
Pilgrims Journal

“They confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. Wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for He hath prepared for them a city.” (Heb 11:13–16)

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A Great Wonder In Heaven

And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: and she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered” (Rev 12:1-2). Here, the Apostle John beholds a great wonder in heaven. A careful study of the holy Scriptures reveals that this woman is none other than the Spirit-baptized church of the New Testament time. The Apostle Paul, speaking of the church writes, *“But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all” (Gal 4:26).* The church is also called the “wife” (Rev 19:7; 21:9). This was a spectacular vision indeed!

The woman whom the Apostle John saw in his vision was seen in heaven. This signifies that the position of the church or the Spirit-baptized believers now is in the heavenly places. *“Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) and hath raised us up together, and **made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus**” (Eph 2:5-6).* Since the Lord Jesus Christ is seated at the right hand of the Father in heaven, the church which is His body also finds its position in heaven, in the spiritual sense.

*“Who being the brightness of His glory, and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, **sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high**” (Heb 1:3).* Both Christ and the church are a wonder and a sign. *“Behold, I and the children whom the Lord hath given me are for signs and for wonders in Israel from the Lord of hosts, which dwelleth in mount Zion” (Isa 8:18).* Jesus is called Wonderful!

Clothed With The Sun

The Lord Jesus Christ is called *the Sun of righteousness* (Mal 4:2). When Jesus was transfigured on the mount, His face was radiant as the sun and He was seen gloriously robed with His inner righteousness. The woman being clothed with the sun points to the fact that the church is covered and filled with the very righteousness and glory of Christ. Jesus reveals His highest righteousness and His greatest glory in and through the church.

Imputed & Imparted Righteousness

In the Word of God, we read of two kinds of righteousness: namely, imputed righteousness and imparted righteousness. *Imputed righteousness is what we receive as we are reckoned righteous when we believe in the atoning death of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

*“But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, **his faith is counted for righteousness.** Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works”* (Rom 4:5-6). The Apostle Paul’s desire was that he should be found in Christ not having his own righteousness but *“that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith”* (Phil 3:9). **Imparted righteousness is what we receive from Christ as a gift.** God concludes, *“there is none righteous, no, not one”* (Rom 3:10). The Prophet Isaiah says, *“we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away”* (Isa 64:6). But Jesus came to impart His righteousness by His sacrifice. *“But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, Who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption”* (1Cor 1:30).

The Moon Under Her Feet

The woman standing on the moon, or having the moon under her feet, primarily speaks of the church which stands by the grace of God. *“By Whom [Jesus] also we have access by faith into **this grace wherein we stand,** and rejoice in hope of the glory of God”* (Rom 5:2). Even as the moon has no light or glory of its own, but must receive all its light

from the sun, we have no light or life of our own unless the Lord Jesus Christ, the Light of life, shines upon us. *“In Him was life; and the life was the light of men. That was the **true light,** which lighteth every man that cometh into the world”* (Jn 1:4,9). True light and true grace, which are found in Christ, make the church glorious and strong. *“This is the **true grace of God wherein ye stand**”* (1Pet 5:12). To appropriate the true grace of God in our lives, we need to humble ourselves before God. *“He giveth more grace. Wherefore He saith, ‘God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.’ Submit yourselves therefore to God”* (Jam 4:6-7).

The moon also signifies some of the divine virtues of the bride of Christ such as holiness, peace, faithfulness, and the fear of God. In Song of Solomon, **the bride is spoken of as fair as the moon. This speaks of her beauty of holiness.** *“Who is she that looketh forth as the morning, **fair as the moon,** clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners?”* (SS 6:10). *“Thou art all fair, my love; there is no spot in thee”* (SS 4:7). The spotless life of the bride enables her to enjoy the peace of God. In Psalm 72:7, the **moon signifies the peace of God.** *“In his days shall the righteous flourish; and abundance of peace so long as the moon endureth.” **Perfect holiness is accompanied by perfect peace.** “Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord”* (Heb 12:14).

Faithfulness is a divine quality seen in the saints who form the bride. ***The moon can be compared to faithfulness.*** “*It shall be established forever as the moon, the faithful witness in the heavens*” (Psa 89:37 AMP). The Lord Jesus Christ is called Faithful. May the Lord grant us the grace to be faithful unto the end. Finally, ***the moon signifies the fear of God.*** “*They shall fear Thee as long as the...moon endures, throughout all generations*” (Psa 72:5). To be perfected in the holiness of God, the fear of God is indispensable. “*Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God*” (2Cor 7:1).

A Crown Of Twelve Stars

The woman being crowned speaks of the call of the church to live a victorious life. The Spirit-baptized saints of God are expected to overcome the world, the devil, and the flesh, that they may eventually reign with Christ. “*To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with Me in My throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with My Father in His throne*” (Rev 3:21). The “stars” are said to be the “angels” or the servants of God in the church. “*The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches*” (Rev 1:20). The twelve stars can refer to the twelve apostles of the Lamb and the sound

teachings which we have received from the apostles. We are exhorted to wage our spiritual warfare according to the apostolic teachings and live an overcoming life. Otherwise, we will not receive the overcomer’s crown. “*And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully*” (2Tim 2:5). To strive lawfully means our engagement in spiritual warfare must be according to the rules of doctrine. Saint Paul exhorts us to “*walk by the same rule (doctrine)*” (Phil 3:16).

The Woman In Travail

The Apostle John saw the groaning and the travail of the woman to bring forth a child. This signifies how the church or the Spirit-baptized people of God are groaning and travailing in prayer to be sanctified and be found perfect at the coming of the Lord. True children of God are groaning in prayer, with the assistance of the Holy Spirit, for the redemption of their bodies. “*And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body. Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered*” (Rom 8:23,26).

For our body to be redeemed from the bondage of corruption, that it may be fashioned like unto the glorious body of the Lord Jesus at His coming, we need to labor in unceasing prayer and intercession. *“For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: **Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto His glorious body, according to the working whereby He is able even to subdue all things unto Himself**”* (Phil 3:20-21).

Pray Without Ceasing

Only praying saints will make it in the rapture; others will be left behind to face the great tribulation at the hand of the Antichrist. Please remember the warning of Christ: *“And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. **Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man**”* (Lk 21:34-36). Epaphras, conscious of this vital truth, was always laboring fervently in prayer for the church, *“that it may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.”* (Col 4:12). Let us overcome the sin of prayerlessness by diligently seeking the face of God in these last days!

The Man-Child

“And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to His throne” (Rev 12:5). Although the woman was all glorious, *she* was not taken up to the throne of God, but the manchild whom she brought forth. This reveals the truth concerning the select rapture. The words of Jesus corroborate this fact: *“I tell you, in that night there shall be two men in one bed; the one shall be taken, and the other shall be left. Two women shall be grinding together; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Two men shall be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left”* (Lk 17:34-36). Not all the Spirit-baptized people who are part of the church now will be raptured; only the overcoming saints (the manchild) will be caught up when Jesus comes. As the church, we have been given all these blessings of righteousness, grace, doctrines, etc., in order to live an overcoming life. But it is the manchild who appropriates all these provisions to their full extent, lives an overcoming life, and thereby becomes the bride.

Dear child of God, the Father has chosen you in Christ Jesus before the foundation of the world that you might be the bride of His beloved Son, Jesus Christ. You are the elect of God. Therefore, march forward in victory in this New Year 2011! The grace of God will be sufficient

for you. He will neither fail you nor forsake you. Let us confess and say: *“Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever”* (Psa 23:6). **The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.** □

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That He May Dwell Among Us



PART 2 — BELONGING COMPLETELY TO GOD

Christ gave Himself for us on the cross of Calvary. When we come to a personal realization of this fact, our lives are changed forever. By the grace of God, Jesus tasted death for every man. When we realize He died for us so that we might live, it dawns on us that our lives belong completely to Him. “Belonging completely to God” is one of the things the altar in the outer court of the tabernacle speaks to us about.

The altar was the place where a needy man could meet with God. Even if he felt his sacrifice, brought with a sincere heart, was insufficient for such a great and holy God, something happened when that sacrifice was placed upon the altar. Anything that touched that altar was made holy (Exo 29:37). So, even today God invites us to come and make a covenant with Him on the basis of the death of Christ on Calvary, and then by giving ourselves **wholly and entirely to God**.

A Broken & Contrite Heart

There was no shortage of animal sacrifices in those days of the law. But was God pleased with all the shedding of blood and

all the fire and smoke? It became a stench in God’s nostrils. He grew weary of all those things. What was God really looking for? David hit it on the head when he said, “*For Thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: Thou delightest not in burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise*” (Psa 51:16-17). It is only by having a broken and contrite heart that we can walk in love and be the kind of **living sacrifice** God is looking for. Without a broken heart we cannot rid ourselves of bitterness, anger and speaking evil of others. By holding on to our self-righteousness we cannot be sanctified. We can only be kind to one another, and forgive one another, if we first put off bitterness and unfor-giveness. “*And grieve not the Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: and be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you. Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; and walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given Himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savour*” (Eph 4:30-5:2).

Only a heart free from evil things can be found blameless before the Lord when He comes. Paul wrote these profound words about blameless hearts to the church: “*And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another,*

and toward all men, even as we do toward you: to the end He may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints” (1Thess 3:12-13).

Perfect To Be Accepted

Concerning certain sacrifices given to God, the Lord said, *“It shall be perfect to be accepted; there shall be no blemish therein”* (Lev 22:21). Seeing how we are not yet perfect and have blemishes, we are convinced that there is yet a work of perfection and transformation to be done in our lives. That work is necessary for us to be caught up at the coming of the Lord. The Israelites could not offer that which was blind or broken. They could not offer something that lacked any parts or had extra parts. These would not be accepted by God. God rebuked Israel for such offerings. *“And if ye offer the blind for sacrifice, is it not evil? And if ye offer the lame and sick, is it not evil? offer it now unto thy governor; will he be pleased with thee, or accept thy person? saith the Lord of hosts”* (Mal 1:8).

Sanctifying Fire

God has a plan to have a perfect church to be offered up to Christ at His coming. Just as Jesus offered Himself without spot to God through the eternal Spirit, **the Holy Spirit is working to make us a perfect offering** acceptable to Him. The fire that burned upon the altar was a type of the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit.

The fire upon the altar was to be burning all **night unto the morning**. *“This is the law of the burnt offering: it is the burnt offering, because of the burning upon the altar all night unto the morning, and the fire of the altar shall be burning in it”* (Lev 6:9). This shows us how we are to be on fire for God, filled with the Holy Spirit, now in these days, until the secret coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. Paul wrote to the Romans, *“And knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. **The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light”*** (Rom 13:11-12). Jesus is the bright and morning star and **His coming is compared to the morning**.

When the sacrifice was consumed to ashes, the priest was to carry the ashes to a clean place. When Jesus comes, He will gather the church that is sanctified, and carry us up to the throne of God where we shall forever be with Him. For this to happen in our lives, we need to put off every thing that pertains to our old sinful nature. “Ashes” are all that remain of something completely burned. Likewise, our old self must be burned up and consumed—turned into ashes. Now is the time to stir up the gifts of the Holy Spirit, to rekindle the fire in our lives. *“The fire shall ever be burning upon the altar; it shall never go out”* (Lev 6:13). This was the law of the burnt offering.

When God Himself sent the fire upon the sacrifice it indicated that He had accepted the sacrifice. Let us seek the Lord in these last days so that the fire of God will burn in our lives.

“And Moses and Aaron went into the tabernacle of the congregation, and came out, and blessed the people: and the glory of the Lord appeared unto all the people. And there came a fire out from before the Lord, and consumed upon the altar the burnt offering and the fat: which when all the people saw, they shouted, and fell upon their faces” (Lev 9:23-24).

Repairing The Altar

Before Elijah offered his sacrifice upon mount Carmel, he repaired the altar of the Lord that was broken down. How many altars are broken down today? How many hearts are cold and hard, unable to receive the fire from the presence of God? When the fire fell it consumed the sacrifice, the wood, the stones, the dust, and it licked up the water that had been poured upon the offering. That is the kind of fire we need in our lives: **an all consuming fire**. Nothing can quench that fire. Every thing that can be burned up in our lives will be consumed. Hallelujah! Only that which is real, which God desires, will remain. Ashes, only ashes.

The Cross

When David offered his sacrifice to God on the threshing-floor of Ornan the Jebusite, God answered him from heaven by fire upon the altar he built. David had refused to offer to God of that which cost him nothing. This altar speaks to us

of the cross. Even so today, God is calling us to deny ourselves, **take up our cross daily, and follow Jesus**. There is no other way to be His disciple. And for those who have ears to hear, soon there will be a shout from heaven, *“Gather My saints together unto Me, those that have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice”* (Psa 50:5).

Look what happened when Solomon prayed at the dedication of the house of God. *“Now when Solomon had made an end of praying, the fire came down from heaven, and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the Lord filled the house. And the priests could not enter into the house of the Lord, because the glory of the Lord had filled the Lord’s house. And when all the children of Israel saw how the fire came down, and the glory of the Lord upon the house, they bowed themselves with their faces to the ground upon the pavement, and worshipped, and praised the Lord, saying, ‘For He is good; for His mercy endureth forever’”* (2Chr 7:1-3). Let the fire fall. Let the glory of the Lord fill His church.

Sacrifice! Sacrifice! **The house of God is built on sacrifice**. Upon the Rock Who is Christ, the sacrificial Lamb, the church is built. Solomon built the house of God on Mount Moriah, where Abraham had offered up Isaac as a burnt offering to God. There, David had paid a price to offer a sacrifice to God. Out of the fire upon the altar of sacrifice will come a glorious church, filled with God’s own divine nature.

Fiery Trials

There will be fiery trials for His church to endure. The fire upon the altar also speaks to us of those fiery trials. *“Every man’s work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man’s work of what sort it is”* (1Cor 3:13). But those **trials will make her pure**. *“But who may abide the day of His coming? And who shall stand when He appeareth? For He is like a refiner’s fire, and like fullers’ soap: and He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and He shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness. Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the Lord, as in the days of old, and as in former years”* (Mal 3:2-4). This offering speaks of the sanctified church which will be caught up at the coming of Christ. In our times of trials, may we seek to offer unto the Lord a true offering that will be acceptable unto the Lord: on His altar, when He returns. ◻

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John Kollie was born on July 19, 1971 in Losa County, Liberia. He faced many hardships and trials growing up in Liberia, and as violence in the country escalated, he was able to escape to Sierra Leone for refuge. But the war eventually followed to Sierra Leone and John underwent many adversities there as well.

John always had a desire for the things of God and a longing to know the Lord more. The fear of God in his life led him to take a correspondence Bible course where he could learn more of the Word of God. After completing this course, he was asked if he wanted to take water baptism and was given the name of a Brother Bill Kallon from the New Testament Church in Freetown, Sierra Leone to contact. He did not contact him right away, but instead began visiting various churches. Every Sunday he would attend a different church, but was never satisfied with any one of them because he did not feel peace in those places. One day, his landlord invited him to come to church with him. As soon as John walked into that church, the Spirit of God told him that this was the place he belonged. He was later shocked to find out

that the pastor was Brother Bill Kallon and the church was the New Testament Church. Brother Bill disciplined John, and John experienced true salvation. Subsequently, he took water baptism and received the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

While in Freetown, John contracted a stomach virus that made him very sick. Many thought he was going to die and some family members even had dreams of him dying. This all occurred during the rebel movement and food was scarce—no one knew where their next meal would come from. However, John had decided to commit his whole body, soul and spirit to the Lord. He had faith in the Lord and confidence in the promises of God. He believed that the Lord was able to heal him, so he continued trusting the Lord. The Lord mercifully provided all his needs and was faithful to His word and healed John completely. From that time onwards, John knew the Lord as his Healer and trusted Him with all his heart.

John continued in the New Testament Church for many years and was active in a variety of ministries. He had a love for souls and was always eager to share the Word of God and the love of Christ with them. Along with being a faithful member, he taught Sunday School, ushered, and participated in the security ministry. He was commonly known as the “Hallelujah, Amen” brother because, as the Word of God was being preached, he would always shout out “Hallelujah!” and “Amen!” Even if he was in the back row or involved in the security ministry, you could hear John shouting “Amen!”

There were many times when John could have lost his life because of the war and the rebel movement. Once when he was in high school, an army came through and beat up many of the students, including John. Another time when the rebels took control of Freetown they came searching for all the Liberians too. Many were killed and John knew his life was in imminent danger. Yet the Lord was John's refuge and he was protected from these series of killings. Even though those years were filled with hardships, yet the life of Christ was always seen through John.

He was also called "Technical John" because whenever he was in charge of the rations he would always distribute them fairly and honestly and would never bend the rules or cheat. The people would always be happy when John was in charge because they knew they would get the right portion. There were times when he was threatened, but he always maintained a good spirit and persevered to do that which was right. He helped many refugees during their time of need.

In 2003, John married Yeamata and the Lord blessed their lives together. They went through a hard trial when their first child died shortly after birth, but they kept their confidence and hope in the Lord. After enduring much adversity in Liberia and Sierra Leone, the Lord opened a way for John and Yeamata to come to the United States in 2005. They arrived with only two suitcases and a hope of

building a new life, free from war, hardships and famine. Thereafter, the Lord blessed them with two other children, Esther and John Jr.

They continued attending the New Testament Church in Cincinnati, Ohio and the beautiful quality of faithfulness was seen in his life. He would often lead the worship services and help with the setting up of the sanctuary. He had a willingness to help the ministry in any way possible. He had a great zeal for the Lord and the house of God. He put the Lord first in everything he did. If there was a meeting in church, John would be there. On Sunday, Wednesday and Saturday, John could always be found in the house of God. The joy of the Lord could always be seen on his countenance and he had a pure love and devotion for Christ.

Even at home when no one else was watching, John was extremely faithful to the Lord and lived a disciplined life. He would get up every morning at 5 AM to read his Bible and pray. At times, when he had exams at school he found himself falling behind in his Bible reading. This was a cause of great concern for John and then his top priority would be to immediately catch up. Whenever there was a problem in the family or Yeamata was sick, John would always say, "You need to read your Bible more; you need to pray more and seek the Lord." He had a tremendous love for the Word of God and prayer. He taught his children the same thing.

They would have devotions every morning and every evening. Since John was known as the “Hallelujah, Amen” brother, he also taught his son, John Jr, to do the same. After every meeting Junior would shout out three Hallelujahs, even in family devotions. If Junior ever said it half-heartedly, John would correct him and have him say it again.

In the last month of his life, John became sick. He had some breathing difficulties and swelling in his feet but he kept on praising God and trusting Him. As he endured this affliction, others saw how his life was being changed into the character of Christ. He was listening to a series of messages on the life of Joseph and the truths he learned were transforming him. He became very tender and gentle and would cry when he remembered the goodness of the Lord in his life. One week before he passed away, during the family devotion time, the Lord spoke to John to rededicate his whole family to the Lord. So one by one, with tears in his eyes, John was dedicating each one to the Lord. When members of the church would call to check up on him, he would always try to encourage them to keep pressing forward. Then he would, with tears of gratitude, tell his wife what a blessed fellowship and family of God they have after seeing the love of all the brethren.

The Sunday before he passed away, some of the brethren from Columbus were able to visit him and he was so blessed and encouraged. Yet the brethren that came left even more

blessed after they saw the joy of the Lord on John’s face in spite of the trial.

John always had confidence in the Lord and never doubted His word or His promises. The night before he went to be with the Lord, Yeamata asked him what the Lord was speaking to him. John replied that the Lord was telling him to “stay faithful.” And that John did until the very end. He would often tell Yeamata, “What else do you need in this world? God has provided so much for us. God has been so good to us.” Whenever John would testify he would always start by saying, “God is good, all the time. And all the time, God is good!” John always kept that heart of gratitude towards the Lord and it was always seen on his face as well.

John never complained about the pain or sufferings he endured but always saw the hand of the Lord in everything. On Friday morning, December 10, 2010, John peacefully entered into the presence of the Lord whom he loved so dearly. Our loss in this earth is heaven’s great gain now and for eternity. “His Lord said unto him, ‘Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord’” (Matthew 25:21). □

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IN HIS HOUSE

PART 2 — THE TREES

In this series, we are investigating items revealed by the scriptures as being included or incorporated in the different earthly habitations of God. Whether these items are to be understood literally or symbolically, we find many of the things written about are unexpected or unusual. Yet everything in God's Word is put there for a purpose and is profitable for our perfection. In this installment we will examine different trees the Bible records as being planted in or becoming part of God's house. The characteristics of these trees correspond to some of the qualities that are seen in the bride of Christ: who is the true heavenly and eternal dwelling place of God (Rev 21:2-3).

From the very beginning of the Bible unto its end, trees are mentioned. They were instrumental in the fall of man as well as in his salvation. After Adam and Eve stole from the *tree of the knowledge of good and evil*, the curse came

upon mankind and we were blocked and barred from the *tree of life* (Gen 3:24). But through the death of Jesus Christ on an *accursed tree*, we find the way to the tree of life has been restored to us (Gal 3:13; Rev 22:2). In New Jerusalem, this same tree is seen in and on both sides of the city's street and river, shading, sustaining and healing the nations. The etymology of the Old Testament word for tree shows that it is known for its strength, stability and firmness. They do not move from their place, no matter the season or storm. Trees stand and wait for the good gifts of sun, wind and rain to come down to them from above in order to survive and thrive. Always reaching toward heaven, hungry for the light, they stay firmly anchored as they drink from hidden waters. All throughout their long lives they keep on growing, flowering and bearing fruit. **Saints should stand and wait on God in the same way.**

Olive Tree

The first tree that we will study is the *olive tree*. It is a lovely, long-lived, fruitful evergreen (Hos 14:6). Oil pressed from its abundant fruit was the main source of lighting, cooking and healing in ancient Israel. Its oil was also a symbol of the Spirit's anointing and was used in the ordination of prophets, priests and kings. This tree has very strong and deep roots with nourishing sap that became proverbial for our spiritual forefathers and the nation

of Israel (Rom 11:17-18; Psa 128:3). In Psalm 52 David testified, *“I am like a green olive tree in the house of God.”* We know that historically and literally there were no trees growing in God’s dwelling places. Not only this, when Israel’s sweet psalmist sang this song there was no house of God even built yet. It was only after David’s death that his son Solomon built the first temple. The context for which this Psalm was written, was while David was on the run, pursued by the jealous King Saul who was trying to kill him. Driven away from family, home and even his country, David had no secure dwelling place. Even David’s mere visit to the tabernacle led to its priests being slaughtered by evil men. In this unsettled situation David confessed that **he was permanently planted in God’s presence**. In contrast to this, he proclaims that evil men will be plucked out of their dwelling places and rooted out of the land of the living by God (Psa 52:5; Pro 12:3). There may be times for us also when it seems we have nowhere to stand, evil is all around us and everyone and everything is against us. But like Noah’s and John the Baptist’s dove, the **Holy Spirit will reveal to us a secure resting place** (Gen 8:11). Our peace and security does not depend on our situation, environment or current condition, but on our abiding in God’s presence. Even with no earthly evidence, like David, we too can confidently

confess by faith, *“I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever”* (Psa 23:6). Rooted, grounded and established in Jesus Christ through faith, hope and love we will never be moved and never die. **By the anointing of the Holy Spirit we will remain evergreen like the olive**, forever fruitful and flourishing no matter where we are found (Jn 15:4; Eph 3:17; Col 1:23).

Olive Oil

As a final point about the olive tree, we see that it was also literally in God’s house. **Olive oil was used to anoint** everything in the tabernacle, including the priests (Exo 30:25). Pure beaten olive oil was used in the lamps that were continually burning on the seven-branched candlestick of beaten work (Exo 27:20; 25:31). This golden lampstand was made after the pattern of the **almond**: another tree included in God’s house. The name almond in Hebrew sounds like the word for “watching.” The almond is the first tree to bloom in Israel so its name became a proverb to show that **God is wakeful and watchful to fulfill His word** (Jer 1:11-12; Num 17:8). It was olive trees that were carved to make the two cherubim that stood around the ark and also the wood chosen to construct the two doors used to enter into the temple. Two is the number of witnesses (Deut 17:6). Thus olive trees are a type of **anointed witnesses** that give entrance and illumination to those lost in darkness outside of the kingdom of God (1Kgs 6:23; Zech 4; Rev 11:4).

Through His Spirit God will make us His witnesses to the whole world. Then like the olive and other trees we will **stand firm giving light, strength and healing** to the nations and be *“called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He might be glorified”* (Isa 61:1-3).

Date Palm Tree

Next we will study two trees that are mentioned together in Psalm 92 which, in a type, are said to be planted in the house of God. These are the *date palm* and the *cedar of Lebanon*. *“The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon. Those that be planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God. They shall still bring forth fruit in old age: they shall be fat and flourishing; to shew that the Lord is upright: He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him”* (Psa 92:12-15). Like the olive, both of these trees are long-lasting evergreens. Although the date palm tree and cedars of Lebanon are almost opposite in size and shape, yet both display qualities needed in our lives if we are to have a permanent place in God’s heavenly habitation. The palm tree grows in only one direction: **tall, straight and upright** with no branching (Jer 10:5). In ancient times it was a metaphor for graceful beauty (SS 7:6-7). The Hebrew word for the palm is “tamar” which means to be erect. Tamar was the name given to fair

daughters of David (2Sam 13:1; 14:27). It was also the name of another ancestor of Jesus, Tamar, the daughter-in-law of Judah and mother of his twin sons. Judah said of her, *“she has been more righteous than I”* (Gen 38:26). For children of God, it is the **imparted righteousness of Christ in the inner man that makes them beautiful**—irrespective of their physical appearance. Finally the date palm bears abundant sweet and rich fruit year after year. Saints also must keep on bearing fruit and **growing in righteousness** all throughout their lives.

Cedars Of Lebanon

The cedar is a very lofty, broad and stately tree. It was considered a king among trees and was used in royal palaces. Like the olive, the cedar tree is full of rich sap. When cut, the wood is free from knots and has a **sweet and lasting fragrance**. Even after becoming timber, it continues to resist insects and corruption and gives off a sweet scent when burned. This may be why God chose cedar wood as one of the ingredients used in the ceremonial cleansing of lepers and in the water of cleansing made from the ashes of the Red Heifer (Lev 14; Num 19). The reddish hue of cedar wood would also serve as a reminder of the **blood of sprinkling**. We too have to **preserve in ourselves the savor of our risen Savior**; throughout our lifetime and through Him

overcoming all the corruptions of this present evil world (2Cor 2:14). The steady growth of the cedar is not just in its great height and breadth, but also in the much more difficult unseen growth underground. Like the Biblical word for tree itself, the Hebrew word for cedar comes from a root that means “**to be firm**” which aptly describes its nature. Some of them have stood for thousands of years. Placed in front of the temple of Solomon were two colossal pillars called Jachin and Boaz (1Kgs 7:21). Translated these names mean “**in Him is strength**” and “**He shall establish.**” Instead of bearing any edifice or weight, these columns, like two witnesses, stood as a constant reminder that it is the **Lord who bears and enables us to stand firm unto the end**. The Almighty God who plants and uproots the cedars with just His word is our strength and righteousness (Psa 104:16; 29:5). Even if we have but little power of our own, through Jesus Christ we can overcome and become **unmovable pillars in His eternal temple** (Eph 6:10; Rev 3:12).

Flourishing In Him

Like the olive, these two trees were not just symbolically in God’s house, but also literally. We read that cedar wood was used throughout the temple; and on this wood and on the olive doors, images of palm trees and angels were engraved everywhere (1Kgs 6:9,29,35). We can see the

qualities of all these trees combined in the **true dwelling place of God, which is the bride of Christ**, who will display the beauty and strength of God’s nature through eternity. The word most often used in the Psalms for these trees is “flourishing.” **We will only flourish spiritually as we abide in Jesus and He in us**. He is our life. Only in His presence can we live forever and produce fruit that remains. The end of the saint’s life should be like the ending of this Psalm: fruitful, flourishing and always proclaiming like the palm, that God is righteous and upright, and showing like the cedar, that He is our Rock that cannot be moved.

Shittim Tree

Lastly we will look at a tree that was not said to be planted in God’s house. It has none of the impressive or valuable qualities mentioned previously, but it was the wood that was actually used to construct almost all of God’s first earthly habitation: the tabernacle in the wilderness. This is the *shittim tree*, a member of the Acacia family. From its wood was made the ark of the covenant, the table of shewbread, the altars of incense and burnt offering, and the boards, bars, staves and pillars. The shittim is a gnarled, twisted and often stunted tree. It is not beautiful or fruitful, only producing thorns. Yet it thrives in some of the worst conditions, soils and slopes in the world. Because other trees will not bear such harsh

environments (extremes of heat and cold, dryness, sand-blasting desert winds, etc.) **only the shittim was there when God needed it.** In normal circumstances, it would not be used in important or valuable construction. But it was available! When Jehovah found Moses on the “backside” of the desert and spoke to him out of the burning bush, that bush was probably the shittim. Whatever kind of bramble bush it was, it was not in the public view or much valued. But like the wick of a lamp, it burned without being consumed and brought the wanderer to the light. As the shittim was made into the dwelling place of God, **every bit of its wood was overlaid with gold which speaks of tried and tested faith** (1Pet 1:7). Embossed with bronze in the altar of burnt offering, the wood was not consumed. **Thus every scratch and scar, every wound and welt on the wood became something beautiful, preserved and precious** (Isa 53; Jn 20:27; Rev 5:6). The same is true for us also. The light sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared to the eternal weight of glory which shall be revealed in us. If we make ourselves available to Him, God will use us and make something eternal and precious out of our lives. Whoever, whatever, wherever you are, God will use you for the praise of His glory, now and forevermore. ◻

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Joshua, the son of Nun, from the tribe of Ephraim was originally named Hoshea, which literally means “salvation.” However, some point during the wilderness journey, Moses changed his name to Yehoshua (Jehoshua) which is printed in our Bibles in the contracted form of Joshua. Jehoshua or Joshua translated literally can mean “*Jehovah is salvation.*” Moses’ choice of this name reflects the spiritual qualities he must have seen in his attendant Joshua. It also reveals Moses’ recognition of the sacredness of Joshua’s ministry and an awareness that his own *mantle of service* to God would likely be transferred to his understudy at his decease.

His Career

Joshua was born in Egypt and experienced the same extreme oppression endured by his brethren by Pharaoh. He was a young man during Israel’s exodus from that foreign land, and had obviously witnessed the supernatural plagues and the miraculous escape at the Red Sea. In the Sinai peninsula, it was Joshua who led the troops of Israel to victory over the Amalekites. He alone was allowed to

accompany Moses up the holy mountain where the tablets of the law were received. Joshua must have early displayed to Moses his faith in God and a *devoted spirit of service*. The fact that his grandfather Elishama was captain and head of the tribe Ephraim likely helped to bring Joshua to the attention of Moses, and subsequently to be appointed Moses’ minister (Num 1:10; 2:18).

Attendant Of Moses

Throughout the wilderness journeys, *Joshua stood at the side of Moses*, assisting him in the herculean task of leading approximately two million people on their treacherous march to Canaan. From the wilderness of Paran, Moses sent Joshua with eleven others to spy out the land of Canaan in anticipation of Israel’s forthcoming military engagements with the enemies of the land (Num 13:1-16). *Joshua and Caleb alone had the faith to believe that Israel could conquer the enemy with God’s help* despite the human odds against them. This was the crucial test of Joshua’s young life which would determine his career thereafter. Had he joined the other ten in their negative report, he would have reaped the judgment of immediate death by plague (Num 14: 36-37). For standing alone with Caleb, Joshua was granted the privilege of later entering the land of Canaan (Num 14:26-35). On him also fell the *awesome responsibility of leading* the younger generation of Israelites into that land.

Successor To Moses

Moses, before his death, asked God to name his successor so that His people would not be as *“sheep which have no shepherd”* (Num 27:17). God’s choice was Joshua, whom He described as *“a man in whom is the Spirit”* (Num 27:18). Moses surely must have been moved with gratitude to God to know that his own leadership would be perpetuated in a very real sense in the service of the one whom he had **trained along the way**. And Moses *“laid his hands upon him [Joshua]: and the children of Israel hearkened unto him”* (Deut 34:9).

Joshua could not hope to be another Moses. Moses was unique among the prophets of God in the sense of how much was accomplished through him for the glory of God. But Joshua’s experiences in many ways paralleled those of Moses. Both were given charges to serve in leadership (Moses at Horeb, Joshua at Jericho); both led Israel physically from one land to another (Moses from Egypt, Joshua into Canaan); both experienced the miracle of the parting of the waters (Moses at the Red Sea, Joshua at the Jordan River); both gave moving farewell addresses (Moses at Moab, Joshua at Shechem); and when each died the people of Israel were at a peak of spiritual health, determined to serve the Lord.

His Character

No greater commendation of Joshua’s character was made than that made by God: *“a man in whom is the Spirit”*—Joshua was filled with the Spirit of God (Num 27:18; Deut 34:9).

This determined everything else that he was. He feared God greatly. And so he expected Israel to be consumed whenever sin was harbored in the camp. His faith was deep, strong, pure, and enduring—a vital quality in making him the courageous general that he was, undaunted by impossible things. The spirit of obedience, which he learned as a devoted follower of Moses, was that which he rendered his Commander-in-chief, God, in the mighty tasks given him in Canaan. He was a great ruler, commanding the respect of all the people, maintaining order and discipline, putting the worship of God central in the nation’s government, encouraging God’s people to press on to claim God’s best. He was also a great military leader using his God-given wisdom, confidence, courage, and a spirit of challenge to maneuver his army in strategies that consistently led to triumph.

A Servant-Leader

A good leader is a good follower. Joshua was very careful to implicitly obey the instructions of Moses. Joshua became a servant-leader, as he demonstrated the spirit of service: a quality indispensable for a servant of God. The man, Joshua, was a humble servant of Jehovah, who caused the children of Israel to serve the Lord all the days of his life. *“And Israel served the Lord all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders that overlived Joshua, and which had known all the works of the Lord, that He had done for Israel”* (Josh 24:31).

The Presence Of God With Joshua

Just as God was with Moses, He was with Joshua as well. *“There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee”* (Josh 1:5). God was with Joshua to direct, sustain, and assure success. The holy presence of God being with Joshua was the essence of God’s appointment of Joshua to succeed Moses. Now had come the time to demonstrate visibly and impress indelibly upon the hearts of the people that Joshua was their leader on behalf of God. Leading them through a miraculously parted river would be the first of Joshua’s credentials for the days and years to follow. This is what God said on the morning of the crossover: *“This day will I begin to magnify thee in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee”* (Josh 3:7). That the people reacted favorably is shown by the record written after the event was over: *“On that day the Lord magnified Joshua in the sight of all Israel; and they feared him, as they feared Moses, all the days of his life”* (Josh 4:14). The miracle of the Jordan crossing left no possible suggestion of mere coincidence or favorable chance. This is confirmed by the reactions of the enemies of the land, whose hearts melted in fear when the report reached them that *“Jehovah had dried up the waters of the Jordan”* (Josh 5:1).

Possessing Canaan

To possess Canaan meant to drive out the enemy and occupy the land. The story of the book of Joshua is the story of God’s people driving the enemies out of Canaan, so that they might take the Promised Land as their inheritance and make their dwelling place there. The Israelites were promised all the land, but would possess only what they would appropriate and receive from God. Joshua made this very clear when he said to the people, *“Go in to possess the land, which Jehovah your God giveth you”* (Josh 1:11). But the foes of Israel were many and formidable. Whether it was a flooded river to cross, a strong fortress to destroy, or an alliance of armies to conquer, the entrance and possession were impossible—without God. But God was with Israel, and God fought for Israel, and this made the difference. How very vital it is for the Christian intent on having God’s best to learn that the enemies (so many!) of his soul are not driven out by his impotent efforts, well intended as they may be, but by God’s devastating dynamite; not by the arm of flesh, but by the whole armor of God (Eph 6).

Enjoying The Promised Land

Joshua’s task as leader of God’s people was to cause them not only to possess the Promised Land but also *to enjoy* it (Josh 1:15). Canaan, God’s best choice for the children of Israel, flowed with milk and honey. The earthly Canaan

is only a shadow of the heavenly Canaan, Zion and New Jerusalem, the inheritance of the bride of Christ. *“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to **an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you**, who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time”* (1Pet 1:3-5). At the rapture, the overcomers, who overcome the devil, the world, and the flesh, will be caught up unto God and to His throne, to enjoy their eternal inheritance. *“And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to His throne”* (Rev 12:5). The Lord Jesus Christ gave Himself on the cross of Calvary to give us eternal inheritance, that we might enjoy the rest of God forever. *“How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this cause He is the mediator of the new testament, that...they which are called might receive **the promise of eternal inheritance**”* (Heb 9:13-14).

God willing, in the forthcoming issues, we will be sharing seven outstanding characteristics which were evident in the life of Joshua. Some of the spiritual qualities, briefly discussed in this introductory article, will be studied in depth in the future issues. It is very encouraging,

and spiritually beneficial, for us to learn about Joshua: not only because he was instrumental in leading the Israelites to inherit the Promised Land of Canaan, but because he also entered the land and enjoyed it himself. May the Lord raise up many more Joshuas in these last days to prepare a band of people for the soon appearing of Jesus Christ! □

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Man is full of pride over his ability to travel at tremendous speeds in the machines of his own invention. He can traverse the globe in a high speed jet and land with precision. But to make the same plane fly very slowly eludes him. Yet owls can do it, so why can't we?

Owls have specially rounded feathers on the front part of their wings which adjust the air currents as they flow past! This allows them to fly more slowly than most birds. Slow flight is *quiet* flight. If we could copy the mechanics of the owl wing, it would unlock enormous possibilities in the field of aerodynamics. Aircrafts with the ability to fly both fast and slow would have clear advantages: less noise, shorter runways, and less costly airports would be just a few of the more obvious benefits.

The word “bionic” in its original Greek sense means “like life” and it refers to the study and copying of mechanisms found in nature for use in engineering and modern technology. Bionics is not a new concept.

Throughout history, man has studied nature in order to gain insight as to how to invent and perfect the tools he uses. In the 1400's and 1500's, Leonardo da Vinci designed wings and gliders based on birds and bats. While it is doubtful that his designs would have actually flown, we can nevertheless see in them this realization that God's world holds the clues of how to do wondrous things—far beyond man's natural abilities.

The Germans in World War II modelled their first jet plane after the streamlined shark. (Early models were even painted to look like sharks.) Mankind has looked to the natural world to solve problems for centuries—and we still do.

Velcro is perhaps the most famous example of bionics. In 1948, the Swiss engineer George de Mestral was cleaning his dog of burrs after a walk when he observed how the hooks of the burrs clung to the fur. Another example is a kind of glue designed to imitate the stickability of gecko feet. A tiny square of the adhesive can support the weight of a 100 kg man climbing up a vertical surface. Yet the glue can be lifted and reapplied easily. Apart from helping people walk up walls, the glue could be used in electrical components as an alternative to solder as well as a host of

other uses. The glue uses a layer of thin filaments of carbon molecules attached to curly strands of carbon that expand the surface area of the glue's gripping action. It's a great invention, but remember, God invented it first.

Birds fly thousands of miles and use navigational equipment weighing very little. Man-made planes, on the contrary, have navigational equipment which weighs a lot more and costs a fortune to lug around. Yes, we have copied nature, but far from perfectly.

Some birds and fish travel every year from the Arctic to the Antarctic without training and they arrive at the same breeding site without fail. Bees, in their navigational calculations, use the sun as a compass. At night or on very cloudy days, they rely on the patterns of polarized light for navigation. Even if it is too cloudy and the light is unavailable, bees have a back-up system. They can use the earth's magnetic field to find where they are. Even the best trained survivalists, if they do not have their tools of trade or if those tools have somehow broken down, simply get lost.

Did you know that when the bat gives off its sound, a special muscle automatically turns down its hearing so it cannot hear its own voice, only the guiding echoes? Most people know that in flight a bat emits supersonic sound

pulses (as many as 60 a second) which, if they hit something, bounce back to the bat's ears to warn it of the object. By measuring the time it takes the echoes to return, a bat can judge the exact location of objects and then modify its flight accordingly. Man's sonar was largely developed by studying bats. Yet, we still have a long way to go.

Spiders were diving under water in air-filled diving bells long before man invented the submarine or the bathysphere.

The first successful light bulbs marketed by Edison in the 1880's produced so much heat that they burnt out very quickly. After many years and many improvements, our modern light bulbs still produce so much more heat than light that they are very wasteful of energy. If we could only learn from the firefly's light system, millions of dollars would be saved. They use a fuel called luciferin which is backed by a layer of reflective pigment cells covered by transparent tissue shapes to form a lens. Your car's headlights and spotlights are patterned after that design. Furthermore, the *cat's eye* reflectors seen in the center of roads and highways were invented after studying the mechanism of cat eyes. It was found that cats had a system of reflecting cells capable of reflecting the tiniest bit of light.

Paint makers in Germany produced a house-paint called Lotusan that cleans itself. It uses the self-cleaning secrets of the white lotus flower. The white lotus grows in swamps, but is regarded as a symbol of purity because it remains so white. The white lotus' secret is that its leaves have tiny points on their surface, like a bed of nails. When a speck of dirt falls on a leaf, it is held very lightly on those points. Water that rolls across the points picks up the teetering dirt and washes it away. Lotusan paint uses a similar rough surface to keep itself clean.

A lifetime of study barely uncovers the tremendous designs which exist in the created world of nature. Beavers build large dams and spacious underground homes; wasps manufacture paper; some ants make living bridges so that their comrades can pass over water; other ants make boats from leaves to float across instead, while yet other ants practise animal husbandry and herd aphids which they milk. Certain animals garden by planting fungi in specially prepared leaf molds, and the famous Archer fish shoots flying insects with a stream of water, its eyes automatically correct for optical refraction—an operation most people cannot master however hard they try.

What can we conclude from this? Certainly not that blind chance or accident is the rule of law in nature.

There are too many rules, too many laws, and too much evidence of design to reach that conclusion rationally. As man learns more of the marvellous designs implanted in creation, he should be moved to appreciate evermore the wisdom of the God who made it all. The evidence of His handiwork is so obvious that not only do the heavens declare His glory, but the earth bares the evidence of His design—so much so that men are without excuse if they deny it.

Engineers and biologists studying the flippers, fins, and tails of dolphins and whales have discovered some features of their structure that contradicted long-held engineering theories. The shape of whale flippers with one bumpy edge has inspired the creation of a completely novel design for wind turbine blades. This design was more efficient and also quieter, but it defied traditional engineering theories.

Engineers from water treatment plants are studying mangrove trees that turn salt water to fresh water. A tree has even been found that turns dirty water into clean water instantly. Manufacturers of hearing-aids found a parasitic fly with amazing hearing abilities that they suspect may lead to better hearing-aids. Mussels that stick to ships and piers are providing ideas for a new water-resistant glue. Researchers are also studying an unusual sea snail called

the Scaly-foot gastropod that may help them develop better body armor for soldiers.

The cooling system of the Eastgate Center building in Harare, Zimbabwe was modelled after a termite mound to achieve very efficient passive cooling.

Just as the glues, the hearing-aids, the Lotusan paint, and the rest could not appear without intelligent input, to claim that their even more intricate *natural* models evolved, without any intelligent input, is surely one of the most preposterous errors anyone could make. □

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Christ In You—The Hope Of Glory

Colossians 1:27

The Word of God says:

I AM— Overtaken with blessings Deut 28:2; Eph 1:3	I AM— Blessed Deut 28:1-14;
I AM— In the world as He is			Gal 3:9
in heaven	.....1Jn 4:17	I AM— Chosen	.....1Thess 1:4;
I AM— God's child	.....1Pet 1:23		1 Pet 2:9
I AM— His faithful follower	.....Rev 17:14; Eph 5:1	I AM— An ambassador	
I AM— Forgiven of all my sins	.....Eph 1:7;	for Christ	.....2Cor 5:20
	Heb 9:14; Col 1:14	I AM— God's workmanship	
I AM— His disciple	.....Jn 13:34-35	created in Christ Jesus	.....Eph 2:10
I AM— A new creature	.....2Cor 5:17	I AM— The apple of my	
I AM— The temple of the		Father's eye	.....Deut 32:10; Psal 17:8
Holy Spirit	.....1Cor 6:19	I AM— Healed by the	
I AM— The salt of the earth	.....Mat 5:13	stripes of Jesus	.....1Pet 2:24; Isa 53:5
I AM— Delivered from the power		I AM— The Elect	.....Col 3:12; Rom 8:33
of darkness	.....Col 1:13	I AM— Raised up with Christ	
I AM— The righteousness of God	.....2Cor 5:21;	in the heavenly places	.....Eph 2:6
	1Pet 2:24	I AM— Being changed into	
I AM— A partaker of His		His image	.....2Cor 3:18; Phil 1:6;
divine nature	.....2Pet 1:4		Rom 8:29
I AM— Redeemed	.....1Pet 1:18-19	I AM— Made nigh by the	
I AM— Called of God	.....2Tim 1:9	blood of Christ	.....Eph 2:13
		I AM— Victorious	.....Rev 21:7

(continued on next page...)

