

AT A POINT OF CRITICAL MASS

by GL Parks

INTRODUCTION

Let's clear the air of any possible residual fallout before we begin. This is an article concerning Christianity, but in regards to the title I am not analyzing or criticizing a church service observed by a particular group. This writing is not for the neophyte Christian. It is written to those who at least have a working knowledge of the Kingdom message, The Third Day, Tabernacles, The Manifested Sons of God, The Finished Work, etc. In this writing I will use the word "Kingdom" as all inclusive of the various monikers.

In nuclear fission there is a point of atomic activity whereby specific atoms interact to create a chain reaction without further inducement from a specified source. This is deemed the point of critical mass. One definition of the word "critical" by Webster's dictionary is this: "*Relating to, or being a turning point or especially **important juncture.***" The definition continues: "*Relating to or being a state in which or a measurement of point at which some quality, property, or phenomenon suffers a definite change of sufficient size to **sustain a chain reaction.***"

Like the natural, a spiritual chain reaction can be used to generate energy (power) for the benefit of mankind or it can be unleashed as a destructive device. In the various moves of God down through history there have been spiritual points of critical mass which occurred after the initial revelation. We have presently arrived at one of those junctures in the Kingdom message. The past moves could have continued in additional revelation and manifestation of God in the earth (a God ordained and controlled chain reaction). With much chagrin as we look back we see the subsequent directions that various groups have taken which have actually hindered God's plan for man. In as simple of terms that can be expressed, we see God's ultimate plan in a statement penned by the Apostle Paul:

2 Cor 6:16 *And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for **ye are the temple of the living God;** as God hath said, **I will dwell in them,** and **walk in them;** and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. (KJV is used throughout this study unless otherwise noted and all highlighting and underlining in this study is done by the author.)*

In the New Covenant we truly are the temple of the living Spirit God and He will never dwell in another temple constructed by man's hands. God's eventual goal and eternal purpose is to live and walk in all men. There must be over a thousand verses in the Bible that so state in one form or another that all the earth (man) will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as

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the waters cover the sea. This treatise is not to discuss God's plan, but to address the pathway (highway) whereby we arrive at the consummation of the plan.

Those understanding the Kingdom Message are at a critical point at this time. Which path are we going to choose? It is a difficult choice for many are saying to come this way or go that way. In biblical terms we could use the words that Joshua uttered as the Israelites were crossing the Jordan, "We have not passed this way before." Are we going to choose the HIGHWAY of the Most High God that will lead us to the consummation of God's plan which will benefit all mankind? Or, are we to take a byway and obtain only a partial revelation as many have in the past and add our carnal ideas and thoughts to a pure Word as our spiritual forefathers have done? God says that it is my way the highway and not the byway which is a die way. There is good rabbit hunting over there on the byway, but the denizen for the hares is in the briars and tares and God has cursed that ground long ago. May we be able to make the same statement that Paul made to the Corinthians?

2 Cor 2:17 For we are not as many, **which corrupt the word of God**: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God **speaking we in Christ**.

When man adds his mixture with the pure water of the Word it becomes a concoction that results in a STRANGE FIRE bomb that spiritually injures and inhibits many. Residual religious radiation hindered me for many years and there remains "hot spots" for many that obviously peg God's Geiger counter. Will a future generation have to rectify the error of our ways as we of the Kingdom are doing now in specific areas for past generations? We are at a point of critical mass. I certainly don't want to be over dramatic, but this is that which God has placed on my heart to address. In this writing I am not correcting individuals, but voicing concerns over some trends that I see developing.

Let's briefly look at the etiology of how we arrived at where we are at the brink of Jordan. We have taken it to the bank, but now where do we go? Are we going to cross or get crossed? Are we going to attempt to row versus wade? The waters will roll back with a correct step, but not with a false one. We must cross where the Lord has led us and not attempt a crossing up or down stream. Where the Lord has led will affect mankind all the way back to Adam. The past moves of God from Luther to Pentecost (from which the various and sundry denominations were formed) aided us in our march out of the wilderness. Let's fast forward to the Pentecostals who received a pure word in the early 1900's. They participated in a true experience with God that had been mostly dormant for a couple of millenniums. John Osteen upon transitioning from a popular denomination made a profound statement, voicing that

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Pentecost was not a denomination, but a deeper experience with God and so it is. But, like their predecessors before them, man began to tamper with the revelation. Instead of continuing in additional Godly progress (a chain reaction of continued revelation), they adopted doctrines and eschatological beliefs that have actually hindered Christianity. For one, they endorsed the rapture doctrine which was popularized by Dr. Schofield, just prior to the reintroduction of Pentecost. I had that radiation sickness for forty plus years and it continues to weaken many. Since then, like many denominations, Pentecostals organized, SPLIT (the Adam), and reorganized, infinitum.

In about the 1940's a "first fruit" group of Pentecostals began to see the fallacy of the doctrines of the rapture and the manner of the coming of the Lord. Previous groups had never held to similar rapture theories, but they also had never experienced the truth of Pentecost. This "first fruit" Pentecostals are now those which are referred to by others as "Kingdom Now" advocates. Deeper study of the scriptures reveal that the Kingdom of God is the Holy Ghost and we now have HIM, so the Kingdom is NOW because the King NOW lives in us. Jesus told us that the Kingdom was inside of us in Luke 17:19-21. Other writings and writers past and present further address that subject for it is too vast to get into here. I believe that this "first fruit" company received a pure Word. Like the Pentecostals, the word that they received was rejected initially by the contemporary church world. Now many in most denominations have experienced Pentecost. So the initial word that the Pentecostals received has proven to be true. It was just not perceived to be true at the time of its inception. The Kingdom message in its early beginnings was not received with open arms, but now is becoming somewhat embraced among an increasing number of contemporary Christians. The word "Kingdom" is presently used as a buzz word throughout Christianity, but having watched "Kingdom" Christian programs on television, it seems that some don't have a clue as to what the Kingdom is.

Since the concept of the Kingdom is becoming more popular, there are many recent arrivals that are attempting to tamper with the pure word and control it with their thoughts, ideas, interpretations and projections. Some are attempting to incorporate old teachings that were not of God (a blast from the past) and conversely some are attempting to blow up the very foundations on which Christianity is based. Their thoughts possibly being, that since we were taught untruths in the past, then most of the foundational doctrines that we were taught are untrue. It appears that conditions in some quarters have not changed much in 2,000 years. It seems that a faction in the Kingdom message are somewhat akin to the Epicureans that Paul encountered in Athens in that they are constantly in search of some new thing in order to be recognized. The MISUNDERSTANDING of "The Finished Work" and "Inclusion Doctrine" further

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contributes in the tainting of the pure water of the word. Just as in the book of Revelation, the waters are becoming bitter.

True, we continue to get revelation of the Truth for He is continual, perpetual and progressive Truth, but we can only sort the Truth from the trash by Him that lives within us. Good intentions, traditions of men, winds of doctrines, cute clichés, twisted English words, misinterpretation, etc. are not truth. We continue the building of the church by the Bible interpreting the Bible and that is done by the Spirit inspired Word. Jesus called the Comforter that was to come, the Spirit of Truth. He said that He was the Comforter and the Comforter was the Holy Ghost. If we have never been baptized in the Holy Ghost (Him, the baptism in His name or nature) or have rejected that aspect of Him then we can never arrive at truth. We will continue to flounder and flop on the bank like a fish out of water with man inspired doctrines. I see that some who have joined themselves to the Kingdom message are attempting to arrive at the Feast of Tabernacles without advocating the observation of the Feast of Passover or the Feast of Pentecost, stating that those feasts are passé. Somewhat like Paul's statement to the Galatians (I am not necessarily afraid of you), I certainly am afraid FOR you. How could one believe in one spiritual feast (Tabernacles) and not the other two (Passover and Pentecost)? There would be no foundation on which to build. Tabernacles with God cannot be built in mid-air without a foundation. The foundation of God's house can never be destroyed, but the attempt to do so with a cache of explosive doctrines can certainly injure many people present and future. My mission in this writing (should I decide to accept it and I do) is to defuse those weapons at this point of critical mass and help stop the bombardment of and by atoms (Adams) that create this STRANGE FIRE bomb.

THE FOUNDATION OF CHRISTIANITY

I have had the pleasure of visiting the tower of Pisa. I have stood atop this marvel of architecture which is actually a bell tower for an adjacent edifice. The design, the artwork and the sounds of the structure are very appealing especially when the bells are a pealing. But, the tower as a useful structure is a failure due to its foundation. In recent year's engineers, technicians and workers have had to again shore up the foundation to keep it from plunging to destruction. Tourists from all over the world visit and stand in awe of this phenomenon, but left on its own without outside reinforcement it would have fallen long ago despite its beauty and pronounced tolling to the public.

I am concerned that many in the Kingdom message are attempting to build their own towers not differing greatly from the towers of Pisa or Babel. Those erecting Babel proclaimed as they

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built their tower, “Let us make a name for ourselves.” That was the tower that God was concerned with (man’s exaltation of himself) rather than the building of a natural tower into outer space. Architects tell us that a building over about twelve stories will collapse upon itself under its own weight (a spiritual lesson). It takes supportive framework such as steel to build higher than that. Only the name (nature) of the Lord is a strong tower. There is no other tower that can be built that will withstand the wears, tears and tares. He is the steel as well as the foundation of the tower in which we trust. But, many continue to erect their towers complete with bells (clamoring cymbals) beckoning others into their structures. I write this in hopes that the reader will not become one for whom those bells toll. The façade and the sounds are appealing and a pealing, but like the tower of Pisa the foundation is not sound and the sound is not sound. These towers from their inception are bent towards leaning and without a foundation they will fall. Let’s not lend our support to a tower destined to topple.

Everything has a foundation and everything that endures must be built upon a sound foundation for it to remain in the natural or spiritual. Christianity is built upon an indestructible foundation. This foundation is composed of truths that will never change. Those in the Kingdom message understand that continued revelation knowledge is not prevalent in most contemporary churches. Continued revelation knowledge is the substance that the church would be built upon just as Jesus told Peter in Matthew 16:18. The gates of hell, lack of revelation knowledge (gates that are closed) and gates that are open to every wind of doctrine would not prevail against the church. Those of the Kingdom persuasion understand that God continues to reveal Himself to, in and through His people. But, those of sound mind (the mind of Christ, not the carnal mind of Adam) embrace the fact that everything emanates from a foundation laid by Jesus Christ (not Christ Jesus as discussed later):

1 Cor 3:11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

What is the foundation that was laid by Jesus Christ? Upon what must we build? I hear rumblings in the near distance that since Jesus finished the work while He walked on the earth and the understanding that everyone is now included, then repentance is no longer necessary. Christians have only one standard (foundation) on which to proceed. That standard was laid by the work of Jesus Christ at the cross and is continuing to be built upon by the Spirit (Christ Jesus).

Jesus said that His words are spirit and life. Yes, He uttered words as a man in the four gospels which primarily took place in the Old Covenant, but does that make His recorded words any less valid? Some having attached themselves to the Kingdom message are somewhat like another

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contemporary group adhering **ONLY** to Paul's prison epistles. For instance, they are beginning to espouse that the words that Jesus spoke to Nicodemus, a Jew, concerning being born again are not for us in the New Covenant. Are these words valid for us on this side of the cross? This will be discussed in depth later. We do know that some of the words that Jesus spoke applied only to the disciples or to the Jews, but they continue to give us understanding. Jesus said that heaven and earth would pass away, but His words would never pass away. Those that ascribe to Kingdom understanding know that Jesus is addressing the heaven and earth of the Old Covenant that **would** and **did** pass away. The old heaven and earth were to completely pass away with the destruction of the temple in 70 A.D. Those elements would be completely burned according to 2 Peter 3. But, His words would transcend and supersede the Old Covenant and be applicable in the New. Prior to the cross Jesus said in John 15:7 that if we abide in Him and His words abide in us then we can ask what we will and it shall be done unto us. Do these words pertain to us or is prayer no longer valid? It seems ludicrous to address such an issue, but it appears that it is necessary to again discover the foundation and **principles** of the doctrine of Christianity. In Nehemiah 8:14 on their return from captivity, the Jews were again reminded that they were supposed to observe the Feast of Tabernacles by dwelling in booths. They had abandoned and forgotten the **principles** of their religious observances.

Heb 6:1 *Therefore leaving **the principles** of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; **not laying again the foundation of repentance** from dead works, and of faith toward God,*

It is believed by most that Paul wrote the epistle to the Hebrews and He did so well into the New Covenant. He is the man that stated throughout his epistles that once Jesus died on the cross there is no difference between Jew and gentile. In fact, Jesus stated that there is only one sheepfold. In the verse immediately above and the ones following that verse, Paul is not stating that we abandon the principles of Christ and the foundation of repentance, but that we should build on that foundation. The foundation is repentance and acceptance of the Sacrifice.

God created man with the ability to make a choice. As examples, please reference Adam in the Old Testament and King Agrippa in the New Covenant. God will never violate this principle of life in this life or the next. God did not and does not want robots of predestination. There is a vast difference between the foreknowledge of God and predestination. In Isaiah 46:9-10 God declares that He knows the end from the beginning and from old the things that are not yet done. God foreknows all that will happen, but He has not predestinated the choices of man. In His foreknowledge He has devised a plan to work around and through man's choices by His foreknowledge. The plan was devised before the beginning foreknowing man's choices. Only

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those that choose to be in God are predestined to complete His work in the earth. He created a being with a free will to love Him **otherwise there is no true love**.

The basis of God's intervention in man's affairs is founded on the fact that man has a choice to choose God or not to choose Him. People ask when bad things happen on the earth, "Why did God allow that to happen?" God will never intervene in our choices or He would destroy the ability of man to **choose** and thus inhibit man's ability to love God of his own free will. God has and will create an environment whereby it would be better to choose Him, but it is still our choice. We don't have to choose Him. It was God's choice that gave His creation a choice. **This is where the water gets muddied in the understanding of the finished work, all men being reconciled to God and the Lamb being slain from the foundation of the world.** Repentance is a choice that man makes either in this life or the life to come (ultimate reconciliation). Every knee shall bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, or the cross was a failure. In 1 Corinthians 15:22 Paul wrote (after the cross) that **all shall be made alive in Christ**. He did not state that all are presently alive because of the cross.

Since our God is a consuming fire you can choose (our choice) to gradually burn in this life or be overwhelmed with His fire in the next (the microwave version). Burn me now or burn me later (I am not reflecting on a hell that I was taught about in earlier Christian years). I once drifted away from the Lord. There came a time that He began to "burn" me and it was not a slow burn. He created an environment in my life whereby it would be wise to choose Him. Although being somewhat forebrain challenged due to my southeastern Oklahoma raisen' (I may be dumb, but not stupid), I gladly chose the slow roast over the accelerated "hell" where I was. But, it was still my choice. I could have cursed God and died as many have and be scorched with the brimstone of God's love in order for me to choose correctly (the root word for brimstone is "Theios" or God). It was apropos to make the right choice in this life. The Apostle Paul was knocked off his ass and blinded thus he made the right choice, but he still had the choice. True, eventually every knee shall bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord and He can only be called Lord by His Spirit. In Kingdom vernacular this is known as "ultimate reconciliation" of all men. All will be included, but the inclusion is by choice in this life or the choice (repentance) will be made in the next. Many have never had the opportunity to choose. God, being the just God that He is, has given and will give them opportunity.

First and foremost God was the rule maker from the beginning. If man's choice does not enter into the equation, then why is God waiting to complete us? Does He enjoy seeing mankind in its plight? Does He enjoy poking us with a sharp stick? If man's choice is not a part then why didn't

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He create us complete in Him? Why the cross? Why did God come in the flesh and sacrifice Himself and go through the agony of the sacrifice? Since He is omnipotent, couldn't He just change us if we have no part in the process (process, bad word for some)? (What is the difference between process and change?) His goal is to bring all men unto Him through their choice.

True love is of the free will of man and God knows that because He had to make man in that fashion to gain and attain true love. "Inclusion" simply by being brought forth into this world through natural birth does not compute. Certainly all will be included, but it will be by individual choice. God's goal, which should be our goal, is not just to tell everyone that they will be included, but help them to be changed into His image and likeness. God's desire is that He is fully MANIFESTED in all people, not just be omnipresent in them. My God is all in all (omnipresent) and will be all in all (fully manifested). That can only be accomplished by being born of the Spirit from above (born again). Our goal should be like God's, for example not to just relate to the Muslim that he will be "included" but persuade Him to be changed into the image of God. That can only be done through Jesus Christ and Christ Jesus (acceptance of the sacrifice and walking in the Spirit).

We see the fire of God burning the "hell" out of people in Revelation 14:10 in the presence of the holy angels (us) and the Lamb. We will not all be standing around a pit poking fun at those being torched by a literal fire. The chasm separating these two groups is not a geographical one, but one of understanding and knowledge of the Lord (another vast and deep subject). This bottomless pit of darkness (lack of understanding, revelation knowledge of God) is also seen in Revelation 20. Our goal, as stated previously, is not to tell all that they will be included, but to insure that they are included NOW and learn to live an abundant life in this life. Where is our true love for God's creation? At times true love is tough love. When a significant cadre of people in the world begins to understand, then will the acceleration of God's plan of living in everyone be exponentially multiplied? Surly we can't simply inform everyone that they are included and let them continue to live in the hell of their darkness and then taste the brimstone of God in the next life. Where is the love of God that should be in and through us?

Deut 16:16 *Three times in a **year** shall all thy males appear before the Lord thy God in the **place** which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the Lord **empty**:*

In this verse we see a natural lesson of the three feasts in the Old Covenant that all men are to observe in the Spirit in the New Covenant. The year referred to is the harvest year and it has

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been the harvest year for 2,000 years. The places that we appear before the Lord are Spiritual places and not geographical ones. This verse also tells us that we must appear in all three feasts and if we appear in all three feasts we will not appear before the Lord empty. That would lead us to the conclusion that if we appear only in one or two feasts then we would be somewhat empty. On this side of the cross all must begin their walk with the Lord in the Feast of Passover (repentance, regeneration, born again, converted, etc.). The walk progresses and intensifies as we observe the Feast of Weeks (Pentecost, First fruits, etc.) The Feast of Tabernacles (ingathering, booths, etc.) is preceded by a Day of Trumpets (understanding the mystery of God which is Christ in us) and a Day of Atonement. Atonement is associated with fire. Before we ever experience the intimate relationship with the Lord in Tabernacles we must pass through the fire (process, change from glory to glory). The Day of Atonement is the completion of the cleansing that began with the fire of Pentecost in our lives. John the Baptist said that Jesus was to baptize us with the Holy Ghost and with fire. In Luke 12:49-50 Jesus stated that He had come to send fire upon the earth (we be the earth) and behold the fire was already kindled for He had a baptism to be baptized with. We are not consumed in an instant by that fire, but the kindled fire continues to burn. That baptism was the same that He received immediately after His water baptism. That baptism was made available to all men on the day of Pentecost. Has His fire been kindled in your life and is He continuing to burn in you so as to arrive at Atonement which immediately precedes Tabernacles? All three feasts are necessary, thus any one of them is not passé.

As we have seen and will see, Pentecost IS the Kingdom of God. Just as Jesus told Nicodemus, one cannot even see (understand) the Kingdom unless that one is first born again (born from above, born of Spirit). Jesus also told Him that He could not enter the Kingdom except he was born of the water and the Spirit (this Spirit of adoption is not the Baptism of the Holy Ghost). Jesus did not state that Nicodemus entered the Kingdom of God because he was born again; He said that he could not enter the Kingdom except he was born again.

Can being “born again” and “repentance” be biblically tied together? I believe that they can. First, the phrases “Kingdom of God” and “Kingdom of Heaven” are strictly New Covenant concepts. These phrases are not even found in the Old Testament. Also, the Spirit God living in man is strictly a New Covenant foundation. God came upon man to perform mighty deeds in the Old Covenant. That is why Jesus said of John the Baptist that he was the greatest prophet that ever lived, but he that was least in the Kingdom was greater than John. Why? Because God could now live inside the New Covenant man and change us into His image individually and corporately over time. It is not just God living in man that is of vast importance. It is God being

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MANIFESTED in man that will make a great difference. It is not just the omnipresent God that is in all living. It is the manifested God in those that have begun a walk through repentance and have continued being changed into the image of God through the other two feasts that will bring about God's plan on the earth (reiteration because the concept is most important). Thus, that which Jesus spoke to Nicodemus is strictly New Covenant including the phrase, "You must be born again." I don't believe that it is biblically sound to pick a few words out of a passage of scripture and attempt to make an elaborate doctrine. As an example, that has been done with 1 Thessalonians 4 and the "rapture" doctrine. Momentarily we will look at the entire council of this passage concerning Nicodemus. Being born again (regenerated) and repentance is akin to the Feast of Passover as we will see more clearly. Let's first investigate the word "**repentance**":

Repentance (Strong's NT:3341) metanoia (met-an'-oy-ah); from **NT:3340**; (subjectively) compunction (for guilt, including reformation); by implication **reversal (of [another's] decision)**: **NT:3340** (met-an-o-eh'-o); from NT:3326 and NT:3539; **to think differently** or afterwards, i.e. **reconsider (morally, feel compunction)**:

John the Baptist came preaching in Matthew 3:2 to **repent** for the Kingdom of heaven was at hand. Jesus and the synoptic gospel writers used the terms "Kingdom of God" and "Kingdom of heaven" interchangeably. If the Kingdom of heaven (God) was at hand then it never existed prior to the moment of its inception. That is why the terms are not used in the Old Testament. The Kingdom of God (the Holy Ghost in man, heaven) did not exist in the Old Testament. What was the moment of its inauguration? Jesus describes its origins in Acts 1 after His resurrection. He came speaking of things pertaining to the Kingdom of God (heaven) in Acts 1:3 which was the promise of the Father in Acts 1:4. What is the promise of the Father? The answer is revealed in the next verse (Acts 1:5) when Jesus tells the disciples that they will be filled with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. So the Kingdom of heaven (God) is inside of us (Luke 17:19-21) and it is righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost according to Paul (Romans 14:17).

Jesus came preaching in Matthew 4:17 the same as John the Baptist saying, "**Repent: for the Kingdom of heaven** is at hand." So, the requisite to experience heaven (the Kingdom of God, the Holy Ghost) is to repent. I hear some beginning to make seismic waves in stating that since Jesus died on the cross for everyone then the sin issue is completely resolved and there is no requirement for anyone to do anything. Repenting and being baptized in the Holy Ghost are no longer valid. Is this in fact that which the bible teaches? ABSOLUTLY NOT!

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Acts 17:30 And **the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:**

The Apostle Paul voiced these words to the Athenians (gentiles) well into the New Covenant. As we have seen these words concerning repentance were echoed by Jesus and John the Baptist prior to the cross, but they transcended the Old Covenant and were valid in the New Covenant.

Acts 26:20 But shewed first unto **them of Damascus**, and at **Jerusalem**, and **throughout all the coasts of Judaea**, and **then to the Gentiles**, that **they should repent and turn to God**, and **do works meet for repentance**.

This verse states that Jews and Gentiles should repent and **do the works of repentance** (works, ooh). The reason is that there is now no difference between Jew and Gentile in the New Covenant. After the cross God began individual relationships instead of a relationship with one ethnic nation. That relationship begins with repentance as we see in the verse above and continues with the works to which He has called each one of us. The Apostle Paul penned that he pressed forward to the mark of the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. It is not by our works, but by His works that He does in us and through us. God by His own volition has chosen to partnership with us to complete His work in the earth. HE LOVES US SO MUCH THAT HE WANTS US TO BE A PART OF THE VICTORY. Similar to Joshua (translated Jesus) when he captured the five kings in the cave and had his captains put their feet on the neck of the enemy, so does Christ Jesus want us to put our feet on the neck of the enemy. He has the power to do it all for us, but we would not appreciate the conquest unless we have a part in it. God certainly is not like a doting father who does everything for his offspring only to see the prodigy fail in everything due to the inexperience of facing adversity and overcoming. Our Father God has assured success for us by instilling within us His very nature and character that helps **US** to overcome. In the first three chapters of Revelation we see the rewards for those who overcome. Overcoming begins with repentance. There are many more verses in the New Testament other than the two cited above which take place after the cross that tell us that we should repent. Also after we believe we should be sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise:

Eph 1:13 In whom ye also trusted, **after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation**: in whom also **after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise**,

After the Ephesians (gentiles) believed they were sealed with the Holy Spirit. This verse did not state that when they believed they were sealed with the Holy Spirit. When they believed they were adopted into God's family with the Spirit of Adoption but did not receive the Spirit of

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Promise (see the various verses pertaining to the Spirit of Adoption). Again, this is one of many scriptures that state that there is a requirement by the individual to complete the covenant between God and man. In fact the definition of covenant is that performance is required on both parties part in order that a covenant be valid. Our part of the covenant is to believe, repent and receive, but it is still a part we play (choice). How much are we willing to believe and receive?

YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN

We have seen by scripture that repentance is the foundation of Christianity. The words repent and repentance that John and Jesus used at the beginning of their ministry continues through Acts after the Cross well into the book of Revelation. Through reasonable deduction then, even though John and Jesus began preaching repentance in the Old Covenant, it continued into the New Covenant for Jew and gentile. Paul wrote in numerous places that in the New Covenant there is no difference between Jew and Gentile. I will begin by citing a passage that is sometimes overlooked in confirming the fact:

Eph 2:11 *Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; (The Ephesians were gentiles. They were called the uncircumcised by the circumcised Jews. We see the authentic New Covenant circumcision in Romans 2:28-29.)*

12 *That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: (When were they aliens? They were aliens in the Old Covenant. The Israel of God in the New Covenant is not an ethnic nation as seen in Galatians 6:14-16 and Romans 2:28-29.)*

13 *But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. (The acceptance of the blood of Jesus Christ brought us nigh and the Spirit of Christ Jesus stimulates our growth.)*

14 *For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; (He has made both Jew and gentile one body in the New Covenant. We have previously seen that both need to repent.)*

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15 Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; (Jesus Christ was flesh and He gave that flesh to dissolve the division between Jew and gentile and resolve the issues between God and man. Now He works in a man who has accepted the sacrifice of Jesus Christ and is led by Christ Jesus, Spirit.)

16 And that he “might” reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: (“Might” tells us that not all are included because the cross occurred. The cross reconciled the differences between Jew and Gentile and made one new corporate man via the acceptance of the sacrifice.)

17 And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. (Peace was preached to the far off Ephesians and to the Jews which were near. Geographical location is not being addressed here. We see in this verse that preaching of the cross is necessary for all men. The Ephesians remained far off until they heard through preaching and accepted the word even though the cross had already occurred [no automatic inclusion]. The Jews were near [but had not arrived] due to God’s promise to Abraham and because the oracles of the Old Testament were given to them. Far and near has to do with the knowledge of who God is.)

18 For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. (Both have access, but both must access the access. The word “access” would not be necessary with automatic inclusion. God moved from using a natural nation [Israel] in the Old Covenant to a Spiritual nation in the New Covenant. This nation is not a specific ethnic nation, but a Holy nation as written by Peter.)

1 Peter 2:19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; (The repented Ephesians were fellow citizens with the saints and the household of God which can include Jew and gentile if they are regenerated [born again] into the one generation of Jesus Christ.)

As Jesus exhaled for the last time on the cross there was then no more Old Covenant Judaism (no more validity of its concepts). Israel (the fig tree) and the religious mountain of Judaism in which she was planted that we read about in Matthew 21:18-21 were cast into the raging sea of humanity (Isa. 57:20). This is the same flaming mountain crashing into the sea identified in Revelation 8:8. Each individual of Israel was now like every other person in the world (the sea). There was now no difference between Jew and gentile when Jesus gave up the ghost. The veil

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in the temple was rent from top to bottom exposing the most holy place and making the Spiritual most holy place (Tabernacles) accessible to all men. It was apropos that the old ark of the Old Covenant was missing from behind the veil (it had been for years). A Spiritual Ark of the New Covenant is now seen through the veil of His flesh (the cross). I hope and pray that Indiana Jones and all men will seek and find the Ark of the New Covenant whose value cannot be measured in terms of gold. But, like Indy sought the old, men must **seek** to find the New. No door will open unless we knock and seek. There was not nor are there any automatic door openers. Doors do not open simply by inhaling and exhaling (natural birth). The seeking begins with repentance or the Ark will remain hidden for Jew, gentile and for Indy.

The term repentance was used by John the Baptist and by Jesus as a requirement for experiencing the Kingdom of God. Repeating: From the book of Acts through Revelation the word repentance is used for Jew and Gentile. Jesus made the following statement **after His resurrection** (New Covenant):

Luke 24:47 *And **that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations**, beginning at Jerusalem.*

Are these words of Jesus valid for us? Do they apply to and for all nations (obviously)? In the Old Covenant each person's sin was rolled forward (remitted) each year by the shedding of blood of an animal that was submitted for sacrifice. Recall each family taking a lamb into their individual houses immediately before the exodus. The blood of the lamb was placed over the door of each individual house. It took individual effort to place the blood on each doorpost to stay the death angel. Although God worked primarily with one nation there remained individual responsibility. There was no carte blanche coverage simply because they were of Israeli descent or simply due to the lamb being slain. In the New Covenant we too (individuals in the entire human race) must place the blood of God's sacrificial Lamb over our individual lives by repentance (being born again). There is no carte blanche coverage just because the Lamb is slain and we have been born into the human race after the cross (the misunderstanding of the "Inclusion Doctrine").

In the last quoted verse above, Jesus voices the same words that He made before the crucifixion concerning repentance, i.e. His words before the cross would transcend the Old Covenant and became valid in the New. True, **the man** Jesus Christ came only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel because He was obligated to do so by God's promise to Abraham (a gentile) and in order to fulfill the law. But, Christ Jesus was the end of the law. After the crucifixion **Christ Jesus** (Spirit) could come to everyone in all nations if they repented and

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accepted the sacrifice of **Jesus Christ**. His words of repentance remained the same on both sides of the cross. **Likewise the words that Jesus spoke to Nicodemus apply to us on this side of the cross.**

The tie that binds “repentance” to “born again” is the understanding of the “Kingdom”. Jesus and John came preaching repentance for the Kingdom was at hand. We see below that Jesus told Nicodemus that he could not enter the Kingdom unless he was born again. Jesus was preparing the Jews for entry into the Kingdom once the Kingdom came. We see in Luke 24:47 above that repentance was first preached in Jerusalem and then the rest of the world. No one could enter the Kingdom until after the cross because the Kingdom did not exist in the Old Covenant. Jesus Christ had to become Christ Jesus. The last Adam was about to become a quickening Spirit. He was showing them the way to be converted from natural seed to spiritual seed. The first Adam failed in God’s mission as we will see later, but the last Adam would succeed. He would be called the last Adam simply because there would be no need for another Adam. The entire passage regarding Nicodemus must be read for complete understanding:

John 3:3-21

3 *Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, **Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.*** (“Man” in this verse means any person and is not restricted to ethnic or Jewish background. “Again” is to be born anew or from above and as we will see Jesus so state, He is referencing to be born of the Spirit. The Kingdom cannot be seen with natural eyes, but with spiritual ones just as Jesus told the disciples in John 14:19-21.)

4 *Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?* (This “born again” was a phrase that was new to Nicodemus a leader of the Jews. It was not a term that the Jews used in the Old Covenant.)

5 *Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, **Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.*** (In natural context referencing the water, Jesus is answering the question that Nicodemus asked concerning natural birth. In Spiritual context one could superimpose the water to be the Word of God, but I believe that Jesus is addressing the question as was asked. Jesus is comparing the differences in being born naturally and being born of the Spirit, born again [spiritual adoption]. Born of the Spirit [again] is strictly New Covenant. No one was born of the Spirit in the Old Covenant because the Spirit

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was not yet given [see John 7:39]. It needs be that He went away or the Spirit could not come [John 16:7]. Even though the disciples walked with Jesus every day they were not and could not be converted, born again of the Spirit, until after the cross. Post cross there is neither Jew nor gentile. So this “born again” is NOT just for the Jew, but for all. Jesus told Peter that **when he was converted** to strengthen his brothers. Entering the Kingdom of God [experiencing the Feast of Pentecost] is somewhat similar to the King entering us at our conversion [Spiritual Feast of Passover]. Jesus did not say that Nicodemus entered the Kingdom of God because he was born again, but that he must be born again to enter. Jesus said in John 14:20 that at that day [day of Pentecost] you shall know that I am in my Father, **ye in me** and **I in you**. We know through the Word that entering the Kingdom of God is being baptized in the Holy Ghost [Spiritual Feast of Pentecost] for at that moment we would enter Him just as He entered us at our conversion. Look to your concordance for further illumination of being “in Christ”. There is a definite difference between those in Christ and those that are not, just as those that are born of the Spirit and those that are not. Peter told us in Acts 2:39 that the “baptism” in the Spirit is for all. We see throughout the book of Acts that this baptism was for Jew and gentile [see Cornelius in Acts 10]. Thus, entering the Kingdom of God is strictly New Covenant, but one must first be born again.)

6 *That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.* (In this verse we see the definite distinction between being born of the flesh and of the Spirit. Some are beginning to espouse that just being born in the flesh is all that is required in the New Covenant. NOT! We have seen immediately above that being “born again” is strictly New Covenant and that it does not apply only to the Jew. The confusion begins with the misunderstanding of the “Finished Work” which will be addressed later.)

7 *Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.* (Some may espouse that the “ye” in this verse is plural and that since Nicodemus was a leader of the Jews then these verses apply only to the Jews. In the context of the entire passage this is not so. Recall the word “man” in verse 3 and the fact that it means “any person”, Jew or gentile. Also, we will visit the “whosoever” and the “world” in the verses that follow which will correct that hypothesis. We cannot isolate a phrase, verse or short text in attempting to prove a point [isolated proof text]. We must utilize the full council of the scripture in context.)

8 *The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.* (The Bible truly is a book of symbols. It portrays people as trees, mountains, clouds, the sea etc. In this verse

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people that are **born again are born of the Spirit** and are like the wind. The Spirit like the wind cannot be seen, but the results of the presence of the Spirit certainly can. Again we see in this verse that being “born again” means to be born of the Spirit or born from “above”. “Above” in this case is not referring to a geographical location or some fixed coordinate in the exosphere. But, being born of the Spirit is of a higher calling in a Spiritual realm. Reiterating being “born of the Spirit” [born again] is totally New Covenant

9 *Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be?* (Nicodemus was a teacher of the Old Covenant law. He did not understand the concepts of the New Covenant. God had said in Jeremiah 31 that He was going to make a New Covenant whereby He would write His laws in the minds and hearts of the people instead of on tables of stone. How could and would God write His laws on the hearts of the people? They must first be “born again” or born of the Spirit. God is Spirit and He is able to get inside of us [His ultimate goal, 2 Cor. 6:16] to write His laws on our hearts due to the cross. He could not live inside of Man prior to the cross because the cleansing agent to purify each vessel for a holy God habitation [the blood] had not yet been shed for the remission of sin. The New Testament teaches in numerous places that after the cross we must “believe” in what took place at the cross. There is no automatic inclusion. Surely we believe that and if we do then we must be “born again”, strictly New Covenant.)

10 *Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things?* (The Jews had been given the oracles of God due to God’s promise to Abraham. The Jews knew through the prophets that it was the time of the Messiah, but they did not understand the mission of Messiah or the Kingdom of Messiah. They thought Messiah was strictly for them, to set up a natural throne and a natural kingdom in natural Israel and make them the rulers of the world. Most Christians err in this same belief today. His Kingdom is strictly and totally Spiritual.)

11 *Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness.* (Nicodemus had obviously searched the Old Testament scriptures and he thought they testified of the Jews and their understanding of eternal life. But Jesus was to tell them a couple chapters later that the scriptures testified of Him. The majority of the Jews did not receive that witness.)

12 *If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?* (Earthly things have nothing to do with terra firma just as heavenly things have nothing to do with outer space. Adam was cast down from a heavenly Spiritual place to a carnal mind place, an earthly realm.)

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13 *And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.* (Some state that the last phrase in this verse after the last comma is not a part of the original. Some say that it is. Regardless, the first phrase states that the Son of man had ascended to heaven while walking on the earth. How can these things be? Again, heaven is not a geographical place, but a place in God and God in a place (man). The Son of man was in heaven because the Spirit God lived in Him. Jesus was to later state in John chapters 12 and 14 that where He was there we could be also. He is not addressing living in outer space, but that God could live in man and man could live in God [John 14:10, 11, and 20]. As we have seen in the previous verses of this passage, this verse pertains to the Spirit God living in man which again is solely New Covenant. Paul was to later pen that **if** any man be in Christ he is a new creature. There then remains the fact that some in this New Covenant Day are not in Christ thus there is no automatic inclusion into Passover or Pentecost.)

14 *And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:* (In the wilderness **everyone that looked** upon the serpent was healed. Those that did not look were not healed. Looking on the serpent was a requirement by the participant. So it is in the New Covenant. We must look upon the cross. There is not an automatic “inclusion” just because the cross occurred. There is a choice to look or not to look.)

15 *That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.* (“Whosoever” is not only for the Jew, but also for the gentile? The word “whosoever” means everyone, Jew and gentile. We see numerous prophecies in the Old Testament that the Messiah would be the one on whom the gentiles would trust. “Life” means to be in union with God. “Death” means to be out of union with God. The day of Adam’s sin was death for him. He actually lived to be 930 years old, but he lived in death after the fall. He fell out of a heavenly place to an earthly one. He did not fall on his head. He fell in his head. When anyone enters this world through natural birth they are born of Adam. They are fallen in the head. When anyone is born again they become babes in Christ. In their head they begin to take on the mind of Christ. They are not yet mature sons in their minds [souls]. God is in the business of restoring our mind [the mind of Christ] to operate in the one hundred fold realm instead of on the ten percent level. I presently do not possess the total mind of Christ. Due to prior identification the carnal mind of the first Adam still affects me to a degree, but HIS Spirit is changing my mind. Anytime we use the words “carnal mind” we are speaking of Adam. I have entered the Garden of Eden, but I have not yet explored its total beauty, vastness and riches. There remains an unfinished work in me even though He finished the work of the Father while walking on the earth.)

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16 *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.* (The “world” referred to in this verse is the Greek word “kosmos” and in context describes the entire earth and/or the inhabitants thereof. The Greek word for world that is sometimes used “aion” is not used by Jesus in this verse. That word “world” pertained primarily to the Jews. Again, the word “world” that Jesus used here in this verse means the inhabitants of the entire sphere. Since the subject of the complete passage concerns being “born again” then the experience is necessary for all that dwell on the planet in the attainment of everlasting life. The plural “ye” that we have seen in verse 7 apply to all dwelling in the cosmos and not just to the Jews. In this verse we again see a requirement by the individual to make a choice of believing or not believing. How can we stray from the foundational doctrine that Jesus established? His words transcended the old heaven and earth into the New Covenant of the new heaven and new earth which are born again respondents.)

17 *For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.* (The word “world” is used thrice in this verse. Again in all instances it is the word “kosmos” meaning the entire world and its inhabitants. The world will be saved through Him, but it will be by the freewill choice that God has given each man. Thus this statement is not solely relevant to the Jews.)

18 **He that believeth** on him is not condemned: but **he that believeth not is condemned already**, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. (There are too many verses containing the word “believe” to fully expound upon here. But, we see in this verse that Jesus ties the word “believe” with being “born again” because that is the subject of the entire discourse. Surely we can read this verse with basic foundational understanding concerning belief. Let’s not blow up our foundation and injure would be believers of this or future generations. Jesus said four times in John chapter 6 that if those whom he was addressing would believe in Him then He would raise them up at the last day. Jesus is not referencing raising them up from the ground in a bodily resurrection at some point in the future. The last day began at the cross and continues unto this day. It is called the “last day” because there is no other day for regeneration. Whatever natural day that any man would live in could be the day of their new birth if they believed. This rebirth is the last day of the first Adam having reign in my spirit and the first day of the last Adam taking control of my soul [mind]. The ones Jesus was addressing would be regenerated [raised up] after the cross [at the last day]. No one could be raised up [regenerated] until after the cross [strictly New Covenant]. After the cross they could be translated into the Kingdom of God’s dear Son without leaving the planet [Col. 1:13]. They would be quickened who were dead in trespasses and sin [Eph. 2:1].

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Those that do not believe in Jesus in the New Covenant age are already condemned. Jesus said here that they were born into condemnation [Adam]. We will look at the first and last Adam in a coming section which I believe is being misinterpreted and misunderstood in some quarters. Earthly inhabitants [Adam, Biblical sea dwellers} are not automatically included because the cross happened. Those not born again are born into condemnation. They are not automatically born again because they are born. They can be included via the rebirth.)

19 *And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.* (Again Jesus uses the word for world that defines the entire planet [kosmos] and not just the Jewish world [aion]. Jesus can and will be the light of all in the world and not just the Jewish world. He is presently the light of the New Jerusalem. We are this light producing city which has no natural walls, but does have walls of salvation. Light is the knowledge and revelation of who God is and where He dwells. Darkness is the lack of understanding, a bottomless pit.)

20 *For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov'd.* (Everyone is the Greek word "pas" and it includes all. This word is not restricted only for the Jewish nation. Deeds not of the Lord are and shall be reprov'd. If they are not reprov'd by the fire of God in this life then they shall be reprov'd by His fire in the next. As discussed previously our God is a consuming fire. There are no "get out of fire free cards" despite that which some might proclaim. Burn me slowly now by the fire of the Holy Ghost or accelerate my incineration later so as to burn my fleshly earthy mind. It is best to lose our life in this life and live by the life of His life.)

21 *But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.* (We see here that there is a choice to come to the light in this life or be torched by the fire of God in the next. He kills us softly with His love in this life if we so allow. Or, if we build a tower of wood, hay and stubble it will be burnt, but we ourselves shall be saved so as by fire as we will see later. God's goal is to manifest Himself [not just be of omnipresence] in every man and that begins by being born of the Spirit [born again]. There are deeds that God desires to do through each of us. This is and shall be known as the manifestation of the sons of God to all of creation [Romans chapter 8]. God has made a partnership with man to complete His work on the earth. He has chosen that if anything is done on the earth it will be through His relationship in and through man. The problem with most of Christianity is that they believe that God is going to do everything for them outside of their participation. Our Christian sit [not walk] then becomes as the pampered spoiled child sitting on

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our do nothing and waiting for the “chronos” time of an event [not much different that the rapture doctrine].)

This concludes the interaction between Jesus and Nicodemus. Parts and parcels were not taken out of context. The born again experience (born of the Spirit) is a requirement for everyone from here to eternity. In Galatians 4:29 Paul wrote of the difference between those born of the flesh and those born of the Spirit. Galatians were gentiles. Peter was also affiliated with the gentiles. To solidify their farfetched doctrines, some attempt to portray that Peter was strictly an evangelist to the Jews. (Some of these previously mentioned even espouse that only the Jews will eventually rule and reign on the earth while the gentile Christians will be in an outer space heaven.) Peter was preaching to the gentiles before Paul ever made an impact. The entire household of the gentile Cornelius was born again and baptized in the Holy Ghost under Peter’s ministry. In 1 Peter 1:17 Peter writes that God is not a respecter of persons. This means that God does not esteem one ethnicity over another in the New Covenant. He judges according to **every man’s** work. Peter’s writing then is to every man and not just to the Jews. In 1 Peter 1:23 he addresses being “born again” of an incorruptible seed (Spirit) instead of a corruptible one (flesh). The following verses then would pertain to everyone, Jew and Gentile:

1 Peter 1:7 *That the **trial of your faith**, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, **though it be tried with fire**, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: (Does faith then apply only to the Jews? That would be a ludicrous assumption. In this verse we witness the fire that tries our faith. Any and every man must first believe God and believe that He is in order to have faith in Him. We do not please God without faith. This definitely cannot apply to an unbeliever. His appearing is a continual and perpetual appearing. His coming is an ever increasing revelation of Him in us, but we must first be born again. Where in this chapter or book does Peter quit writing to all men and start writing only to the Jews?)*

1 Peter 1:22 *Seeing ye have purified your souls in **obeying the truth through the Spirit** unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently: **23** Being **born again**, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.*

The corruptible seed is referencing the first Adam as we will see in 1 Corinthians 15. Peter is not solely addressing the Jews as being corruptible, thus making the other ethnic nations incorruptible. Jesus tied believing to the born again experience (born of the Spirit) in John 3. In verse 22 we see that the Spirit is again affiliated with the born again experience of verse 23 just

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as Jesus told Nicodemus. Jesus is the living Word and He lives and abides forever in man as Spirit if man is first born again. The last Adam was made a quickening Spirit and the Lord is that Spirit.

My goal in this writing is not to complete an epic treatise or over analyze, but to adequately cover the subject. Hopefully I can quell our attempt to blow up our foundation and thus restrain our fall into the very crater we would have created for ourselves. Recall the blind leading the blind. I will not attempt to cover every verse or word that pertains to believing and being born again. There is one word that must be addressed in order to fully douse the ignited fuse that is speeding toward a destructive chain reaction explosion that would ultimately blow a hole in our ground. That word is “**regeneration**”:

Regeneration - NT:3824 Paliggenesia (pal-ing-ghen-es-ee'-ah); from NT:3825 and NT:1078; **(spiritual) rebirth (the state or the act)**, i.e. (figuratively) **spiritual renovation**; specifically, **Messianic restoration**:

The word regeneration is used two times in the New Testament. Jesus used the word in Matthew 19:28 when He told the disciples that those that followed Him in the “regeneration” when the Son of man would sit on the throne of His glory would sit on twelve thrones judging Israel. With minimal study we have seen that the throne of the Lord’s glory is the Holy Ghost. This of course occurred after the cross. We know the Holy Ghost is for all due to the commission Jesus gave the disciples in Acts 1:8. It is thus evident that there would be those who would not follow Him and were not regenerated (reborn). We see again a requirement or a choice by the individual either to follow and be regenerated (born again) or not to follow.

The Apostle Paul also utilized the word “regeneration” when he wrote the epistle to Titus:

Titus 3:5 *Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy **he saved us, by the washing of regeneration**, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;*

Titus was a gentile, a Greek by birth. Titus was “saved” by being “born again” or “regenerated” just as Paul who was a Jew. Surely this should cap the primer and rekindle a slow burning fuse for a God controlled chain reaction requiring that all men everywhere be saved through regeneration (rebirth):

1 Tim 2:4 **Who will have all men to be saved**, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

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This verse written after the cross did not state that all men are presently saved because of the cross, but that it is God's will that all men be saved. We must come to the knowledge of the truth. It does not come to us because our hearts beat and we inhale and exhale oxygen. How are men saved? According to Titus 3:5 men are saved by the washing of regeneration (rebirth). Look to your concordance and examine the words "save" and "saved". With occurrences too numerous to mention here, it is readily determined that Jew and Gentile must experience the new birth. Just as Jesus told Nicodemus, "You must be born again."

THE FINISHED UNFINISHED WORK

The title of this section is not an Oklahoma oxymoron. It remains a Biblical standard. Our dear brother from Arkansas was one of the first that I heard adequately and eloquently address and express the finished work of the Lord. Like the "Faith Movement" that had its origins in the 1950's, the trumpet of the message was vitally needed for further Christian progression and maturity. Once the pendulum began to swing in the "Faith Movement", then it went completely out of balance and our clock was wound too tight with a "name it and claim it" philosophy. Some of these "prosperity" preachers are presently being investigated by the federal government.

I see by the old clock on the church wall that this pendulum effect is beginning to affect the pure message of the "Finished Work". Without a doubt, just as the Bible declares, the man **Jesus Christ**, the Son of God, finished the work that the Spirit Father had sent him to do. (This rightly opposes the "rapture doctrine" whereby Jesus must come in the future and finish the work thus reducing the power of the cross and subsequent baptism in the Spirit.) But, many are beginning to claim and proclaim that the work of **Christ Jesus** is already finished **in** all men just because they are born as men. All one must do is simply "wake up" to that fact. First, what does "wake up" mean? Does "waking up" mean repenting, being born again, being translated into His Kingdom, being baptized in His Spirit, being changed into His image and likeness, being taken from glory to glory, being caught up by the Spirit and taken from heavenly place to heavenly place, etc. (all scriptural terms). If this is what "waking up" means then set my clock for an early arousal? If this is what "waking up" means then why must we inaugurate new terms and utilize different semantics? Why can't we just swing with the terms that the Bible uses? But, I don't perceive that this is the intent of the concept at this present extreme acute position of the pendulum. I have been awakened to righteousness which means right standing with God. That right standing originated with my acceptance of the cross and being born again. The "Son Dial" should be our most accurate indicator of our celestial and terrestrial position (no

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moving swinging parts, a sound foundation). For accurate timekeeping the Son should be shining in and on our life day and night, cloudy or bright. So let's dial up the Son and see what He says about the "Finished Work" and hopefully we can shift this swinging weight back to center:

John 4:34 *Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.*

John 5:36 *But I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me.*

As stated previously, I am not attempting to clean anyone's clock here for that is not my responsibility, nor am I able. I just know how the Lord cleaned mine and continues to do so. My goal here is to help adjust our clock and spring forward to save our daylight emanating from the Daystar (the Son) and not fall back into darkness. May each tick be in tune with the heartbeat of God? The flesh and blood man Jesus, the **Son of God**, came to finish the work that the Father had sent Him to do. We will see that He finished the work. The work of the glorified **Son of man**, the Holy Ghost (Christ Jesus) is not yet finished. This is the Biblical and present position of the "finished unfinished" work. If Kingdom adherents (all inclusive) understood this then there would be no need for further explanation. The man Jesus as He walked on the earth began explaining the transition from being born of a natural seed to being born again of a Spiritual seed. He was the man with the plan and the means whereby this translation and transition could indeed occur. He was born of man, but conceived by the Spirit God, thus He had the key for the cloning, being changed into His image. "Being **changed** into His image" is solely a New Covenant occurrence although forecast in the first few chapters of Genesis. The first creation of Genesis 1:27 were made only in the image and not the likeness of God. "Image" in the Hebrew does not have the same meaning as "image" in the Greek. This Old Testament definition of "image" means just being a shell of a man (man without God, this creation was not Adam and will be discussed later). The Apostle Paul certainly understood this concept of the "finished unfinished work". But, let's permit Jesus (the finished) to first tell us (the unfinished) that He finished the work to show us (the unfinished) the way to the finished:

John 17:4 *I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.*

Jesus spoke these words immediately before going to the Garden of Gethsemane. **The work of the flesh and blood man, the Son of God, was finished.** Although simple, the preceding

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sentence is quite profound and has far reaching implications. It proclaims the same that Jesus stated in John 16:7 that it needs be that He goes away as a man and comes again as the Comforter. It would be too vast an explanation to address here, but we see through study of John chapters 14-16 that He was coming back as the Comforter, the Holy Ghost. This again would explain and substantiate the finished unfinished work. His work as a man was finished. His work as the Holy Ghost is not yet finished. He **will** lead us and guide us to all truth and He is presently leading and guiding us and giving us more revelation of Himself. This is the manner in which He **continues building** His church. Thus His work as the Holy Ghost remains unfinished.

John 19:30 *When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, **It is finished**: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.*

Jesus knew that His physical life would be finished thus He had previously related the same to the disciples. He knew that He came as a man in order to leave and return to Spirit. He knew that to finish the plan of God He could never accept a natural kingdom (and will never do so) when He was tempted to do so after His forty day fast. He had a work to complete as a man to point to the work to be done in the Spirit through man (the Kingdom of God). He had said that greater things would His followers do because He returned to the Father as Spirit. He had come to do the work of the Father and His work was now complete as a man. This is the “finished work” that we see in the immediate verse above. Again, can’t we understand the plan of God for man in including him through the finished work of the cross and then through the Spirit? There remains a work for man to finish through the glorified **Son of man** (the Holy Spirit, Christ Jesus) even though the work was finished by the **Son of God**.

The **Son of God** was glorified by the work that He had **finished** on the earth, but we see that the **Son of man** was yet to be glorified because that work **was not yet finished**. That understanding begins in John 12:20 when the Greeks ask to see Jesus and continues into John chapter 17. The Son of God had come only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel (He had to fulfill their law), but the glorified Son of man (Holy Ghost) can come to all men everywhere. This is the transition from natural seed to spiritual seed. We pick up the concept in John 12:23:

John 12:23 *And Jesus answered them, saying, The hour is come, that the **Son of man should be glorified**.*

Why did Jesus use the term “Son of man” instead of “Son of God”? We will see in the next verse below that the Son of God had already glorified God, but God would be glorified again through

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the glorified Son of man which was to come (the Comforter, the Holy Ghost.) The Son of God was about to finish His work, but His work as the glorified Son of man is not yet finished:

John 12:28 *Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again.*

Name in the Bible intrinsically means nature. The nature of God was manifest in the Son of God who walked on the earth for a short period of time. Due to that which the Son of God did then the nature of God can and will be manifest again on the earth due to the glorified Son of man. This glorified Son of man (the Holy Ghost) can glorify and manifest God just as the Son of God did, but that work is not yet complete or finished. Jesus said that greater things shall we do because He returned to the Father (Spirit) and then came back as Spirit on the day of Pentecost (John 14:20-23). As we do those greater things (manifest God) the Father's name is again glorified. We can do greater things because there is more of Him than was contained in one physical man. He is and shall be manifest in many men thus the producing of much fruit (John 12:24). Since the earth is not yet filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea then the work is not yet finished by the glorified Son of man. As alluded to earlier, the same message is sent in John 17:

John 17:1 *These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:*

John 17:4 *I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.*

In John 17:1 Jesus asks the Father to glorify the Son so the Son could glorify the Father. But, in verse 4 Jesus states that He has already glorified the Father on the earth. Is Jesus making contradictory statements in His prayer to the Father? No! In verse 4 He knew that He had glorified the Father as the Son of God walking on the earth. According to that verse the work of the Son of God was now finished. In verse 1 He is requesting to glorify the Father a second time (John 12:28) as the Son of man (the Holy Ghost for that is what the chapters are all about from John 12 through 17). The glorified Son of man (the Holy Ghost in men) would glorify God a second time. Jesus goes on to state in John 17:10 that He is glorified in men and in Col. 1:27 we see that Christ in us is the hope of glory. He is and shall be glorified as the Son of man (Holy Ghost) in men. That work is not yet finished. There then remains the "finished unfinished" work. Paul visualized the concept in much of his writings, but could not be penned any more clearly than found in two specific passages:

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1 Cor 15:27 For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith, all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him.

28 And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all.

In verse 27 we see that all things are put under His feet including death, yet we read in verse 28 that all things are not yet subdued unto Him (further explanation of verse 28 will be seen below). Is this contradictory? Of course not, with that which we have seen thus far concerning the finished work we now can ascertain that the Son of God put all things under His feet. Yet, the glorified Son of man working in man has not yet subdued all things unto Him. Physical death certainly has not been subdued unto Him. God may and will be all in all. Until then He continues to finish the work in us and until we continue to submit by our own freewill can all things be subdued unto Him. There is no automatic subduing (simply waking up) because the Son of God put everything under His feet. The same message and concept is seen in the book of Hebrews:

Heb 2:8 Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him. But now we see not yet all things put under him.

Does this verse contradict itself? Of course not, the Son of God had everything put under His feet by the overcoming life that He lived and by His resurrection from death. He finished all the work that the Father had sent Him to do in order to show us the way. The Father desires that man attains to that level. But now we see not all things put under the feet of the Son of man (the unfinished work), but we see Jesus. When we know Him in the power of His resurrection then the Son of man will have finished the work demonstrated by the Son of God. We can now comprehend the meaning of 1 Corinthians 15:28, "Then shall the Son also himself be subject unto Him that put all things under Him that God may be all in all." "Son" by definition and by context in this verse does not mean Jesus Christ, but Christ Jesus (Spirit). The Son of God was totally subject to the Spirit Father God, but now the Son composed of many members has not been. At some point he (plural) will be, thus God will be all in all. The finished unfinished work will have been finished. The finished work now rules and reigns in my spirit, but does not presently totally hold sway in my soul and body. Come quickly Christ Jesus into your temple and finish the work.

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THE FIRST AND LAST ADAM

My heart and primary goal in this writing is to continue to build in truth. It is not my intent to be argumentative with anyone. There is only one conveyance in continuing in truth and that is through the Spirit inspired Word (not necessarily just the Bible). I realize that truth is progressive and that progressive truth (the gold of revelation) is the material used in the continued building of the church. In the past and present there are other materials that are brought to the building site by the well intentioned, materials of hay, wood, stubble and possibly even a little gold and silver (a mixture). We must not conjure up something that sounds good that contains a bit of truth and attempt to build with it. All doctrines and denominations have come to the location with a bit of truth, but not all they believe is truth. We can only build in the light of the day in which we live. There was less light in the past and there shall be increased light in the future. My prayer is that we use material in our day of construction that will withstand the intense light and fire of a future day. A goodly portion of the material (doctrine) that I was indoctrinated with is presently being razed by the light and fire of this day. Being somewhat of a carpenter, I almost detest tearing down and rebuilding as we are presently doing with doctrines perpetrated in the past. It is much more efficient and cost effective to build correctly from the beginning. New construction is a much easier task than remodeling (a tearing down first). Our specialty in construction for this day should endure for future generations. There is a truckload of new material arriving daily at our building site. Possibly some is gold and probably some is not. Let's call in and on the building Inspector to make sure we are building according to His code.

I am beginning to detect some things stated about the first and last Adam that I don't think that we can use in our building. So, in the following paragraphs I would like to express some thoughts that I perceive the Inspector related to me concerning the subject. I hear some advocating that since Jesus was called the last Adam then the first Adam no longer affects mankind in any form or fashion, spirit, soul or body. Here are few of many questions that I could ask about that supposition. What was God's plan for the first Adam? What does the term "the last Adam" really mean? Does mankind continue to grow older and physically die? Is sickness and disease still prevalent among the people of the world? Do they remain subject to at least one of the generational curses passed down from Adam through their most recent ancestors? As I ask myself these questions and perceive the answers then I see that the first Adam still affects creation to a great degree. The following passage pertains to the law of sin and death which came about due to the first Adam's actions:

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Rom 5:12 *Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: (Spiritual death, separation from God, came via the first Adam with physical death following. Thus death passed upon all men. The day that Adam sinned he separated himself from God, but he lived to be 930 years old and then he physically died.)*

13 *For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law. (Sin was not counted against those who were sinning, but may not have known it, yet they still were separated from God and physically died as seen in the next verse.)*

14 *Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come. (The first Adam was supposed to do for the first creation that which the last Adam did for the corporate Adam. We will see that the first Adam was not the first creation.)*

15 *But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many. (One man, Jesus Christ, the last Adam was a gift by God to mankind. The gift must be accepted. God has not nor will He ever force His gift upon anyone. A gift not utilized is of no value to the recipient. The gift of life comes from being born again and not from just being born into the human race.)*

16 *And not as it was by one that sinned, so is the gift: for the judgment was by one to condemnation, but the free gift is of many offences unto justification.*

17 *For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ. (Spiritual and physical death came by one, the first Adam. I see that the first Adam still plagues mankind. The receiving of the gift of the last Adam has made me free from the law of sin and death. There is only one man in the earth. That man is the first Adam, because the last Adam became a quickening Spirit. He no longer lives as a man. Most Christians only know of the man Jesus Christ. They do not know Christ Jesus. Many continue to live in the "dust" where the first Adam dwells. I live in the heavens where the quickening Spirit abounds.)*

18 *Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life. (As seen*

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and will be seen, the free gift must be accepted. The money is in the bank, but we must withdraw from the deposit to benefit from the gift.)

20 Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:

21 That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so “might” grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord. (Grace “might” reign through righteousness unto eternal life, but only if we accept the gift of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. We then grow through the Spirit Christ Jesus.)

Some prefer to use the term “carnal mind” while at the same time disdaining the word “Adam”. These words and terms are one in the same as referenced by the Bible. The first few verses of Romans 8 paint a distinct picture of the first Adam (carnality).

Rom 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. (It certainly appears here that some can be in Christ and some are in Adam. Because the cross happened does not mean that everyone since that event are in Christ. To get in Christ Jesus [Spirit] we must first accept the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. The fleshly mind and carnality has everything to do with the first Adam.)

2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. (Throughout the Bible the law of sin and death deals directly with the first Adam. See the comments concerning Romans 5:12-21 above.)

3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: (By one man, the first Adam, sin and death entered into the world. The Law of Moses could not do away with the law of sin and death. The law simply and certainly pointed out sin and pointed to Jesus Christ who was to become Christ Jesus. Jesus Christ addressed the sin issue by His blood that was shed on the cross. Christ Jesus corrected the death problem by His resurrection and subsequent returning to the Father as Spirit. Romans 6:5 states that “if” we have been planted together with Him in the likeness of His death, we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection (present, not future tense). The first Adam was a figure of the Last Adam that was to come. As we will see, the first Adam was supposed to affect the first creation.)

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4 That *the righteousness of the law “might” be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.* (It appears here that we can walk after the first Adam or we can walk after Christ Jesus. The work is not yet finished that it might be fulfilled in us.)

5 For *they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.* (It appears that many post cross still walk after the first Adam. The fleshly mind of Adam is that which did him and us in and all are born into that mind set. Every man is born subject to vanity just as Adam was. This is the evil that God continually creates found in Isaiah 45:7. When we are born again we can begin to put on the mind of Christ.)

6 For *to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.* (The law of sin and death through the first Adam continues to reign in some, but the righteousness of the law through Christ Jesus reigns if we accept the gift of Jesus Christ.)

7 Because *the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.* (Being in Adam is not subject to the law of God.)

8 So then *they that are in the flesh cannot please God.* (We or a Muslim cannot please God while in the first Adam. We [and they] must get out of the first Adam and enter Christ through the last Adam. It is a conscience effort on our part. There is no automatic inclusion because the cross occurred.)

9 But *ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit “if” so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now “if” any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.* (This verse cuts to the chase. The little word “if” is humongous among us and leaves no fungus to dung us. It is sharp and quick and cuts to the quick leaving no doubt about this bout. There are thousands upon millions upon billions alive today that do not have the Spirit of Christ. They are presently none of His. “If” we truly love creation we do not have the right to tell them they are “included”, but we do have the mandate to tell them to get included. Until then their eyes are occluded and they remain bewitched, bothered and bewildered.)

10 And *“if” Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.* (‘nuff said.)

As hard as some might shake, bake and quake they have not yet been able to awake, partake or undertake total restoration and transformation? In, of and by ourselves, we can’t make Adam go completely away, especially in our soul and body. The first Adam will depart if we continue as a corporate body with the revelation knowledge of Christ in us. I realize that **we** can be **made**

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to be the righteousness of God in Christ according to 2 Corinthians 4:10 and the associated verses. Like Paul we press forward to the mark of the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. No **one** individual will walk by themselves in total restoration and transformation. As the old song goes, you will not have to cross Jordon alone. In fact you can't, it is a body ministry and when a significant cadre of the body (a first fruit company) receives the revelation of who God is and where He dwells then we will apprehend that for which we are apprehended. We are attaining, but we have not yet attained:

Phil 3:12 **Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.** (We as individuals walk in Christ Jesus after our encounter with Jesus Christ and corporately we will apprehend. The definition of Christ according to 1 Corinthians 12:12 is Him as the head and us as the body.)

13 **Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,**

14 **I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.**

15 Let **us** therefore, **as many as be perfect**, be thus minded: and **if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.** (It appears that we can be otherwise minded. Continued revelation of Christ in us builds the church to perfection.)

16 Nevertheless, **whereto we have already attained**, let **us** walk by the same rule, let **us** mind the same thing. (Let us continue to walk in that truth which we have attained thus far? Let us not attempt to destroy that which we have truly and truthfully built upon.)

17 **Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample.** (Follow Paul and the body as they follow Christ. In the areas that they do not follow Christ do not follow him or them. Do not get into an argument with Barnabas about John Mark only to repent later. The same can be said for anyone that lives today. Through the Spirit we have discernment.)

Let's investigate what the scriptures and the building Inspector (the cornerstone of the foundation) state about the first and last Adam. I hope that most realize by now that the creation described in Genesis 1:27-28 was not the forming of the first Adam. This creation occurred thousands if not millions of years before Adam appeared six thousand years ago. Science certainly confirms this fact as does the Bible if we read insightfully from Genesis 1:1 through Genesis 6:7. Cro-Magnon man, Java man, Peking man, etc. were a part of the first

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creation. In Genesis 2 Adam was formed (squeezed into shape) from the creation found in Genesis 1. Man's time (chronos) was not created until the fourth creation day (see Genesis 1:14-18). So we know that the creation days were not twenty four hour periods of time. Additionally, without a doubt Seth was the third child born of Adam as seen in Genesis 5:3 and then after Seth was born Adam and Eve had other sons and daughters (Genesis 5:4). The implication is that Cain had long since departed Eden and before he left he addressed the concern that someone would kill him. Cain would eventually take a wife from the land of Nod. And when she was Noddy she was very, very Noddy as the nursery rhyme goes. These people could not have been referring to Cain's brothers and sister, because they were not yet born.

Additionally, the creation of Genesis 1:27 were made only in the image of God, male AND female made He them simultaneously. But, Adam was made in the likeness of God (Genesis 5:1). There is so much evidence of pre-Adam man in the first six chapters, but none more profound than found in chapter six. The sons of God (the lineage from Adam through Seth) saw that the daughters of pre-Adam man were fair to look upon and they took them for wives. Adam was not created; he was formed from the "dust of the earth" already walking on the earth. He was squeezed into shape by God breathing a breath of life into him and Adam became a "living soul". The rest of creation at that time possessed "dead souls" or no recognition that God even existed. In simple terms, Adam was the first man in God's creation that recognized God for who He was due to that which God "breathed" into him.

The first Adam was God's first thrust in reconciling His creation (all men) back to Himself. John the revelator saw forward and gained understanding through the signs and symbols of his vision. Moses looked backward into history more than 2,500 years (the "back parts" of God) and penned the creation story through signs and symbols. We can visualize the garden and all its associated and ancillary items in the natural if we want, but the spiritual lessons are most important. In short, God had placed Adam in a spiritual place where never a man before him had been. He was supposed to make one small step for God and a giant leap for mankind. God was the river that was to flow out of Adam's "garden"; flow to the rest of the world and bring life. That same river continues to flow throughout the Bible into Ezekiel 47, John 7 and Revelation 22. It now flows from the last Adam out of our innermost being (bellies). Instead of God flowing out of the first Adam, Adam went with the flow of the world. A cult (Sachan) existing at that time worshiped the snake. So Adam was influenced by the snake. That snake crawling on its belly would continue to eat the dust of death until the last Adam arrived with a river of life that was to flow out of Him to us. Thus, God repented that he ever made man (not Adam) because pre-Adam man influenced Adam.

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Just because the first Adam came into existence did not mean that pre-Adam man disappeared from the face of the earth. They continued to exist on the planet well over 1,600 years until the time of the flood of Noah. This is a portent of that which was to come concerning the **last Adam**. The last Adam is called the **last Adam** because He would be God's **last thrust** in the reconciliation of man to God. Due to Who He was, what He did and the manner in which he did it there would be no need for **another Adam**. The last Adam finished the work of God as a man, but like pre-Adam man who continued to exist past the time of the first Adam, so does the first Adam live beyond the last Adam. Let's see what the last Adam did as a man in order to hold the title of the last Adam:

Heb 10:12 *But **this man**, after he had offered **one sacrifice for sins for ever**, sat down on the right hand of God;* (Right hand, arm and side means the power of God in the earth.)

The first Adam failed in his mission. The last Adam finished His mission and gave us a commission. He gave us a commission even though His mission as a man was finished, but the mission of the glorified Son of man (Holy Ghost) is not yet finished. Therefore, there is no need for another Adam, because the last Adam became a quickening Spirit that quickens us to complete His commission. As stated earlier, He loves us so much that He wants us to be a part of the victory. All of us can get a revelation, but is the revelation ours or God's? A revelation from God lines up with the full council of His inspired Word. There is only one verse in the Bible that contains the phrase "the last Adam", but like all scripture we cannot take a verse or phrase out of context (isolated proof text). We must examine the associated verses:

1 Cor 15:45-49

45 *And so it is written, **The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.*** (After the death of the last Adam He returned to Spirit from whence He came back after His death just as He said He would in John 6:62-63, Matthew 10:23, Matthew 16:27-28, Matthew 26:64, John 1:1, 14 etc. He became a quickening Spirit to quicken us to finish the unfinished work, the Great Commission. See Acts 1:8.)

46 *Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual.* (That which came of the last Adam is that He became Spirit. In John 16:7 He said that it needs be that He would go away or He could not come again as the Comforter [Spirit] to live in us. If we allow, He changes us from glory to glory and will eventually overtake the first Adam in soul and body just as He has done in our Spirit. Before we hear the word and are "born again" our spirit and soul are one in purpose with the soul having rule over our spirit.

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When we “hear” the word, which is sharper than a two edged sword [Heb. 4:12], our new Spirit and soul are divided. The Spirit then begins to take control and hold sway over the soul. The last Adam begins defeating the mindset of the first Adam. This is known as Spiritual growth after our re-birth. We grow from babes in Christ to mature sons. Eventually the soul and Spirit become one again with the Spirit reigning over the soul. At some point the Spirit/soul will rule over the natural body and we will be changed. The first Adam will have been completely defeated by the last Adam who became a quickening Spirit. Until that time the first Adam still influences mankind.)

47 *The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven.* (The “first man” that Paul is writing about here is the first Adam and his influence on the generation that existed at the time of the writing and continues to live today in the “earth”. Like the first creation lived over 1,600 years after the first man Adam, so does the first Adam still live in this day of the last Adam. The quickening Spirit has not yet totally defeated the first man in soul and body, but He will because He lives and reigns within you and me, the corporate body. We see not yet all things subdued unto Him even though all things were put under His feet at the cross.)

48 *As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly.* (We see in this verse again that Adam still lives after the cross. There were those living in Paul’s days which were of the earthy Adam. Paul makes a definite distinction here between those that have been born of the Spirit [born again] and those that are not. There is no automatic inclusion because the cross happened. You must be born again.)

49 *And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.* (Paul in no way stated here that he presently lived in the fullness of the image of the heavenly. Paul is addressing living after the cross yet he still lived to a degree in the image of the earthy first Adam.)

Because the phrase “the last Adam” is used in verse 45 above does not mean that the first Adam ceased to exist. We plainly see that he does exist by the explanation in the verses that follow the only verse in the Bible that contains the phrase “the last Adam”. Let the Lord build our building (the church) with the full council of His word which reveals truth. He said that He is truth. I see that there is another load of material arriving that we must inspect before using it on our building and our work day is complete.

THE LAMB SLAIN FROM THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD

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by GL Parks

We read several verses in the Bible which directly and indirectly state that the Lamb was slain from the foundation of the world. What does this mean? What is the foundation of the world? I am beginning to hear some proclaim that since the Lamb was slain from the foundation of the world then all from the beginning of creation are now the righteousness of God in Christ. As stated at the beginning of this writing, there are many at this time saying, "Come this way," or "Go that Way." Please don't go that way even though we have not passed this way before. We may have not passed this way, but we possess a spiritual GPS (God positioning system, Holy Spirit) for guidance. As in the natural, we must have our Spiritual GPS antenna tuned to at least three of God's geosynchronous satellites (angels, messengers, messages) to obtain a triangulation of where we really are. A minimum of four are required for elevation. In other words there is safety in a multitude of **Godly** council. We can't receive signals from one or two and navigate the narrow trail that the Lord has blazed for us. There are many that have and are presently falling off the edge of God's highway (Isaiah 35:8) because their signals are crossed for there are not enough signals to cross (no triangulation). Bear in mind that people do not ignorantly stumble onto that highway. They must have knowledge that the highway exists. Because the cross happened does not mean that all have entered onto the highway. As an example: There are no Muslims on this highway. We must explain to them that that there is a straight line path to God and that is only by the way, the truth and the life. We have received a commission to tell them.

The most accurate navigation depends upon clear "line of sight" signals from sources outside the navigator. Multiple sources for navigation (GPS, radios, inertial, celestial) can pinpoint our position within a few feet. Inertial navigation (internal guidance) works well for a time if we understand its limitations and we adjust for the various cycles. Accurate celestial navigation also depends upon triangulation from at least three stars. Daniel 12:2 among other scriptures depicts God's messengers as stars pointing others to righteousness. During the day we can take sun (Son) lines with our sextant, but we must not allow thick clouds (clouds are people too) to obscure our vision day or night. The concepts that I write here concerning the Lamb being slain from the foundation of the world are not from a single source, but are a compilation of signals received from several sources. Let's begin by investigating the scriptures:

Rev 13:8 And *all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him*, whose *names are not written in the book of life* of the *Lamb slain from the foundation of the world*.

How could all these who have not known Him worship Him if they had not heard of Him? There is a Great Commission to complete. It is not enough just to tell the Muslim that he is included in

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God's family of human beings. There is no I'm OK, you're OK. We can praise from afar, but we can only worship in His presence. The ultimate true worship is the complete giving of lives unto Him. The Lamb being slain from the foundation of the world means that the plan was made:

1 Peter 1:20 Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you,

"Foreordained" and "foundation" as used in context in this verse actually means that the plan was made before anything was created. "Foreordained" means to foreknow or to foresee. God had a plan to redeem man and that plan was foreknown before anything was made that was made (Isaiah 46:9-10). Because He had the plan, does not mean that the plan did not need to be fulfilled. A plan does not affect anyone or anything. It takes the fruition of the plan for the mission to be complete. All were not saved from the conception of the plan, but all will be saved in the culmination of the plan. The plan was manifested in the last days or times of the Old Covenant. Jesus came in the fullness of time.

After His crucifixion He led captivity captive (Ephesians 4:8-10) for those patriarchs of faith in Abraham's bosom and for a portion of those rebellious spirits of the old world. The patriarchs of faith could not attain the promise before the cross. The promise for everyone is **Christ in us** the hope of glory:

1 Peter 3:18 For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he "might" bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:

19 By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison; (Some having lived in and prior to the Old Testament days accepted the preaching, some did not as we will see in Revelation 20.)

20 Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, (This pertains to people living before the flood.)

2 Peter 2:4 For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment; (Again, I believe angels here to be people. That understanding comes from simply reading the next verse and reviewing the 1 Peter 3 passage above. Judgment was to come through the Holy Ghost according to John 16:7-11, thus judgment is given to the saints. The Holy Ghost in us is the Judgment Seat of Christ, another teaching too vast to address here.)

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5 And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;

Reading that which Peter had written in 1 Peter 3 then we can readily ascertain that the angels in 2 Peter 2:4 are people as described in numerous verses in the New Testament. The people of the old world were not “saved” because God had a plan from the foundation of the world. They are “saved” because God completed His plan in the fullness of time when the Lamb was literally slain and then the plan is accepted by the recipients. After the slaying and before the resurrection, captivity was led captive for those spirits of the old world who were bound in “hell” if they accepted the message (choice). Hell (the bottomless pit) being chains of darkness or lack of the knowledge of God. We see this same story of “ultimate reconciliation” (not automatic inclusion) in Revelation chapters 20 and 21 which is too vast to get into here, but we will hit the highlights:

Rev 20:1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. (If we let the Bible interpret the Bible then we know that this angel with the key is Jesus. Recall Revelation 1:18 where Jesus said that He had the keys to hell and death. We will see hell and death mentioned later in Revelation 20. The bottomless pit is the hell of darkness previously addressed where the old world spirits resided before the cross. If they were incarcerated [not incinerated] therein, then there was no automatic inclusion because the cross was going to occur at some point in the future. The Lamb had to literally be slain before they could obtain their get out of bottomless pit free card. After the cross and before the resurrection they were preached to concerning the gospel of Christ. They could either accept or reject the message [choice]. We see below what happened if they rejected the message:

Rev 20:13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them; and they were judged every man according to their works. (One problem with most church doctrines is that they see an event described in the Bible as taking place in an instant of time instead of a continual happening. All sin was judged at the cross, but judgment has continually taken place through the Holy Spirit which came after the cross. Judgment is given to the saints through the Holy Ghost even as this chapter declares in Revelation 20:4. The “sea dead” are those that are alive, but not too well on planet earth. They are the unregenerate sea as seen in Isaiah 57:20. They continually stand before the judgment seat of Christ, the Holy Ghost and are judged. Different story for the “death and hell dead” having lived before the angel descended with the key.)

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Rev 20:14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. (When the angel descended with the key to the bottomless pit, death and hell were [past tense] cast into the lake of fire. Death and hell means to be separated from God [death] without knowledge of Him [hell]. Death and hell were to be no more. Death and hell would not, could not exist any longer. Those of the old world not accepting the gospel message as preached to them were sent to the lake of fire burning with brimstone. As we have seen “brimstone” means God. Our God is a consuming fire. If a person physically dies this side of the cross without God, they are sent directly to the lake of fire. They do not pass go, they do not collect a \$200 reward, they do not go to hell [lack of knowledge of God] because it no longer exists. They are not included in the beloved. They lived their first life separated from God [their first death]. Now they are separated from God a second time [their second death] until they come to know Him in the lake of fire. They come to know Him by their choice to do so. They will do so as we have seen and will see. This is “ultimate reconciliation” and not “automatic inclusion.”)

Rev 20:15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire. (The previous comment is confirmed in this verse. Pay attention to the first underlined phrase in this verse. We have seen it before and we will get back to it again. Is this “second death” the last of these folks? No, it is the beginning of life for them [the second resurrection, if there is a first then there at least has to be a second]! The lake of fire brings them to the knowledge of God.)

Rev 21:8 *But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.* (To me this verse does not sound like everyone is included in the beloved just because the cross took place. In other words, if we don't know the Lord then there is fire [not hell] to pay. This is why we have an obligation to preach the “TRUTH” to the world if we truly love creation.)

Now, back to “whosoever was not found written in the book of life.” Is being cast into the lake of fire burning with brimstone (the second death) the last of these people? Definitely not! We read throughout the scriptures that every knee shall bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. I believe every knee means that every knee will genuflect, that is honor and accept God for who He is. Every tongue that has ever uttered a word (and those that have not been able to) will confess that Jesus is Lord of their life. We can't call Him Lord except by His Spirit. Everyone will know Him from the least to the greatest or the cross was a failure. Everyone is not just for a generation living in the future or God would become a respecter of

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persons simply by the period of time in which they were privileged to live. This also points out the fallacy of the annihilation theory for those who don't know God at their physical death. Will we see those stand again who have had their part in the lake of fire whose names are not presently written in the Lamb's book of life? We will see them stand again after their "fire encounter" with God when they will have paid the very last farthing. I prefer that Jesus pay my farthings now. Some will have a dump truck load of farthings to pay and some will only have a hand bag full:

Rev 13:8 *And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.*

If our names are written in the Lamb's book of life we pass go and collect our reward, eternal life in a glorified body. If our names are not written in the Lamb's book we go directly to the lake of fire (jail) and we cannot get out until we roll the right dice, i.e. accept the sacrifice of the Lamb. But, we do get out. Once those are "raised" from this second death they will experience life and worship Him with all their heart and call Him Lord. All will be included, but all are not automatically included. The events described herein are not a future event, but are continually presently taking place. The lake of fire is burning. Those that you may have thought would never make it are making it.

Some state that the Lamb being slain from the foundation of the world means that the slaying of the Lamb was the foundation of the new world. That theory certainly has merit. The definition of this word "world" can mean "orderly arrangement"; there is more of an orderly arrangement in the New Covenant than there was in the Old. But, my thrust in this section was to address the misconception of the "inclusion" theory from the beginning of creation simply because people are people and there is no conscience acceptance required on their part. No ignorant person can or will stumble onto the very HIGH way of the very HIGH God. According to scripture only the redeemed shall walk thereon.

Job 28:7 *There is a path which no fowl knoweth, and which the vulture's eye hath not seen: (Take an educated guess as to the meaning of the fowl and the vulture. There remain some dirty birds after the cross, but the dove's eyes can see the path.)*

Isa 35:8 *And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein.*

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9 *No lion shall be there, nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon, it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk there: (The beasts here are people just as the redeemed are.)*

It is best to be redeemed out of the first death rather than from the second. You hath He quickened who were dead in trespasses and sins (the first death and subsequent resurrection).

1 Cor 2:9 *But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.*

10 *But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.*

CONCLUSION

We began this treatise expressing the concern that some in the Kingdom message are attempting to blow up the (high)way that leads to eternal life with a cache of explosive doctrines. The foundation or the road base for the highway of this street of gold will never be affected by anyone, but various blasts have and can create collateral damage. We see that casualties are strewn along the roadway. Have we become calloused by the carnage? At this point in time it seems that proclaiming our revelations without Godly council is more important than considering the effect of those proclamations for present and future generations. We must pave the way for this and coming generations. We cannot and must not become stumbling blocks and detours as our recent forefathers have been in many instances. Are we not yet wearied in operating dozers and earth movers in order to make the path straight and unencumbered? We should be laying permanent pavement complete with an expansive bridge over Jordon which will lead all to the throne room of God. We are our brothers' keepers and our sons' that follow. I don't want to relinquish a dozer to a spiritual son. I would like to equip him with a spiritual Lamborghini to ride on a completed road, one that does not lead to an abyss which would hurtle him into more darkness as he sped down the road laid before him. Let's again consider the foundation of the road on which we should travel. That road should be paved with gold and not with wood, hay or stubble:

1 Cor 3:11 *For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. (The acceptance of the sacrifice by the man Jesus Christ is the only foundation for all.)*

12 *Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; (We can build with material other than that of God.)*

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13 *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. (The light of a coming day will declare the construction material of our day. It shall be revealed by fire [God, the revelation of Christ]. Wouldn't you like for your work to remain and not be in vain? Don't you desire that your work to be in concert with the Lord's and bring many unto Him via the highway that you helped build?)*

14 *If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.*

15 *If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.*

END