments. David murdered a man and committed adultery. Yet, God said, David was a man after His own heart. How could that be? King David realized what he had done after The Prophet, Nathan, pointed out his horrible sins. Then, David immediately prayed for repentance (Psalm 51:1). He admitted, he was a sinner from the time he was born (Psalm 51:5), and never justified his actions.

God wants to be worshipped, *spiritually*, from your inward parts and not by *outward ceremony*. Then, God will give you wisdom (Psalm 51:6). What did this need for wisdom have to do with David? God purged him with hyssop and he was clean (Psalm 51:7). God purged David after he said, "*Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me*" (Psalm

51:10). David knew God restored Salvation “*to him*” and allowed him to have a free spirit and chose *not to sin*. He decided not to be *subject to sin* (Psalm 51:12). Thus, David had a right heart. King David understood, he was a sinner from birth with a wrong heart. *A right heart* was given to David through God’s *grace, mercy* and Holy Spirit. This is the same for you and everyone else.

Only God can give you a Godly *heart*, which is a *spiritual* matter and no one can do it for you. That is why God gave *The Letter of The Law* to people who have a wrong heart. *The Law* is necessary for you and others to be able to live in a safe society. True Christians who have *right hearts* must have God’s *Law* written in their hearts. The very thought of committing a sin does not even come into their minds. They remain, totally, *faithful* and look – “To Him (Romans 7:14). David could not have *a right heart* unless God granted it to him, *spiritually*. It is the same for you. *The Ten Commandments* must be *spiritually written* in your heart, which occurs when you *repent* and you begin to grow *spiritually* (Deuteronomy 5:29).

SABBATH IN YOUR HEART

You are about to see how Christ writes *the sign* of The Sabbath in your heart (spiritually). Jesus made two amazing statements about The Sabbath First, He said, “*The sabbath was made for man,*” and, secondly, “[Jesus] *the Son of man is Lord [Master] also of the sabbath*” (Mark 2:27-28). Christ revealed the original Sabbath was in The Garden of Eden where God rested

from His *work*. Adam and Eve did not need to rest, since they had *not done any of the work*. They only benefited from being on God's property. This Sabbath *rest* was more than a day; it was, also, "*a place*" – a place where God rested from His work. This Sabbath was truly made for man. The Keeping of The Christian Sabbath is *spiritual*, since only God does *the work*. Christ changed the keeping of the physical Sabbath into *a spiritual rest*. Jesus explains why His Disciples were not guilty of breaking The Sabbath Law when picking and eating corn (Matthew 12:1-9). However, Israel was not to go out and pick manna on The Seventh Day Sabbath (Exodus 16). They were still under *The Old Covenant* – not understanding Christ brought *The New Covenant*.

So, The Disciples *did* break *The Letter of The Law*. However, they did not break *The Magnified Law* (specifically). Remember, Jesus *healed* people on The Sabbath. Jesus changed the way The Sabbath was kept from a physical keeping to a *spiritual keeping*. There were to be no more sacrifices *in the temple*. Christ was and is the sacrifice, giving *mercy* to all mankind, "*But if you had known what this meant, I will have mercy and not sacrifice, you would not have condemned the guiltless*" (Matthew 12:7). *The Fourth Commandment under The Letter of The Law (The Old Testament – The Old Covenant)* gave no mercy when people sinned. There was always a penalty or curse. Now, keeping The Sabbath becomes *a spiritual matter*. Jesus gives four examples where it is *lawful* or *legal* to break The Sabbath. The first example is when David took the shewbread in the temple (which was not lawful) for

himself and his men. The second example is, when The Priests did heavy work by lifting animals and offering sacrifices on The Sabbath. Thirdly, He had His own example of *healing* on The Sabbath (lifting a sheep out of the pit). Lifting an animal from a pit is hard work, but was allowed in order to save the sheep. The fourth example is, when Jesus and His Disciples were hungry and ate the corn from the cornfields. How did Christ change the keeping of The Sabbath, *spiritually*, as a *sign* of God's people (The Church of God)? "*How much then is a man better than a sheep? Wherefore it is lawful to do well on the sabbath days*" (Matthew 12:12). This is how Christians keep The Sabbath *spiritually*.

The Greek word translated "*do well*" is defined as "*worth more good*" which is God's "*goodness*." Jesus magnified or enlarged *The Law* making it more honorable (Isaiah 42:21). Jesus, The Christ, made The Sabbath into a condition affecting those who had a *right heart* like God.

There is a final change in *keeping* The Christian Sabbath. The difference in God's Sabbath *rest* is obvious, when comparing the two Greek words "*Sabbatismos*" and "*Sabbaton*." "*Sabbatismos*" is "*a rest which is future*" (Hebrews 4:9). "*Sabbaton*" is "*a specific day of rest*" (Colossians 2:16-17). *Sabbaton* is only a shadow or a prophecy of good things to come. The original Sabbath in The Garden was a place with a condition for Eternal Life, which was available by eating from The Tree of Life. All *the work* was done by God and not man. In God's Sabbath, He did the work *spiritually*. The Seventh Day Sabbath was only "*a day*,"

which was “*a sign*” of what would become a Paradise. This is the difference when comparing The Christian Sabbath and *man’s* Sabbath. Man’s Sabbath represented mankind resting from their personal work, which God had nothing to do with. God has nothing to do with it today. Those who had a wrong heart needed this Sabbath *sign* to tell them they were wrong (Exodus 23). How do God and Christ keep The Sabbath today? Jesus answered, those who criticized Him for working on The Sabbath, “*But Jesus answered them, My Father works hitherto and I work*” (John 5:17). (For further insight, read John 5:1-16).

The work being done by God and Christ on a Holy Day Sabbath was known as a High Sabbath Day. The Greek word for “*work*” was not “*ergo*” but “*ergazomai*” meaning “*intense labor.*” That is why Jesus gave the example of pulling the sheep out of a ditch. Anything that God and Christ do on The Sabbath is for your Salvation, including *any good works* no matter how laborious (even on The Sabbath). From that time forward (after Christ’s death), The Christian Sabbath was to be kept by Christians doing *good works*. Why? Because the original Sabbath rest, as a place, started on The Seventh Day and was considered *very good*. *Jesus came to “save (restore) what had been lost”* (Matthew 18:11). Saving life is God’s purpose even on The Sabbath and Christ will do God’s work, especially, on The Sabbath. God will work to save life on The Sabbath.

The Sabbath “*sign*” was only a type or shadow of *very good things* to come – The New Jerusalem un-

der The New Heavens and on The New Earth. This is where God and Jesus are working to restore the original Sabbath, as a place of God's *rest* from His work and not man's work. The question becomes, "*When does God and Jesus stop their work of Salvation?*" "*While it is said, To day [have God's Spirit] if you will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the [day of] provocation*" (Hebrews 3:15). If you do this, God gives the answer, "*So we [Christians] see that they could not enter in [God's rest] because of unbelief*" (Hebrews 3:19). God's warning is, "*Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, less any man fall after the same example of unbelief*" (Hebrews 4:11). You are to keep doing *good works* each and every day and are, also, to do *good works* on The Sabbath, just as God and Christ did. To enter into God's Sabbath rest, you must do *good works* each and every day. God's *Sabbath rest* is a place, which is conditional upon doing *good works* during your life. You keep The Christian Sabbath by doing *good works* – *every day* – *seven days a week*. *Your fruits will show your good works* (Matthew 7:20). *Good works* are a *sign* of being one of God's people. Now, you know, *scripturally*, what The Christian Sabbath is all about and how to keep it. Paul said, "*You, yourself, are to judge what day you decide to worship*" (paraphrased) (Romans 14). The author chooses to worship on The Seventh Day because it is a type of God's *rest* in The Garden of Eden (The New Earth – Paradise). Finally, the future Sabbath's *rest* is when all of God's "*work*" will be finished, as it was from the foundation of the world (Hebrews 4). Each Christian must choose his own day to worship God.

CHAPTER 7

GOD'S SABBATH REST

A World War will terminate The Times of The Gentiles. The weapons will be so destructive that Christ must intervene or there will be *no flesh to save*. The Gentiles are in control of God's land and had their chance. Today, Babylon is Jerusalem (Sodom and Egypt), which must be saved. The world's armies converge at Armageddon and attack The Great Whore. God's *two witnesses*, who have been martyred in the final tribulation, will be resurrected after three days. The world will be in awe as *the saints* go to meet Christ in the clouds. God's *saints* have been tried, tested and are worthy to be The Wife of Christ. The Bride is ready to meet The Groom in the clouds. Then, Christ and *the saints* who meet Him *will return to the earth*.

GOD'S REST ESTABLISHED

Jesus, as King of Kings, will be Lord over the world. This event occurs when Jesus *returns* to establish The Millennial Kingdom of God. David will be restored to life to rule over all Israel. He will rule those who were dead and, then, were resurrected as David was. These happenings are *the physical resurrection* (Ezekiel 37). Now, all Israel can be saved (Romans 11). Jesus, as

King of Kings (over The World), and His Bride are ready to take 1,000 years to announce their engagement to the world. David is King over The Twelve Tribes of Israel, and all Israel will be converted along with the rest of the world (except for Gog and Magog). Israel, who was *last*, once again will become *first* to have their chance to get *a right heart*. The remainder of the inhabitants of the world (both the good and the bad) will be invited to The Wedding.

God has seven houses: 1) The Garden of Eden; 2) The Tent or Tabernacle in the wilderness; 3) Solomon's Temple; 4) Herod's Temple; 5) Christ's Spiritual Temple, known as The Church of God; and 6) Christ's Millennial Temple. The last house will come as God's final spiritual house, which will also be under The New Heavens and on The New Earth in New Jerusalem. It will be The Mother of All (Galatians 4:26). The House of God, during the engagement period, is *a physical temple* designed to bring physical, unconverted people to Christ. *The Old Covenant – Law of Moses* is reinstated to convert the world, so the people can attend The Wedding Feast – God's true Sabbath *rest* (Sabbatismos rest) (Hebrews 4:9). This is a future Sabbath's *rest* for God's people, who believe and have faith in God and Christ. During *the engagement period*, Christ rebuilds the physical temple for the unconverted world. After The Millennium, Satan will be released for a short time when Gog and Magog revolt. Then, Christ will defeat the wicked armies, and The White Throne Judgment will commence. This last battle reveals the rebelliousness of Gog and Magog and who they really are.

THE JUDGMENT

In The White Throne Judgment (The Last Resurrection), the sheep and goats are separated. The sheep will be invited to The Wedding Feast as guests (Christ's Bride was resurrected in The First Resurrection). Both are worthy to attend The Feast, which is God's Sabbath *rest*. The goats must go into The Lake of Fire to give their spiritual lives for the first time and, then, be resurrected as *spirit beings*. They complete their ordeal in *outer darkness* (Jude 12-13). They are resurrected, but they will only be able to wander *in outer darkness* (a mental state of mind), which will be a *spiritual growth process* (Leviticus 25).

GOD'S SABBATH REST

The time for the restoration of The True Sabbath's *rest* has arrived. The Alpha (garden house) is now The Omega, which is God's first *rest* lasting all the way to God's last Seventh Sabbath's *rest*. The Sabbath *rest* that began in The Garden of Eden continues as The Rest of God. God will do the work and will make *all things new* (Revelation 21:1-6). The three groups of *spiritual beings* in God's spiritual kingdom are:

- 1) **Christ and His Wife** (The Church of God and Israel) will live in God's Holy House, who comprise The Temple in New Jerusalem.
- 2) **The Court of Israel and The Court of The Gentiles** are The Guests at The Wedding Feast. These guests are allowed to come into

New Jerusalem and bring their *glory*, as their spiritual growth increases year-by-year. God and Christ are, literally, The Temple giving *mercy* to all and, eventually, give *mercy* to save everyone.

The Guests will continue to grow in The Holy Spirit as they eat of The Tree of Life (Revelation 22:2). The New Heavens and on The New Earth will be *spiritual* and *eternal*. Salvation is for all eternity (Revelation 21:6-7). The Wedding Feast and Salvation, are both – Eternal. God is “The I Am” or whoever He chooses to be, “*eternally*,” as a Spiritual Creator (Romans 8:19-28).

- 3) This group is located in *outer darkness*, which is *a state of mind*. These people repented in The Lake of Fire, but must seek a reprieve from God’s prison, to be rehabilitated to be come like Christ, as they weep and wail in their sorrow. Those seeking reprieve do not come out of *torment* until they pay *the last far-thing* (Matthew 5:25-26).**

This third group needs to eat from the healing leaves (God’s Holy Spirit) floating down The Great River, which is flowing from The Throne of God. With the nourishment from these leaves, they can grow into Christ’s stature and, in time, become God’s Sons. They cannot enter God’s Holy Seventh House (New Jerusalem) and are left outside of The Wedding Feast (Revelation 22:14-15). God’s *rest* for His people is The Wedding Feast itself (Hebrews 4:9), The True Sabbath

for Christians. The real Sabbath *rest* is far more than The Seventh Day. The Christian Sabbath consists of The Sons of God, who are His true witnesses. Otherwise, they are *a sign* of His people and His Sabbath *rest*. The Sabbath is truly “*a delight*.”

Babylon and The Tree of The Knowledge of Good and Evil no longer exist. Sin, in the flesh, no longer exists, as it will be destroyed. In God's New Garden of Eden, there is no Tree of The Knowledge of Good and Evil. God will make all things new. *Human nature and survival of the fittest* no longer exist. Babylon – The Great Whore, is destroyed and, therefore, there is no sin (I Corinthians 15:54-57). Only The Tree of Life is available, which has *the potential* for “Universal Salvation” and is the ultimate goal of God's *true Sabbath*.

The Sabbath is no longer a day fulfilling different Godly purposes, but it is *a way of life* (*The Torah*) which leads to Salvation. It is *The Torah, spiritually*, without *The Law of Moses* kept in *The Letter*. As “*spirit beings*,” there is no need to try to survive as the fittest. Now, everyone is *faithful*. Those in *outer darkness* must become like Christ as the leaves of The Tree of Life heal them. *The Torah* is shooting the arrow straight and hitting the target. Your target should be Salvation, *the message* of The Gospel. The Kingdom of God is The Christian Sabbath (God's *rest*), where only God will complete the work. God did the work in the beginning (The Creation). God will do “*the work*” (Salvation) in the future, also. *God's Sabbath rest* (Sabbatismos) is a condition (Holy temple) and a

place (New Jerusalem). **God's Wedding Feast will be the process of Salvation. God's Sabbath "sign" is intended to show how everything is very good (Genesis 1:31). As Sons of God in His Kingdom, you and every Christian are The Sabbath "sign" in God's rest.**

Now, you will be able to put together God's Plan of Salvation from His very word – *The Bible*. It is time for all Christians to stop bickering and look to *the big picture* about The Sabbath. This picture shows you *The Process of Salvation*, which leads you to Life Eternal. You must picture yourself being there.

If you pray and study The Word of God, you will be given *a sound mind*. You will have put a down payment on the best home you will ever live in and your mortgage will be paid in full (you reach *the love* stage). You will be given The Gift of Eternal Life in The House of God and be with God and His Son. In this Eternal Paradise, you will never have to pay any property taxes. God will take care of everything for you.