

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

Prologue: This article delves into the dynamics of corporate relationship. Certainly our relationship with the Lord begins with an individual encounter, but it may be that our understanding, promotion and embracing of corporate relationship will thrust us into the individual realm which we have so longed for. (Underlining of the KJV scriptures is done for emphasis by the author).

INTRODUCTION

This is not a story about ten individual people who have moved into perfection and their vile bodies have been changed or likened unto His glorious body, nor is it the story of the ten lepers that were healed. It is not a study about the antithesis of a movie entitled “The Dirty Dozen”. It could be a spiritual parallel to another movie of some years back with the same name. Let’s rewind that film and do a short review of that production. It seems that there was a man in pursuit of a woman who had a perfect body. He eventually found his quest. On a scale of 1 to 10 she rated a perfect 10 in his eyes. I am certainly not endorsing this movie as one that we should observe for spiritual understanding. In my opinion it probably does not possess much redeeming value except in the name and in the spiritual application of the concept.

There is One who is in pursuit of a wife who “is” a perfect body. That One is the Lord and the perfect body will be the church. I say “will be” because she has not yet matured to that level. In the movie mentioned above I am positive the subject lady was not always at the maturity level portrayed. This is a story of how maturation of the church will take place. By looking at a past writing we can see into the future and since we are using film as a basis, let’s go “Back to the Future”. We look back and fast forward into the future and see how she will appear to Him:

Song 7:1-7

7:1 How beautiful are thy feet with shoes, O prince's daughter! the joints of thy thighs are like jewels, the work of the hands of a cunning workman.

2 Thy navel is like a round goblet, which wanteth not liquor: thy belly is like an heap of wheat set about with lilies.

3 Thy two breasts are like two young roes that are twins.

4 Thy neck is as a tower of ivory; thine eyes like the fishpools in Heshbon, by the gate of Bath-rabbim: thy nose is as the tower of Lebanon which looketh toward Damascus.

5 Thine head upon thee is like Carmel, and the hair of thine head like purple; the king is held in the galleries.

6 How fair and how pleasant art thou, O love, for delights!

7 This thy stature is like to a palm tree, and thy breasts to clusters of grapes.

Without spiritual understanding this portrayal would probably be banned in Boston, but to the Lord this is a picture of His bride of the future. The anatomical features of this

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

“Perfect 10” are significant not only in beauty, but in the bringing forth of children. We are told that men sub-consciously look at women for their ability to bear off-spring. There is coming a time when the church will bring forth many children from one seed (and to thy seed which is Christ). The church has produced some children but not to the degree that she will in the day of “in-gathering” (the third day). Isaiah asks the question, “Shall a nation be born at once.” The answer is yes, just as soon as Zion (the church) begins her travail. There will not be great labor pain as Eve has experienced in bringing forth her children. Let’s continue to roll the film forward into the New Testament and observe another scene of the future:

Eph 5:32, 27

32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

I believe verse 27 above is yet in the future. He has shown the church the way, but she is not yet walking in all that was provided by the cross and the Holy Spirit. She (the church) still has some blemishes and wrinkles in her garment. In my southeastern Oklahoma vernacular the word “wrinkles” is pronounced as “rankles”. There may be a lot of truth in this mispronunciation. One of the definitions of “rankle” according to Webster is, “To cause irritation or bitterness in.” The wrinkles and spots may be caused by rankles in the church. Unity within the body will blot out the spots and iron out the wrinkles. Yet, we know that we cannot have unity for the sake of unity. All the participants were unified in the building of the tower of Babel. Their goal was great in that they wanted to get to heaven. Some in the religious world of today desire to bring many under their banner in an attempt to build to heaven. Unification of the church will only come under the banner of the Lord. An attempt to unify by “watering down” truth and not going where the Lord is leading will continue to divide our language. Let’s move from the “Perfect 10” of the future to where the church is today. Where is she now? Is she a “Tumultuous 3”, a “Frustrated 5” or a “Magnificent 7”? You will have to decide as we preview this true to life story based on a script written by God almighty (certainly not Bruce). Rewind the film to today and let the Director do His job without the actors squabbling over the scenes and the sets. The Director knows the end (Isaiah 46:9-10) while the actors have only been concerned about their individual parts. Heretofore their ambition has been to win an individual “Oscar” while it should have been just to be a part of the cast of the best picture. You make the analogy. Scene 1, take 1:

“THE UGLY DUCKLING”

I am sure that most of us are familiar with the children’s short story of “The Ugly Duckling”. The ugly duckling had no father or mother so it was placed with a flock of domestic ducks. All the domestic ducks knew that this ugly duckling was different and continually made fun of it. It just could not act or feel the same way as the other ducks did, thus it became quite distraught with its plight. To cut to the last scene, the ugly

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

duckling was not a “lame duck” at all but had matured into a beautiful swan. One day it observed a reflection of itself in a sparkling pool (the crystal sea). It had become one of the most beautiful creatures that God has made. We have previously seen the beauty of the betrothed church in the Song of Solomon. Let’s flash back now in our production and see how she began as an ugly duckling:

Song 1:5-6

5 I am black, but comely, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, as the tents of Kedar, as the curtains of Solomon.

6 Look not upon me, because I am black, because the sun hath looked upon me: my mother's children were angry with me; they made me the keeper of the vineyards; but mine own vineyard have I not kept.

Song 4:12

12 A garden inclosed is my sister, my spouse; a spring shut up, a fountain sealed.

Song 5:7

7 The watchmen that went about the city found me, they smote me, they wounded me; the keepers of the walls took away my veil from me.

Song 8:8

8 We have a little sister, and she hath no breasts: what shall we do for our sister in the day when she shall be spoken for?

The question posed in verse 8 above is a good question for us today. This lassie needs an “extreme makeover”. We are going to find that the only way that the church will mature to the level that we saw in the first scripture quoted in chapter 7 of Song of Solomon is for those who understand to begin to minister to her. We will see in the next section that God has always called forth a remnant to bring His church forward. Despite the popular belief that God is going to rescue and change us at some point in the future, I believe that the Bible explicitly teaches that He has done all that He is going to do through the power of the cross and the Holy Spirit. Jesus said that He came to finish the work of the Father and then He said that the work was finished before He left. To teach differently denigrates the power of the cross and relegates the Holy Spirit to a second rate power: Thus making the church unable to wrest the earth, the sea and their inhabitants from the power of the evil one. We will take a visit to the shore and see the sea in the next section. Like the country song says, “From my front porch I can see the sea” located in southeastern Oklahoma. From the beginning God had made a covenant with mankind and that covenant emphasizes that corporate man will take dominion by the power placed within him. This is the very essence of the love of God towards His creation. He loves us so much that He wants us to be the conquerors and over comers by His attributes instilled within His body. I am not suggesting that we are God as New Age philosophy purports, but when are we going to realize that His people are the very embodiment of God on the earth? We will look into this a little later when we discuss God’s original goal.

The story of Esther is another picture of the birth and maturation of the church. Esther at the beginning of this picture is an immature girl who is not yet prepared to meet the

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

King upon her introduction into the kingdom. There were those assigned to prepare her for the day that she would make an impact and intercede for the people. Like the ugly duckling, Esther had no father or mother. When we are translated into the Kingdom of His dear Son (Col. 1:13) we cease from being a part of a natural genealogy and become a part of the one spiritual generation of Jesus (Matt. 1:1). We do not have time or space to make a full blown production about Esther so let’s just review a short documentary about her (spiritual implications are rampant in her story):

In the first scene (The Old Covenant) the King has proclaimed a feast and wants to show off His queen (Old Testament Israel) to the world:

Est 1:11-12, 15

11 To bring Vashti the queen before the king with the crown royal, to shew the people and the princes her beauty: for she was fair to look on.

12 But the queen Vashti refused to come at the king's commandment by his chamberlains: therefore was the king very wroth, and his anger burned in him.

15 What shall we do unto the queen Vashti according to law, because she hath not performed the commandment of the king Ahasuerus by the chamberlains?

Of course the chamberlains are the prophets of the Old Testament who continually bade Israel to come to the feast. The supposition of Vashti being a picture of Old Testament Israel is verified in verse 15 with the phrase “according to law”. We know through scripture that Israel could not keep the law of the commandments. We will see a little later that Esther (the church) did not operate according to the law. Jesus speaks of a similar sequel in the New Testament:

Luke 14:16-17

16 Then said he unto him, A certain man made a great supper, and bade many:

17 And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready.

We know the story where those that had received invitations refused to come. With minimal scriptural verification we can easily determine that this is Israel. We continue:

Luke 14:21,23-24

21 So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind.

23 And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.

24 For I say unto you, That none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper.

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

“The Lord of the Supper” (and of the rings) is angry with those that were invited just as the King was in the story of Esther. As in the New Testament parable above The King makes a decree (New Covenant) to search for another queen (Esther, the church).

Est 1:13, 15, 19

13 Then the king said to the wise men, which knew the times, (for so was the king's manner toward all that knew law and judgment:

15 What shall we do unto the queen Vashti according to law, because she hath not performed the commandment of the king Ahasuerus by the chamberlains?

19 If it please the king, let there go a royal commandment from him, and let it be written among the laws of the Persians and the Medes, that it be not altered, That Vashti come no more before king Ahasuerus; and let the king give her royal estate unto another that is better than she.

As the scene is seen in verse 13, the Old Covenant is all about law and judgment. The scriptures declare that Old Testament Israel (Vashti) could not continually keep the law and commandments (vs. 15). A royal commandment (The New Covenant) comes in verse 19 where the King declares that the royal estate will be taken from the former queen and given to another that is better than she. Jesus said it this way:

Matt 21:43

43 Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof.

This new nation is not of ethnic origin but of spiritual. It would include any of all nations who are born (again) into that land. The land is the Lord and not a plot or parcel of land in a specific location. Enter Mordecai into the picture from stage right. He is a portrayal of a part of the five-fold ministry who will bring Esther (the church) to maturity (scene 2, take 1):

7 And he brought up Hadassah, that is, Esther, his uncle's daughter: for she had neither father nor mother, and the maid was fair and beautiful; whom Mordecai, when her father and mother were dead, took for his own daughter.

This is the scene of the birth of the church. This “duckling” has no mother and father or we could say as stated previously, her spirituality and relationship to God is no longer relegated to natural genealogy. Genealogy was most important in the old covenant because it established Jesus as the only one possible that could be the Messiah. In the New Testament Paul speaks against genealogy two times because it is a part of the law. There is now only one generation and that comes from the one seed, Jesus. When Mordecai has nurtured Esther as far as he can go he delivers her to Hegai (another part of the five fold ministry) which is going to take her to a higher level:

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

Est 2:12

12 Now when every maid's turn was come to go in to king Ahasuerus, after that she had been twelve months, according to the manner of the women, (for so were the days of their purifications accomplished, to wit, six months with oil of myrrh, and six months with sweet odours, and with other things for the purifying of the women;)

Twelve months speaks of an entire year and since God does not live in time it is taking this entire time to bring the church unto purification. Esther had to endure six months of oil of myrrh. Oil speaks of the ability to shine, but that shining comes at the expense of bitter things coming into her life because by definition myrrh is bitter. James said to count it all joy when we encounter tests and trials. Because of passing the test of bitterness Esther is subjected to sweetness and then she is purified by the washing of the water which is the Word. Cutting to the chase scene, Esther is taken before the King:

Est 2:17

17 And the king loved Esther above all the women, and she obtained grace and favour in his sight more than all the virgins; so that he set the royal crown upon her head, and made her queen instead of Vashti.

The before mentioned analogies apply to the above verse. Haman, the bad guy, is then set up in office by the King. The Lord raises some up and He puts down others. The Lord even created evil according to Isaiah 45:7. That is another movie unto itself. Haman is mortified because Mordecai will not bow down to him. Servants of the Lord do not bow to the evil one. Haman, the accuser of the brethren (Rev. 12:10) wrangles a decree that all of God's people will die. The accusing of the brethren comes primarily from the evil one through an immature church located in the "heavens" of their minds:

Est 3:6

6 And he thought scorn to lay hands on Mordecai alone; for they had shewed him the people of Mordecai: wherefore Haman sought to destroy all the Jews that were throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus, even the people of Mordecai.

Acts 8:1

8:1 And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.

Just like Haman, the evil one exacts a toll from those who come under his influence. When we are not completely covered by the Lord, we are influenced by evil to some degree and our lives are like the roll of the dice (Pur or lots):

Est 3:7

7 In the first month, that is, the month Nisan, in the twelfth year of king Ahasuerus, they cast Pur, that is, the lot, before Haman from day to day, and from month to month, to the twelfth month, that is, the month Adar.

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

Again, twelve months speaks of an entire time. We pay dearly the entire time that we are under the influence of the evil one. When the church is completely free of the influence of the evil one, we will celebrate the “Feast of Purim”. Our lives will be predictable by the power of God and not governed by “The Rolling Stones” (Pur). We will see that the protection of people depends upon our intercession. Intercession is not just prayer. Primarily, intercession is our willingness to give of our individual lives so that the whole can attain life of which prayer is a part:

Est 4:1, 15-16

4:1 When Mordecai perceived all that was done, Mordecai rent his clothes, and put on sackcloth with ashes, and went out into the midst of the city, and cried with a loud and a bitter cry;

Esther (the church) attempts to persuade Mordecai (the apostle and prophet) not to be concerned about the decree from Haman (the evil one). Mordecai foresees that the decree will also affect the queen even though she has been favored by the King:

Est 4:14

14 For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?

The lethargic church must realize that she must not think she is protected from the influence of the evil one just because she believes that she is in a perceived “safe house” and to hell with the rest of the people. This has been the attitude of the church for at least the last one hundred years because of some beliefs that have permeated to the very core. The exact reason that the world is in danger and in the shape that it is in is due to this immature attitude within the church. She (the church) must wake up and come to the Kingdom for such a time as this. Mordecai’s message finally hits home in the heart of Esther. You complete the analogy:

Est. 4:15-16

15 Then Esther bade them return Mordecai this answer,

16 Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish.

Much of the church still does not realize that they are not under the law. They derive their doctrines from much of the Old Covenant. The Old Testament is great as a type and shadow of the natural as to what is taking place in the spiritual. Esther, a picture of the church in the New Covenant, does not operate according to the letter of the law, but by the Spirit of the law. As asked previously, is the church willing to intercede with its life

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

and make the statement, “If I perish, I perish?” Jesus said that he who seeks to save his life shall lose it, but he who seeks to lose his life for my sake shall find it. Life is sought in some quarters by ones embracing doctrines which may in fact be bringing death, not only to themselves but primarily to the peoples of the earth. Upon our willingness to die for others may life be sustained? Now we begin to see maturation in Esther, for she has not been placed in her position as a figurehead fashion Queen to which Vashti had chosen to ascribe:

Est 5:1

5:1 Now it came to pass on the third day, that Esther put on her royal apparel, and stood in the inner court of the king's house, over against the king's house: and the king sat upon his royal throne in the royal house, over against the gate of the house.

This verse is so chock-full of dialogue that an epic with numerous sequels could be produced, but we need to adhere to this production schedule. In short the church has completed two millennial days and is entering the third since Jesus. After two days He will revive us and in the third day He will raise us up (Hosea 6:2). In this third day she (the church) will be attired with a garment without spot, wrinkle or rankle. “Royal apparel” speaks of attire (covering) attained from the King. You will recall that Adam got his garments dirty camping under a tree with forbidden fruit. He was then stripped of his covering and had to wait four thousand years to get his clothes washed.

Esther (the church) appears before the King (clothed as she was) in the inner court, which is not the outer court nor is it the holy of holies. These three temple locations speak of the three feasts which all must observe and appear before the King (Deut. 16:16). Know ye not that you are the (corporate) temple of God. These three feasts for us spiritually are Passover (born again), Pentecost (baptized in the Spirit) and Tabernacles (intimate relationship). All must appear in these three locations or this movie production will not be complete. Corporately the church cannot appear only in one location nor is it possible to skip locations. The king sits by the gate in the verse above and we know that the church is the gate by which the world will enter into safety. We see in the next scene (verse) that the King who sits in this Holy of Holies invites Esther into this most holy place (Tabernacles):

Est 5:2

2 And it was so, when the king saw Esther the queen standing in the court, that she obtained favour in his sight: and the king held out to Esther the golden sceptre that was in his hand. So Esther drew near, and touched the top of the sceptre.

The scepter is a “rod of authority”. When the church enters into the previously mentioned spiritual position she will touch the same power to rule and reign as the King.

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

The power of this Kingdom is not like the power of worldly Kingdoms in that she will not reign in control, manipulation or coercion, but in righteousness. We get a better picture of this scepter in the New Testament:

Heb 1:8

8 But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom.

Once the church enters into this holy place with the King then she can ask what she will and it will be granted unto her. She has probably asked from a distance in the past; from the outer court and even the inner court (distance), but in this place she is speaking from positional authority:

Est 5:3

3 Then said the king unto her, What wilt thou, queen Esther? and what is thy request? it shall be even given thee to the half of the kingdom.

John 14:13-14

13 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

14 If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.

Asking in the name of Jesus is not ending our prayers with the magic formula, “In Jesus name.” Asking in Jesus name is to be in the Holy Place where He sits on the throne and extends the scepter of power. He will give us the desires of our hearts in this place, but the desires of our hearts may not be the same as they were in the outer court or the inner court. The reason is that He has placed His desires in our hearts. If we pray according to His will then all of our desires will be fulfilled:

Ps 37:4

4 Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

Luke 11:2

2 And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth.

Col 1:9

9 For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

It is the will of Esther (and the King) that the evil one be destroyed even though the evil one was placed in an exalted position for a season. Esther decides to have a party for the one that has threatened to kill her and her people. The same party has different results for the honorees:

Est 5:4

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

4 And Esther answered, If it seem good unto the king, let the king and Haman come this day unto the banquet that I have prepared for him.

The evil one does not truly understand what the party is all about. He thinks it is all about him. He goes through the city proclaiming his virtues so that all will acquiesce to his wishes. He builds a gallows of fifty cubits so that he can “Hang ‘Em High”. The King wishes to honor a man for services rendered and the evil one thinks that it is him. There are many twists (in the rope), turns and sub-plots in this story. One of the substantial sub-plots is that Haman can also be viewed as the Adamic nature of man who desires to be exalted above all that is called God (2 Thessalonians 2:2-3). The “two men in the bed” of Luke 17:34 can be seen as Haman and Mordecai. Individually, we are the bed. There are also two men in the earth; Adam and Christ; one shall be taken and the other left. As Pogo said in the funny paper, “We have met the enemy and he is us.” Who is taken and who is left? Now we move to the “party scene” and it may not be like you experienced in your former life:

Est 7:3-6, 9-10

3 Then Esther the queen answered and said, If I have found favour in thy sight, O king, and if it please the king, let my life be given me at my petition, and my people at my request:

4 For we are sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be slain, and to perish. But if we had been sold for bondmen and bondwomen, I had held my tongue, although the enemy could not countervail the king's damage.

5 Then the king Ahasuerus answered and said unto Esther the queen, Who is he, and where is he, that durst presume in his heart to do so?

6 And Esther said, The adversary and enemy is this wicked Haman. Then Haman was afraid before the king and the queen.

9 And Harbonah, one of the chamberlains, said before the king, Behold also, the gallows fifty cubits high, which Haman had made for Mordecai, who had spoken good for the king, standeth in the house of Haman. Then the king said, Hang him thereon.

10 So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then was the king's wrath pacified.

Using the sub-plot discussed previously we see that our Adamic nature (Haman) is hanged on the gallows. One is taken and the other left. This gallows represents the cross in the New Testament:

Rom 6:6

6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.

Once the old man is crucified then the spoils of the enemy are given to the new man. We don't have to go to his camp to retrieve the spoils because he has come to our party.

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

This New Man’s first name is not Paul. The new man is not made in the image of an actor (pretender, Jacob), but in the image of another, a true man (don’t even think Capote):

Col 3:10

10 And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

Est 8:1-2

8:1 On that day did the king Ahasuerus give the house of Haman the Jews' enemy unto Esther the queen. And Mordecai came before the king; for Esther had told what he was unto her.

2 And the king took off his ring, which he had taken from Haman, and gave it unto Mordecai. And Esther set Mordecai over the house of Haman.

The “house” of Haman (the evil one) is given to the corporate church. Mordecai (individual within the church) is honored. The very one who had faced death in the previous day is now made “The Lord of The Rings”. A ring in that day was used as a signet. A signet was used as a symbol of authority by the King to denote Kingdom documents. Mordecai now had the authority of the King to bind (seal) and loose in the Kingdom. You complete the New Testament analogy. Again this positional authority came from being closely associated with the King. Although spin offs are endless, we will end this segment of the documentary with a reverse of the curse:

Est 8:5

5 And said, If it please the king, and if I have found favour in his sight, and the thing seem right before the king, and I be pleasing in his eyes, let it be written to reverse the letters devised by Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, which he wrote to destroy the Jews which are in all the king's provinces:

There is coming a time when the church will ask the King to completely and utterly reverse the Adamic curse. But at present, this duckling is not in that position as she continues to mature into the swan that she is predestined to be. She will eventually look into the crystal pool and see who she really is and perform the acts she was designed to do by her Maker. There is a remnant like Mordecai who understands and will continue to minister and nurture her despite the threat of death.

THE REMNANT

This will just be a short clip about the remnant. The Lord has always commissioned a small expeditionary force who acts as forerunners to prepare for the main body. Mordecai had great prophetic foresight and knew what needed to occur in order to preserve life. Unfortunately history has revealed that persecution routinely accompanies the true prophetic. Persecution comes not only from outside sources, but may come primarily from those within the middle of the pack who cannot see the forest for the trees. The Bible refers to men as trees so we must be selective as to under which tree we camp.

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

This remnant is not any more loved or blessed by God than the others. It is just the job God has given them to do. There are Mordecais of this day who have a vision of what the future holds and know the path to blaze. Those with a “breaker anointing” give their lives to break the way for the main body to follow. Let’s review and preview this remnant:

2 Kings 19:30-31

30 And the remnant that is escaped of the house of Judah shall yet again take root downward, and bear fruit upward.

31 For out of Jerusalem shall go forth a remnant, and they that escape out of mount Zion: the zeal of the LORD of hosts shall do this.

Isa 1:9

9 Except the LORD of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant, we should have been as Sodom, and we should have been like unto Gomorrah.

Zech 8:12

12 For the seed shall be prosperous; the vine shall give her fruit, and the ground shall give her increase, and the heavens shall give their dew; and I will cause the remnant of this people to possess all these things.

I was taught in my spiritual upbringing that all of Israel was the remnant, but that teaching is just not biblical. As Isaiah 1:9 states, there was but a very small remnant that was to come out of Israel. If I recall correctly, “Exodus” was a movie of the year in the early 1960’s and now we see that there was an exodus by a remnant from the prodigy of the Exodus participants. This remnant was to lead all peoples of the earth out of a worldly realm (Egypt) into the spiritual (the Promised Land) thus making Abraham the father of many nations. If you belong to Christ then you are Abraham’s seed (Gal. 3:29). The other side of that coin would then be inscribed, if you are not Christ’s then you are not Abraham’s seed. Let’s observe what Paul said about this remnant:

Rom 9:27, 29

27 Esaias also crieth concerning Israel, Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, a remnant shall be saved:

29 And as Esaias said before, Except the Lord of Sabaoth had left us a seed, we had been as Sodoma, and been made like unto Gomorrha.

Rom 11:2-5

2 God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew. Wot ye not what the scripture saith of Elias? how he maketh intercession to God against Israel, saying,

3 Lord, they have killed thy prophets, and digged down thine altars; and I am left alone, and they seek my life.

4 But what saith the answer of God unto him? I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to the image of Baal.

5 Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace.

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

Referring to verse 2, we must then ask the question, “Who are the people He foreknew?” Allowing scripture to interpret scripture we read in Rom 8:29: “For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.” Elijah had believed himself to be the only one in Israel who had not bowed his knee to Baal. Out of the millions of Israelites there were only 7,000 who had sided with Elijah. In comparison this was a small remnant. In Paul’s day there was also a small remnant out of the millions of Israelites who had elected grace. This small group was responsible for bringing forth the gospel of the Kingdom as we know it today. There has always been, and continues to be a remnant, that brings the church forward who will in turn conduct the entire earth and its inhabitants into the three dimensional days of Christ (the three feasts of Deut. 16:16). One hundred years ago Pentecost was re-introduced into the church world by a small remnant who endured great persecution which originated from within the main-line church. Now there are many in most denominations which have experienced both Passover and Pentecost in the spiritual realm. Presently there is a remnant which understands and is entering the last feast in the spiritual that was observed in the natural by Israel. This feast is “Tabernacles”. “Tabernacles” has to do with an intimate relationship with the Lord which is beyond Pentecost just as Pentecost was beyond Passover. As in the examples cited above, persecution is prevalent within the main-line church from those observing only Passover and Pentecost.

“The Bible” (another movie, but the book is better) on occasion portrays this remnant as a “man child”. This “man child” is not one individual as sometimes viewed. Let’s jump to this parallel scene which continues to be documented:

Isa 66:7-8

7 Before she travailed, she brought forth; before her pain came, she was delivered of a man child.

8 Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children.

Who is the “she” of verse 7? “She” is Zion of verse 8. Who is “Zion” of verse 8? “Zion” is the church of the firstborn according to Hebrews 12:22-23. Who is the “man child” of verse 7? The “man child” of verse 7 is the “children” of verse 8. What is the job of this “man child”? Let’s look to the New Testament to find the purpose of the “man child”.

Rev 12:5-14

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

6 And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days.

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

7 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels,

8 And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.

9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.

11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

12 Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.

13 And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child.

14 And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.

15 And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood.

16 And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth.

17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

In understanding these verses we must not fall into the trap of ascribing geographical positions and locations, but we must comprehend with the spiritual mind (renew our mind). According to verse 5 above the purpose of the man child (not the church initially) was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. This rod is the scepter of righteousness that we saw in Esther. The translation of this verse may be a bit misleading if we don't interpret it correctly. It may appear to some that after ruling the man child is caught up, but in true context the man child rules because he is caught up. Remember that the man child is not one individual but is the corporate man (body of Christ) with Jesus Christ as the head (1 Cor. 12:12). We must begin to understand that being caught up does not necessarily mean that we have gone anywhere in the physical realm. Paul was caught up whether in the body or out he did not know. We now know that up and down in the natural are relative in that for those on the opposite side of the earth up is down and down is up. Up and down are concrete in the spiritual realm in that we can be caught up to His throne in the Spirit without having left Tara. We go as the wind and are not “Gone with the Wind”. John 3:8 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 PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

In Revelation 12:6 above it is easily determined that a day can be calculated as a year simply by the definition of the word “day”. There is precedence throughout the scriptures for doing so including Daniels’s 70 weeks, but is too extensive to get into in this writing. These one thousand two hundred and sixty years (days) after the founding and establishing of the church, bring us into 1500’s range. The printing press was invented by the Gutenberg brothers in the 1400’s. The first thing that was printed in mass was the Bible. We know the story of Luther when he got his hands and spiritual eyes on a bible. At that time it was against the only recognized church doctrine for anyone to read the Bible except those so designated. She (the church) would now start coming up out of the wilderness on the arms of her beloved (Song. 8:5) as we will see shortly. The church has continually given birth to a man child (remnant) who has and is bringing her forth out of the wilderness.

In verse 7 there is a war in heaven. This heaven may not be any higher in elevation than the minds of men. We will ascertain that “heaven” is the corporate manifestation of the Spirit of God and “heavens” are the individual manifestation of the Spirit of God. Spiritual elevation is in attitude and not altitude. We will see this more clearly in a verse that follows. We must comprehend that heaven and earth are not separated by time and distance (light years), but by holiness and righteousness. Heaven by definition is the abode of God; therefore know you not that we are the temple of God. Heaven and earth will merge one of these days, but it will not be because a planet has descended, landed and attached itself to the side of the earth (Eph. 1:10). Heaven, simply put, is in a spiritual dimension that we cannot discern with natural eyes, but with spiritual. The saints who “sleep” (ceased from their labors) are living in that dimension and are not seen with natural eyes.

In verse 8 the dragon and his angels prevailed not. There was no place found for him in heaven (see paragraph above for definition of heaven). Who was caught up to God and to His throne in verse 5? The answer is the man child and there was found no place for the dragon or his angels in the mind of the corporate man child. The fight scene takes place in this arena. In verse 9 the dragon is cast down to the earth. The earth is where the religious church is hiding in the wilderness. In verse 10 the accuser of the brethren is cast down out of the minds (heavens) of those who comprise the man child. There will be no more accusations of the brethren in those heavens (minds). Verse 10 also states that salvation and strength comes from the casting down of the dragon. Complete salvation is not just the initial re-birth. In verse 11 we see how the man child company cast down the dragon and his angels in their minds. They did so by the blood of the Lamb, the word of their testimony and they loved not their lives unto the death (symbols of the three feasts) for they have been crucified with the Lord (Rom. 6:6).

The first phrase in verse 12 supports the purported supposition pertaining to the heavens. “Rejoice ye heavens and ye that dwell in them.” When the evil one is cast down out of the heavens to the earth there will be great rejoicing by those that dwell in the former realm. There will be but a short time until the kingdoms of this world become the

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

Kingdom of our God. At this casting down of the dragon there is great turmoil for those that live in the earth and in the sea because of the intense tests perpetrated by the dragon. The earth and sea dwellers are not those living in caves or an “environ-bubble” in the ocean. The place where they live is in their minds just as those who dwelt in the heavens. The earth is the dwelling place (wilderness) of the unreformed immature church (naïve Esther, The Ugly Duckling, religious practice). A quick Biblical study of the untamed restless sea reveals that it is the unsaved people of the world. Remember that Jesus tamed this roaring sea. He also walked on it and has asked us along with Peter to do the same (ruling with a rod of iron). It is interesting to note that Jesus spoke of the sea and land and their relation to religion:

Matt 23:15

15 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves.

The Lord was not nor is He now predisposed with topographical features. He is concerned with the minds of men and where they dwell; the heavens, the earth or the sea. Remember the earth is where the one who gave birth (the church) to the man child lives. The raging sea will eventually become the crystal sea when the shaking quivering earth of seismic proportion religion is calmed from delirious tremors by the soothing words of testimony emanating from the man child.

In verse 13 we see that when the dragon is cast out of the mind of the corporate man child the evil one then goes to make war with the one who gave birth on the earth. Stephen is a good example as a member of the first fruit man child company. There was great persecution in the early church and they loved not their lives unto the death:

Acts 11:19

19 Now they which were scattered abroad upon the persecution that arose about Stephen travelled as far as Phenice, and Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to none but unto the Jews only.

Acts 13:50

50 But the Jews stirred up the devout and honourable women, and the chief men of the city, and raised persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them out of their coasts.

We know through history that the church grew rapidly from Pentecost until the early 300's A. D. Over half of the Roman Empire was converted to Christianity despite (or we might say due to) intense persecution. The old adage, “If you can't beat them, then join them,” was applied. Constantine, the Roman Emperor of that day, officially declared Christianity as the official religion of Rome. From that day true Christianity began to deteriorate. There are approximately 360 days to a Jewish year which is “a time” as seen

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

in verse 14. “Times” is twice “a time” as seen in this verse and half a time is half a year. If we add this time and times and half a time we get 1,260, the same number that is seen in verse 6. I am not necessarily enthralled with exact numbers, but if we add 300 to 1,260 this would again get us into the 1500’s when reformation took place. The woman who gave birth (the church) was nourished in obscurity from 300 to 1500. She then began coming up out of the wilderness on the arm of her beloved.

In verse 15 a flood is launched out of the mouth of the serpent. This mouth has to do with speaking just as the “accusing of the brethren” did in verse 10. These accusations probably come from the “sea” against the church. A volcanic eruption on the bottom of the ocean creates a tsunami which speeds toward the earth where the church dwells. “The Perfect Storm” contains waves and swells that would swamp the church. There is no weather warning with a tsunami. There are only seismic measurements and visual sightings. (You create the analogies with all these types). In verse 16 the religious earth helps the woman (church) by absorbing the impact.

In verse 17 since the woman is protected, the dragon is wroth and goes to make war with the “remnant” of her seed which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ. Who is this remnant and who has the testimony? We have seen that the man child is this remnant and according to verse 11 they have the testimony. In verse 17 the dragon may go to make war but it is going to do him no good to go. Remember in verse 8 he prevails not and there is no place found for him. There was once no place found for Jesus to lay His head, but now He has prevailed and there is no place for the dragon:

Eph 4:27

27 Neither give place to the devil.

In many Christian quarters place may be given to the devil without realization. It seems a lot of time is spent fighting with the devil instead of giving place to the Lord to lay His head (rest). In my limited scientific knowledge I have never known light to struggle against darkness. When light arrives darkness is displaced. He must increase, I decrease. If He increases the dragon decreases and there is no spiritual warfare. The warfare is within us in allowing Him to increase. In my youth I went to a spiritual warfare church where place was given to the devil. One day an older lady’s testimony went something like this, “The devil has been chasing me around all day, bless his holy name.” I know that she did not mean what she said but place was given to the devil.

Mary and Jesus give us a good example of the church and the corporate man child. Mary, an example of the church as a natural woman, gave birth to a man child before the consummation of her marriage. This man child was to lead her from a natural realm on the earth into a spiritual realm in the heavens. Mary did you know that this baby boy who you delivered would soon deliver you? The church which lives in an earthly realm as we have seen in Revelation 12 has given birth to a corporate man child before the

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

consummation of her marriage. This man child will lead her from her present earthly ties to a spiritual dimension. Church did you know that this baby boy who you delivered will soon deliver you? We look next into the mystery of God and corporate understanding.

THE MYSTERY OF GOD

In this section we will look into the mystery of God and propose that understanding this mystery may lead us into emphatically embracing corporate relationship. Promoting corporate relationship may thrust us into a spiritual dimension that we have longed for but have been unable to attain individually. It is suggested that corporate relationship will mature the body into “The Perfect 10”, a bride mature enough to consummate her marriage. I have never personally witnessed an exact sequel of this production (proposal), but this is offered for your preview and purview. A cost is exacted but it is not pay per view, but pay per participation. There are several mysteries mentioned in the Bible, but the “Mystery of God” is mentioned only two times. We will begin this section with one and end with the other. The first actually explains the last, but we start with the last in order to fully comprehend the first:

Rev 10:7

7 But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets.

Many are beginning to see that the book of Revelation has been a continual unfolding down through history in order to reveal Christ in a people. In fact Jesus told John at the first of the book to write the things that you have seen, the things that are and the things that shall be hereafter (Rev. 1:19). Searching Revelation prior to chapter 10 we see that the voice of the seventh angel is actually a trumpet blowing. A trumpet sounding is not literally the blowing of a horn, but is a message that is sent forth as the word “voice” suggests in the verse above. It is not “The Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy of Company Three” sounding melodious notes. I believe (with scriptural support) that this seventh voice is actually the last trumpet and it reveals the mystery of God. Do you hear the notes of this trumpet reverberating through the spiritual atmosphere?

There are some elementary things that I have learned about God in my lifetime. I have learned that God is omnipotent, God is omniscient, God is omnipresent, God is a Spirit and God is invisible. God is a Spirit thus enabling Him to be omnipresent and He is invisible because He is a Spirit. Let’s look at a few confirming scriptures. Jesus is speaking in the following verse and then supportive verses follow:

John 4:24

24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

John 1:18

18 No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

Rom 1:20

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

Col 1:15

15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:

1 Tim 1:17

17 Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

1 Tim 6:16

16 Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.

Heb 11:27

27 By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.

These are but a few scriptures that tell us that God is a Spirit and that He is invisible. Therefore leaving the principles of God let us go on into a deeper understanding of Him. The Holy Spirit is also invisible and no one has seen Him:

John 14:17

17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

John 3:8

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.

God is a Spirit and is invisible. The Holy Spirit is a Spirit and is invisible. Is there a difference between the two? The answer is yes and no. This is not double talk for the understanding of the answer to this question begins to reveal the mystery of God. Comprehending and embracing the mystery of God will help mature the body into “The Perfect 10”. I believe that the following statement is of great importance for it not only answers the question above, it inspired the basis for this writing. **GOD IS THE MANIFESTATION OF THE SPIRIT CORPORATELY AND THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE MANIFESTATION OF THE SPIRIT INDIVIDUALLY**. I am not stating that this is all that God is nor do I denigrate the significance of the statement. We should have begun to understand the covenant that God has made with man by this period in history. In His sovereignty He has chosen to work through man(kind) on the earth. I have come to realize that He is not going to do anything on the earth unless He does it through His people. He has chosen this method. That is what the above statement is all about. If the world is going to be changed by some miraculous event of the future, then what was the cross all about? The miraculous event to change the world has occurred. The cross purifies the vessel so that God Himself can dwell in mankind. He dwells in us individually as the Holy Spirit. He dwells in the “many-member man” as the corporate God. God the Spirit has arranged this order of things so that no one man can contain all

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

of Him. He has done this for obvious reasons that we will discuss. Jesus the man could not contain all of God and He even said so:

John 14:28

28 Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you. If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I.

Jesus said that His Father was greater than He was and yet He said they were the same (the answer “yes and no”). The Spirit within Him was the Spirit of God. Yet the Spirit within Him was not all of the Spirit of God:

John 14:9, 30

9 Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?

30 I and my Father are one.

I believe that Jesus proposed the concept suggested here for He stated that the Spirit God working corporately would do greater things than He did individually. Greater things are done maybe not in quality, but certainly in quantity. As a mortal individual man filled with the Spirit, He was limited by geographical position. The corporate God is not limited by geography.

John 16:7

7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

The Spirit of God would now be able to inhabit man individually and corporately. The corporate habitation would allow greater things to be done than the Spirit dwelling individually within Jesus or any other lone individual:

John 14:12

12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

Let’s look into the words “you” and “he” in the verse above. We see immediately below that the root word for “you” is not singular:

NT:5210

humeis (hoo-mice’); irregular plural of NT:4771; you (as subjective of verb):

According to the words of Jesus, the corporate “you” would do greater works than the Spirit dwelling in Him as an individual. The word “he” in John 14:12 does not stand

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

alone as a single word in the Greek as translated into English. It is incorporated into the phrase word “shall he do” from the Greek word “poieesei”:

NT:4160

poieo (poy-eh'-o); apparently a prolonged form of an obsolete primary; to make or do (in a very wide application, more or less direct):

The word “he” in English is really not even a part of the translation as a noun, but is used as a verb. So in John 14:12 Jesus is stating that the corporate “you” would do as great a work and greater than He did because He returned to the Father. The Father and He would return in Spirit to dwell in individuals as well as the corporate body:

John 14:2, 20, 23

2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

20 At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you.

John 14:23

23 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

“That day” in verse 20 was the day of Pentecost. The “abode” in verse 23 is the same word as “mansions” in verse 2 of that chapter. We are not going to live in a mansion, but the Father and Son live in us and make us individually the abode (mansion) and corporately His household. “House” in verse 2 really means “household” or the corporate house. The individual abodes (mansions, rooms) make up the household. God’s goal from the beginning was to inhabit a “corporate man” on the earth. David did not understand this concept when he proposed to build God a house. God told him that He was going to make David the house:

2 Sam 7:1-5, 11-13

7:1 And it came to pass, when the king sat in his house, and the LORD had given him rest round about from all his enemies;

2 That the king said unto Nathan the prophet, See now, I dwell in an house of cedar, but the ark of God dwelleth within curtains.

3 And Nathan said to the king, Go, do all that is in thine heart; for the LORD is with thee.

4 And it came to pass that night, that the word of the LORD came unto Nathan, saying,

5 Go and tell my servant David, Thus saith the LORD, Shalt thou build me an house for me to dwell in?

11 And as since the time that I commanded judges to be over my people Israel, and have caused thee to rest from all thine enemies. Also the LORD telleth thee that he will make thee an house.

12 And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom.

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

13 He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever.

There is a lot of understanding and misunderstanding about the building of the house. I believe that even Solomon did not fully comprehend the building of the house. The point is that mankind was going to be the corporate house of God and He was going to build it:

Heb 3:6

6 But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.

The individual Spirit within one room is not nearly as powerful as the corporate Spirit within the house. Recall the proposed definition of God and the Holy Spirit. We have called this a “corporate anointing”, but maybe we have not fully comprehended the depth and power of this anointing. Could it be that we have only mentally assented to this understanding without fully embracing what it is with our heart? Corporate multiples bring power because it is not only the Holy Spirit in individuals that is active, but God has shown up:

Matt 18:20

20 For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

This verse does not mean that when two Christians meet on the street that Jesus shows up in Spirit and gets between them. It means that the presence of God is exponentially multiplied:

Deut 32:30

30 How should one chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight, except their Rock had sold them, and the LORD had shut them up?

Lev 26:8

8 And five of you shall chase an hundred, and an hundred of you shall put ten thousand to flight: and your enemies shall fall before you by the sword.

The Old Testament is of course a type of the natural as to that which takes place in the spiritual in the New Testament. The enemy that falls by the sword (the word of God) is not flesh and blood:

Eph 6:12

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

There seems to be a lot of spiritual warfare going on in our church buildings, but it may be akin to what Paul described as shadow boxing. As alluded to previously, the high places in the verse above may not be any higher than our cranium whether it is on Mount Everest or in a “Death Valley Daze (days)”. There are three verses in the New Testament that I did not fully comprehend until I began to understand the “Mystery of God”. The following statement is so simple, yet it is so profound: GOD IS ALL IN ALL:

1 Cor 12:6

6 And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.

1 Cor 15:28

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.

Eph 1:23

23 Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

God is All in All. He is not all in one. The Holy Spirit is one in one. As stated, God’s goal from the beginning is to make Himself a complete being in the earth in the form of a many-membered body. God’s goal is revealed in the first chapter of the Bible. God’s goal had begun but it was not completed on the sixth creation day. The process started on that day:

Gen 1:26

26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

The definition of man in this verse is quite revealing in that it is both singular and plural. There would be a single man composed of many men:

OT:120 'adam (aw-dawm'); from OT:119; ruddy i.e. a human being (an individual or the species, mankind, etc.):

God desired to get into the earth Spirit, soul and body. In beginning from the basics He got a body of people into the earth in Genesis 1:27. He got a soul into the earth in Genesis 2:7 and He got a Spirit into the earth in 1 Corinthians 15:45:

Gen 1:27-28

27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

Gen 2:7

7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

1 Cor 15:45

45 And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.

I personally do not believe that the creation in Genesis 1:27 was the same as the creation of Genesis 2:7 and that there was a vast period of time between the two. There is so much substantiating evidence in the first six chapters of Genesis, but we can't name and chase that rabbit in this writing. (I can name that rabbit in three hops.) In the three verses immediately above God gets the complete man into the earth body, soul and Spirit. The last Adam made it possible for all of mankind to be quickened. The goal of God can now start to be realized in that He is Spirit; He can now complete the job in making us into his image and likeness. The meaning of “image” in the Old Testament Hebrew is not the same as “image” in the New Testament in Greek. “Likeness” in the Old Testament is more akin to image in the New Testament:

OT:6754 (image) tselem (tseh'-lem); from an unused root meaning to shade; a phantom, i.e. (figuratively) illusion, resemblance; hence, a representative figure, especially an idol:
OT:1823 (likeness) demuwth (dem-ooth'); from OT:1819; resemblance; concretely, model, shape; adverbially, like:

NT:1504 (image) eikon (i-kone'); from NT:1503; a likeness, i.e. (literally) statue, profile, or (figuratively) representation, resemblance:

By understanding these words we see that the creation was not complete in Genesis 1:27 nor Genesis 2:7, but is and will be complete in Him in 1 Corinthians 15:45. The entire earth is not yet “filled” with His glory as the waters cover the sea. As seen, the unsaved people of the world are described as the untamed sea in the scriptures. The water that covers this sea flows out from the temple of God described in Ezekiel 47 as the picture of a river that will flow to the sea and bring freshness to it. Know you not that you are the temple of God? The troubled sea then becomes the calm crystal sea. The entire being of God (Spirit, soul and body) will be complete on the earth and His goal from the beginning will be realized. This many-membered body continues to grow into the body of Christ:

1 Cor 12:12, 14

12 For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ.

14 For the body is not one member, but many.

Col 1:18

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

Jesus is the head of the body according to Colossians 1:18. I am not stating that we are Jesus, nor am I stating that individually we are Christ. Christ is the manifestation of God in all the members of the body. This is important to understand because we must discern the entire body if we are to attain individually. With understanding let's now comprehend the two following verses:

Col 1:27

27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:

Gal 4:19

19 My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you,

Christ in us is the hope of glory, not just an individual relationship with Jesus is the hope of glory. John asked the question, “How can you love God whom you have not seen and not love your fellow man that you have seen?” James said this about the tongue in James 3:9 “Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God.” God has invested a part of Himself in everyone so that when we curse our brother we are cursing God. The Jesus that is in others (the body) must be formed in all. There are a lot of things in all of us that is not of Jesus. I would not suggest that those things be formed in us, but we must rightly discern the Lord's body. The Lord's Supper is symbolic of discerning Him (the wine, the Spirit) and discerning His body (the bread). When we come together we partake of Him and His body.

The goal of everyone that has ever lived is to live forever. An individual relationship with Jesus assures that longing. He made the statement that whosoever believed in Him would never die. At physical death we are translated from this dimension into the next. He has taken the sting and the fear out of physical death. Yet, the Bible declares that there is going to be a people that will not have to experience physical death. It is reiterated that this goal will not be reached because of our individual relationships with Jesus but due to our corporate relationship with Christ.

1 Cor 15:52-55

52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

55 O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

I believe the last trump in verse 52 is the same as the last trump that we saw in Revelation 10:7 concerning the mystery of God. How is this corruptible body going to put on the incorruptible? As discussed, this will not be accomplished through an event of the future. Let's look at three verses that tell us how this vile body in which we presently dwell will be changed like unto his glorious body:

Phil 3:21

21 Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

Col 1:20

20 And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.

2 Cor 3:18

18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

Regarding Phil. 3:21: How is the Lord able to subdue one thing (being born again) unto Himself? The answer is, “According to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.” How is our vile body going to be fashioned like unto His glorious body? The answer is: “According to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.” What is this working? The next two verses answer this question: Through the blood of the cross and being changed into his image even as by the Spirit of the Lord. We will look into the 2 Corinthians 3:18 verse with greater understanding at the conclusion of this article. That which will restore and transform mankind has already occurred, but this transformation will not be done solely due to an individual relationship as we may have been taught. Witness the following verse:

Eph 2:22

22 In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

For God to completely inhabit us spirit, soul and body is for us to be builded together through the Spirit. No matter how motivated I am to individually attain to an ultimate level, it will never occur without corporate relationship. That is why it is paramount that the accuser of the brethren be cast down. We need the God that is in each other in order for Him to be completely manifested in and on this earth. God has not given me vast acres of grounds, but about 190 pounds and that carries no weight in the spiritual. The ground is level at the foot of the cross and no one is exalted above another on this terrain. Ezekiel's army of individual dry bones needs to be assembled together into one new man:

Heb 10:25

25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

Ezek 37:11

11 Then he said unto me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold, they say, Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts.

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

1 Cor 12:25

25 That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another.

Assembling ourselves together is not merely composed of going to our individual gatherings. The assembly of the complete body is most important if God is going to inhabit us as He desires. At the last supper Jesus took bread and said this is my body. He broke the bread and gave each of His disciples a portion. He continues to break the bread with each one of us and gives us a portion. He has told us to reassemble the loaf. He took “one” cup and passed it around and said drink you all of it. This cup of course represents His blood which is symbolic of His Spirit:

1 Cor 12:13

13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

Even though we have and are different parts of the body we all drink of the same cup. It is the self-same Spirit interacting with our individually designed souls that has made us unique and special to God. As Paul so eloquently explained in 1 Corinthians 12, we all have a different function in the body, yet we are one body. Ezekiel was aware and we should be; our hope is lost because we are cut off for our parts because there are schisms in the body. One body part cannot function in the place of another, although many seem to have assumed that responsibility. As stated, God is all in all. He is not all in one part. The body parts will never have great impact in the earth until they function as one complete unit:

John 17:21-23

21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:

23 I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

Reiterating: The basis for this writing is that we are not going to be made perfect individually until we are made one corporately. It does not matter how much I strain to attain individually, I cannot function fully in the body if I am “Solo” (Hans will not win this Star Wars battle by himself). The same Spirit that is in all who are led by God directs us into the body positions that He has designated from before the foundation of the world. Even if I am in position I cannot function to capacity without the parts around me ministering to me and in turn, I to them. One part is no more important than another part because God has so designed us that we be interdependent. Remember our definition of the corporate God. The prayer that the Lord taught the disciples is inundated with

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

corporate words: “Our Father, forgive us, lead us, etc.” “Lone Ranger” theology continues to permeate and is even pronounced in some corporate groups.

A remnant is now leading the body into metamorphic change. This remnant, although presently small, does not want the separation, but desires that all in the church move into deeper understanding. Despite popular theological theory we are not going to be changed until we are changed. The apostle Peter reveals levels of change as we are taken from glory to glory:

2 Peter 1:4-7

4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

As an example, our vile bodies cannot be changed like unto His glorious body from the faith level or from the temperance level, but only from the charity level which is unconditional love. This change is a process both individually and corporately. Over the years individuals have attained great heights, but not anywhere near the level that will be reached when a significant cadre of the body has been thrust into the unconditional love level. This segment of this production was entitled “The Mystery of God.” We began this clip by citing Revelation 10:7 which is one of two verses in the Bible referring to “The Mystery of God.” It was stated that there is only one other time that this particular phrase is mentioned in the Bible and that occurrence would actually explain the first. We are now ready to reveal the verse in Revelation by the revelation of a verse in Colossians:

Rev 10:7

7 But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets.

Col 2:2

2 That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ;

The mystery of God is the inundating of the corporate body with unconditional love.

CONCLUSION: BEHOLDING THE PERFECT 10 IN A GLASS

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

2 Cor 3:18

18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

In this verse we all again gain corporate understanding. God’s goal from the beginning was to make mankind (the corporate man) into His image and likeness. By previous examination, individually we cannot contain all of the glory of the Lord. Corporately we do contain all the glory of the Lord for He has deposited a portion of Himself in all. I do not believe that the Spirit mentioned in the verse above is the individually possessed Holy Spirit, but it is the corporate Spirit of the Lord (God). It seems that there is one verse that some misinterpret concerning being changed:

Heb 11:40

40 God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

Of course the word “they” in this verse is referring to the patriarchs of faith mentioned earlier in the chapter. The point of misunderstanding seems to center around attaining individual perfection. I do not believe that this is that to which the verse is referring. I believe it is referring to the perfecting or maturing of the corporate body. They (patriarchs of faith) were and are a part of the corporate body, but the body cannot be complete without us. The underlined pro-nouns in the verse above are all plural. There is a passage of scripture that fully explains the verse above and we all know that scripture must interpret scripture:

Eph 4:4-16

4 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;

5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism,

6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

7 But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.

8 Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.

9(Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?

10 He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)

11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

“THE PERFECT 10”

by GL Parks

14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

The passage immediately above summarizes in a clip this entire picture. In verse 4 there is one body and one Spirit of that body. Remember our definition of the Spirit God. This is confirmed by the underlined words in verse 6: “One God and Father in you all.” In verse 7 every one is given a measure of the gift of Christ. As we have surmised, one cannot contain the entirety of the Spirit of the body of Christ (God). In verse 8 gifts were given unto men and not unto one man. In verse 10 He ascended that He might fill all things and not just one thing. In verses 11 and 12 the five-fold ministry was given to mature the body and over the years the body is coming to maturity. The five-fold ministry was not given to mature one individual at a time. Verse 13 states that this will occur until we become a perfect man. The word “measure” is used for a second time in this passage in verse 13. In this case the “measure” is not as it was in verse 7, but as the mature corporate man we are measured of the stature of the fullness of Christ. In verses 14 and 15 we must grow up into Him. Verse 16 is a summary of summaries. We cannot fully attain by just having an individual relationship with Jesus. We must also have a relationship with the rest of the body parts because each supplies a measure (used for the 3rd time). The individual measures make up the total measure which then edifies the body in love (agape, unconditional) which is the last step of maturity according to 2 Peter 1 as we have seen.

In the production of a movie there is a lot of film that is left on the cutting room floor or in biblical terms we could call it the threshing floor. Forgetting those things that are behind let us press on to the mark of the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. We will do this until we come in the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God unto “The Perfect 10”.

END