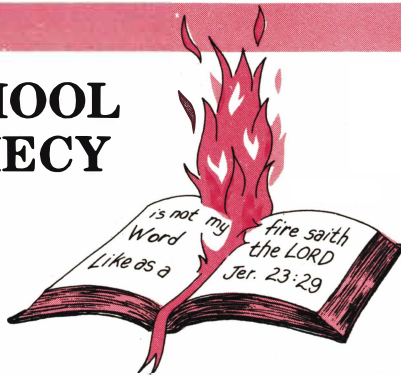


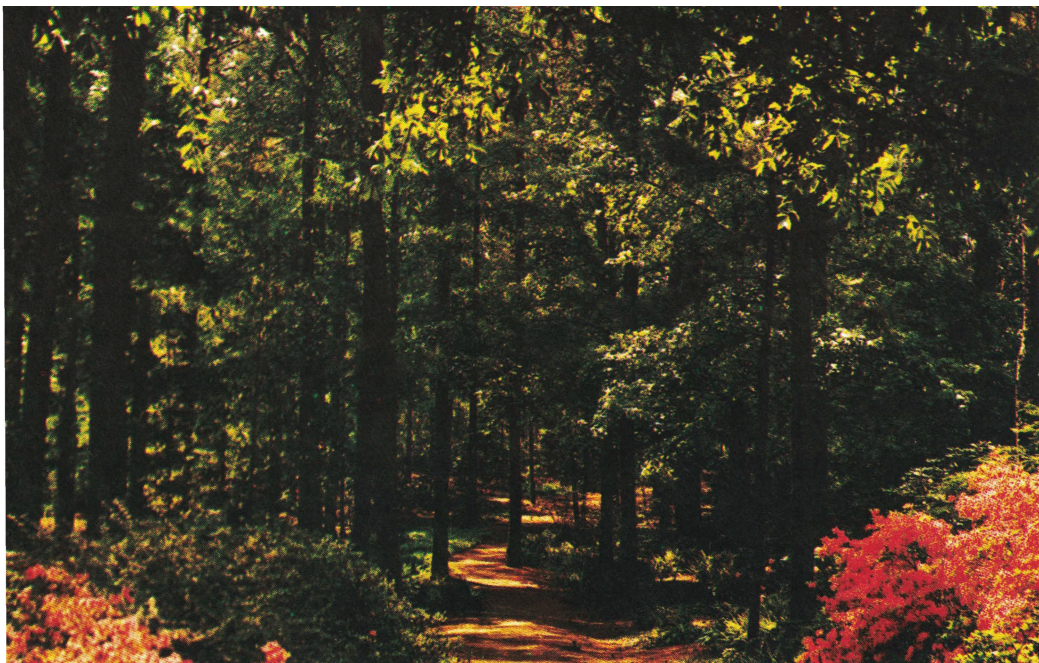
**BIBLE STUDY COURSE**  
**LESSON NO. 7**  
**— FROM —**

**BIBLE SCHOOL  
OF PROPHECY**



**"SCHOOL OF THE PROPHETS"**

**JACKSONVILLE, FLA.**



**THE BRIDE OF CHRIST**

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# BIBLE SCHOOL OF PROPHECY

## LESSON NO. 7

### DECLARATION:

The unveiling of the mysteries of the Kingdom of God are revealed in your Holy Bible through Parables, Allegories, and Similies from the revelations of the Holy Prophets and Apostles, and, especially from the teachings of Jesus Christ Himself. However, wrong concepts and beliefs widely prevail about this great subject, The Bride of Christ, and are the results of wrong interpretation of the scriptures by blind preachers and theologians. The Bride of Christ is the vital part of the church, not the whole Body of Christ — and is an integral and distinct part of the Kingdom of God!

### INTRODUCTORY SCRIPTURES:

From John the Baptist came this amazing and vital revelation: **“He that hath the Bride is the Bridegroom:** but the friend of the bridegroom, which standeth and heareth him, rejoiceth greatly because of the bridegroom’s voice: this my joy therefore is fulfilled.” John 3:29. The Bride comes from the Church or Body of Christ — the Bridegroom is Christ — John the Baptist will be an honored best man at the marriage supper of the Lamb [Christ]. Rev. 19:9.

Here is the great futuristic scene contained in the prophetic scriptures of the Bride of Christ: “And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked to me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the Bride, the Lamb’s [Christ’s] wife. And he carried me away in the spirit . . . and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God.” Rev. 21:9-10.

Note carefully: The city is not the Bride or Wife of Christ — the Bride’s residence is in the City of God; that is, the Bride will live inside that glorious city!

### Definition of “The Bride of Christ”:

God’s saints who are “called, chosen, and faithful.” Rev. 17:14. Also: “As the lily among thorns, So is my love among the daughters [i.e., other people of God].” Songs of Sol. 2:2. **The Bride is symbolized as the Shulamite of Songs 6:13.** Christ the Bridegroom declares to the church: “My dove, my undefiled is but one; She [i.e., the Bride] is the only one of her mother [the church]; She is the choice one of her that bare her.” Songs 6:9. This is the glorious, holy, perfected group of saints in the church that is “fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners,” (Songs 6:9); to wit: the Bridegroom

speaks to the Bride and says: “Thou art all fair, my love; there is no spot in thee.” Songs 4:7. The analogies of “The Bride of Christ” as used in the Holy Scriptures are but beautiful allegories symbolic of a multitude of Redeemed Saints! And, saints of God are holy people!

### Christ’s Jewels.

“Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another: and the Lord hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name. And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels.” Mal. 3:16-17. These jewels who really fear God are The Bride of Christ — and, there is a Book written with the names of those saints who qualify to be in The Bride of Christ.

### A Chaste Virgin.

“For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.” II Cor. 11:2. The “chaste virgin” who remains chaste, is the holy, non-conforming, sinless, blameless, faultless, Spirit-filled, sanctified, perfected remnant of saints in the Church of Jesus Christ who are without spot or blemish. I Peter 1:13-19; Jude 24.

### Sinless Saints.

“Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame.” I Cor. 15:34. Also: “And ye know that he [Christ] was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin. **Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not:** whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him [i.e., doesn’t understand Christ’s Word] . . . He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy [i.e., make inoperative] the works of the devil [to make a Christian commit sin]. **Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin . . .**” I John 3:5-9. The Bride of Christ will be God’s **holy saints** — those who have overcome sin!

### Perfected Saints.

Jesus has declared: “The disciple is not above his master: **but every one that is perfect shall be as his master.**” Luke 6:40. The Christian’s master is Christ. Also: “Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection.” Heb. 6:1. And, perfect means perfect, not maturity! The Bride of Christ will be the perfected saints of God from the Church or Body of Christ.



### The Redeemed of All Ages.

There are 5 distinct groups into which God's Redeemed Saints of all ages belong, clearly revealed by the Holy Scriptures:

- (1) God's Elect. Matt. 24:22-24; I Pet. 1:2.
- (2) Kingdom of Heaven (or of Jesus Christ). Matt. 25:1.
- (3) Kingdom of God. John 3:5; Rom. 14:17.
- (4) The Church of God. Acts 20:28; I Cor. 10:32.
- (5) The Bride of Christ. John 3:29; Rev. 21:17.

### SUPPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURES FOR FURTHER STUDY.

Ex. 20:2	Heb. 13:20-21	Phil. 2:12-15	Jude 1
II Tim. 3:16-17	Eph. 4:11-16	I Thess. 5:23	Col. 1:28
II Cor. 7:1	James 1:4	II Pet. 3:14	I Pet. 5:10

### LESSON EXPOSITION.

The greatest mystery of the Kingdom of Heaven is about the position of the Bride of Christ in His kingdom and the identity of these chosen ones. You see, as Christ taught about those in the Kingdom of Heaven (Christ's kingdom of 1,000 years): "**Many are called, but few are chosen.**" Matt. 22:14. Also: "And great multitudes were gathered unto [Jesus], so that he went into a ship, and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore. And he spake many things in parables . . . And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speaketh thou unto them in parables? He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given . . . **Therefore speak I to them in parables; because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand.**" Matt. 13:2-13.

### The Bride of Christ is a mystery.

This vital subject must be taught from God's Word by spiritual revelation. This subject requires the most in-depth study of any doctrine in the Word of God — understood by very few preachers or Christians!

### Christ's Bride Bequiled.

Eve is the perfect type of Christ's Bride — Adam, a type of Christ! I Cor. 15:45. The Apostle Paul reprimanded the church of his day and this is applicable to today's church even more: "I have espoused you to one husband [Christ], that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtility, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ . . . For ye suffer [allow] fools gladly, seeing ye yourselves are wise. For ye suffer, if a man bring you into bondage, if a man devour you, if a man take of you, if a man exalt himself, if a man smite you on the face." II Cor. 11:2-3, 19-20. **These**

early New Testament Christians were being “took,” hoodwinked, or beguiled by crooked and soothsaying preachers like today’s Christians. These were preaching to those early Christians “Another Jesus,” they were receiving “another spirit,” and they were accepting “another gospel” — and, so it is today with latter day saints. These kind of foolish virgins among Christians — the worldly majority in the church — do not qualify to be in the Bride of Christ — make no mistake about it!

### Pressing Into The Kingdom Of God.

“Doth he [Christ] thank that servant [a Christian] because he did the things that were commanded him? I trow not. So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, we are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do.” Luke 17:9-10. Also Jesus again declared emphatically: “The law and the prophets [i.e., the old covenant] was unto John: **since that time the kingdom of God is preached and every man presseth into it.**” Luke 16:16.

**The Bride of Christ, with God’s holy prophets, are the most illustrious of God’s redeemed saints in the Kingdoms of God or Heaven. Luke 13:28-29. By the way, “The kingdom of God is not meat and drink, but (1) Righteousness, and (2) Peace, and (3) Joy in the Holy Ghost.” Rom. 14:17.**

### The Division.

A carnal Christian will be in the Kingdom of heaven during the 1,000 year reign of Jesus Christ upon earth — but only the most spiritual of God’s saints will bear rule in the Kingdom with the prophets of God. Jesus warned of this thusly: “Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.” Luke 13:24. **Seeking will not be enough effort! Strive! Press!**

### The Body of Christ & A Rib!

The Church is not Christ Himself, but the “body of Christ.” How can the Church of our Lord be both the Bride and His Body! Answer: The Church is not His Bride neither can be. Christ will not marry His own body but a Bride from the body!

There are many types and figures of the Church in relationship to Christ in the Holy Scriptures. The most vivid figure or type is expressed here: “For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his [Christ’s] bones. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. **This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.**” Eph. 5:31-32. This was taken from the Old testament.

**The Rib.**

“And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; **And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.** And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.” Gen. 2:21-24.

**The Rib — That’s It!**

God will take the holy, sanctified, Spirit-filled Rib or Remnant of saints out of the Church as a Chaste Virgin to present to Christ as His Bride, perfect in every detail! Adam was a type of Christ — Eve, a type of the Bride of Christ. Luke 3:38. Adam was not wed to his own body, but to a bride, made of a rib taken from his body — bone of his bone, and flesh of his flesh — a perfect figure or type of the Church, Christ’s body, in its relationship to Christ!

**FOR FURTHER STUDY:**

Textbook (The Bride of Christ) by Brother Ray Pringle, A complete supplementary source to all of this Lesson No. 7. Be sure to study carefully.

**NOTES:**

## PART A. THE 5 ELEMENTAL SECTORS OF GOD'S KINGDOM.

### SUMMARIZATION.

Satan has a kingdom, a king, subjects, and an organized form of government — so does God! Jesus declared: “Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand: **And if Satan cast out Satan, he is divided against himself, how shall his kingdom stand?** . . . But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.” Matt. 12:25-29.

#### Kingdom of Heaven.

There is a spiritual kingdom (of God) that rules this universe which belongs to God — of which God the Father is King (cf. Dan. 4:17). **The kingdom of heaven or the kingdom of Jesus Christ will rule the world for a millenium or 1,000 years — and Jesus Christ will be King.** “The kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent taketh it by force.” Matt. 11:12.

#### Kingdom of God.

The kingdom of God is now within the hearts of true Christians — yet invisible — but it will succeed with visibility the 1,000 year reign of Jesus Christ. Jesus revealed this: “The kingdom of God cometh not with observation [i.e., outwardly]: Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! **for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.**” Luke 17:20-21.

#### The Elect.

Another Elemental Sector in God's great kingdom is the Elect — composed of the true Redeemed of all ages, both Jews and Gentiles. Proof: “For the elect's sake, whom he hath chosen.” Mark 13:20. Also: “Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ.” I Pet. 1:2. Also: “For Jacob my servant's sake, and Israel mine elect, I have even called thee by name.” Isa. 45:4.

#### The Church.

“[God] hath put all things under his [Christ's] feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to **the church, which is his body**, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.” Eph. 1:22-23. Remember this Bible Truth: There are only 3 classes of people in the world, “Jews, . . . the Gentiles, . . . the church of God [i.e., true Christians].” I Cor. 10:32. Also: “For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles.” I Cor. 12:13.

#### The Bride of Christ.

The Bride of Christ is not the Church, but is a vital, component part of the Church, or of the Body of Christ. A Christian must know this



truth or the devil can beguile him of his reward in Christ's kingdom. "Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, **but that we receive a full reward.**" II John 8. The Bride, Christians who are sanctified and perfected, will rule this world with Christ, in his kingdom of 1,000 years, with a rod of iron. Proof: "**He that overcometh** [i.e., the world, sin, the flesh, and the devil], **and keepeth my works unto the end** [i.e., a completely faithful Christian], **to him will I give power over the nations: And he shall rule them with a rod of iron;** as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father. He that hath an ear [i.e., to hear the whole Truth] let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches." Rev. 2:26-29.

#### NOTES:

## I. THE ELECT.

### DISCUSSION.

Elect means: (1) Elected but not yet installed in office; (2) In theology: Chosen; given preference; chosen by God for salvation and eternal life.

- a. Jesus Christ is called God's Elect. Isa. 42:1; I Pet. 2:6.
- b. True Israel is the designated Elect of God. Isa. 45:4; Rom. 11:5, 28.
- c. Members of the Church or Body of Christ are the Elect of God. Study Col. 3:12; I Thess. 1:4; I Pet. 1:2.
- d. God's saints of all ages beginning with Adam are the elect of God. Heb. 11:4-5; Rom. 9:11.

### The Elect Angels.

"I charge thee before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and **the elect angels**, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality." I Tim. 5:21. These faithful angels who are ministering spirits to each of God's Elect will be prominent in the kingdom of heaven. "When the Son of man shall come in his glory, **and all the holy angels** [elect angels] **with him**, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory." Matt. 25:31. Also: "But in those days, after that tribulation . . . shall he send his [elect] angels, and shall gather together **his elect** from the four winds, from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost part of heaven" Mark 13:24-27.

**God's Elect** will appear in many positions of reward in Christ's kingdom of 1,000 years. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and the prophets will sit with Christ in His kingdom. Luke 13:28-29. **The 12 Apostles of Christ will sit on 12 thrones and judge the 12 tribes of Israel from Jerusalem.** The Bride of Christ will have the most exalted of positions as a reward: "To him that overcometh [i.e., the world, the flesh, sin and the devil] will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne." Rev. 3:21. Also, as a queen, the Bride will be at His right hand. Psalms 45:9. The Church (in general) will reign with Christ as priests and servants — the Bride, or the Holy Rib will reign as kings. Rev. 1:5-6.

### SUPPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURES FOR FURTHER STUDY.

Isa. 65:9, 22	Matt. 24:22, 24	I Tim. 5:21	II Pet. 1:10
Rom. 8:33	Matt. 24:31	Luke 18:7	II Tim. 2:10
Matt. 22:14	John 15:16	Rev. 17:14	Titus 1:1

## II. KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.

### DISCUSSION.

At the coming of Jesus Christ at the end of our age, a new world government will be formed with a new social order, with Christ as King of Kings! Rev. 19:11-16. The proclamation: "And the Seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever." Rev. 11:15. In the New Testament terminology, the "kingdom of heaven" literally means "the kingdom of the heavens," or, "the kingdom of Jesus Christ."

"Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be **priests** of God and of Christ, and reign with him a thousand years." Rev. 20:6.

### The Beginning.

"And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True [Christ], and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns . . . And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood; and his name is called the Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, **clothed in fine linen, white and clean [these are The Bride].**" Rev. 19:11-14.

### Christ Sits on His Father's Throne.

God the Father will precede Christ by His coming to await Christ's arrival. Daniel the prophet reveals this startling truth: "I beheld till the thrones were cast down, **and the Ancient of days** [i.e., God, the Father] **did sit**, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire . . . thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened . . . I saw in the night visions, and, behold, **one like the Son of man [Christ] came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days [the Father, God], and they brought him near before him.** And there was given him [to Christ from His Father] dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages should serve him." Dan. 7:9-14.

### Christ's Reward.

Christ has no throne of His own. The reward for his faithfulness will be "to sit on His Father's throne." After God installs Christ as Lord and King to reign from His throne in Jerusalem, He will return to heaven. However, before God returns to Heaven, He personally observes this glorious prophetic fulfillment: "That at the name of

Jesus every knee shall bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth: And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father.” Phil. 2:10-11.

Also: “For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God.” Rom. 14:11. This is literally fulfilled in God’s very presence — and, the Father will be visibly seen at Christ’s coronation. All of earth’s kings and rulers, with God’s saints, will bow their knees and throw their crowns at the feet of Christ in full surrender and submission, while the Father looks on with great satisfaction.

### **a. THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST.**

#### **SUMMARIZATION.**

“When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats.” Matt. 25:31-32. This describes the judgment of the nations that remain at Christ’s return — those that survive God’s wrath and Armageddon.

#### **Sheep Nations.**

Jesus will call the sheep nations “blessed of my Father” because “you ministered to my brethren.” Remember this: Jesus said that his “brethren” were Christians. Cf. Mark 8:19-21; Heb. 2:11-12. These sheep nations are the ones who will help hide and succour Christians and God’s elect from extermination during the Great Tribulation Period. These Nations’ Reward: Christ’s invitation to be citizens in His kingdom.

**“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men.”** II Cor. 5:10-11. This is a preview of the judgment of Christians at Christ’s judgment seat — the judging of the rewards and positions in His Kingdom, according to their works! “The Lord shall judge his people.” Heb. 10:30.

#### **FOR FURTHER STUDY.**

Rom. 14:10  
Rom. 2:16

Acts 17:31  
Rev. 3:4

II Tim. 4:8  
Jude 14-15

I Cor. 3:11-15  
Rev. 2:18-23



## 1. THE CORONATION OF CHRIST.

### DISCUSSION

The old hymn of the church so wonderfully proclaims: "Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all." Here is God's first proclamation of the coronation of Christ and the location of the prophetic surety: "Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion [Jerusalem]. **I will declare the decree: the Lord hath said unto me [Christ], Thou art my Son: this day have I begotten thee. . . Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him.**" Psa. 2:6-7, 12.

**Jerusalem.** Jesus Christ will be enthroned in Jerusalem and rule the world from there — the world capital and center of all religion and culture. "And it shall come to pass, that everyone that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles. . . yea, every pot in Jerusalem and in Judah shall be holiness unto the Lord." Zech. 14:16, 21.

**Strict Law Enforcement.** Christ will enforce God's laws upon all the nations of the earth — His executive orders will proceed from Jerusalem: "The law will go forth of Zion, and the Word of the Lord from Jerusalem. And He [Christ] shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks: Nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." Micah 4:2-3. **DISARMAMENT! PEACE! NO WAR! NO CRIME! But how? By a dictatorship with absolute authority — Jesus Christ and His faithful saints ruling with a rod of iron!** Rev. 2:26-28. The Bride of Christ, Christ's holy, sanctified, faithful saints, will be kings over the nations — Christ is King of Kings! "And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, **KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.**" Rev. 19:16.

### FOR FURTHER STUDY.

Luke 1:31-33

Acts 2:29-30

Micah 5:2

Matt. 24:45-51

II Thess. 1:6-10

Rev. 1:10-18

Rev. 11:15

Dan. 2:43-44

## 2. CHRISTIANS' REWARDS

### DISCUSSION

Every Christian will stand before Christ's judgment seat to be judged and rewarded according to his works. The 1,000 year kingdom of heaven is a time and place for all of God's Elect to be rewarded — Christ, true Israel, and the Church. The Rewards: Christ sits on His Father's throne and subdues all warring wills — Israel is fully restored to the territorial sovereignty God promised to them through Abraham (Gen. 15:18) — the church is positioned throughout the world to serve Christ as kings and priests for 1,000 years! Christians will be judged according to their works! **Jesus has declared: "My reward is with me; to give every man according as his work shall be."** Rev. 22:12. Also: "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them." Rev. 14:13.

**CHRISTIANS' TALENTS.** Christians will be judged and positioned in Christ's Kingdom according to the effectiveness and efficiency in which they used God's talents and gifts! Here's a scene at Christ's Judgment Seat: "Then came the first, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained ten pounds. And he said unto him, Well, thou good servant . . . **have authority over ten cities.** And the second came, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained five pounds. And he said likewise to him, **Be thou also over five cities.**" Luke 19:13-19.

**Jesus further revealed:** "For the kingdom of heaven [i.e., His 1,000 year reign] is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods. And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey." Matt. 25:14-15.

### The Rewards At Christ's Return:

- (1) "He that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more. His Lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, **I will make thee ruler over many things.**
- (2) "He that had received two talents came and said, Lord. . . I have gained two other talents beside them. His Lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant. . . **I will make thee ruler over many things.**
- (3) "Then he that had received the one talent came and said, Lord. . . I was afraid, and went and hid my talent in the earth. . . His Lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant. . . take

therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents. . . . And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” Matt. 25:24-30.

#### (4) A Revelation & Note of Caution!

The unprofitable servant of Jesus Christ whose talent was wasted, was not cast into hell! He was cast into the outer darkness of Christ’s kingdom: that is, he was not permitted to serve in the glorious light of the kingdom emanating from Christ and His throne in Jerusalem. The term “outer darkness” is a comparative term, for comparatively speaking, it will be darkness in any part of the world when compared to the light and glory of Jerusalem during the Kingdom Age. This is scripturally sound, for Christians will be ashamed and gnash their teeth with regret who bury their talents and do not qualify to be in the Bride of Christ — i.e., to sit at His right hand in His kingdom. Cf. Psalm 45:9.

**Christians Ashamed.** “And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, **and not be ashamed before him at his coming.**” I John 2:28. To abide in Christ is this: “Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not.” I John 3:6. Also: “Hear the word of the Lord, ye that tremble at his word; Your brethren that hated you, that cast you out for my name’s sake, said, Let the Lord be glorified: **but he shall appear** [i.e., at His coming] **to your joy and they** [i.e., the Christians who did not fear God] **shall be ashamed.**” Isa. 66:5. The unprofitable servant who buried his talent was fearful — but he possessed an irrational fear or spirit of fear (II Tim. 1:7). The Fear of God will motivate a saint of God to prepare for Christ’s return with all diligence, to wit: “By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, **moved with fear**, prepared an ark for the saving of his house. . . .” Heb. 11:7. The fear of God. (Cf. Phil. 2:12).

#### CHRIST’S ASSURANCE.

“For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; **and then he shall reward every man according to his works.**” Matt. 16:27. Also: Jesus declared prophetically, “Behold, I come quickly; **and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.**” Rev. 22:12. This includes every Christian also. (Cf. II Cor. 5:10). “For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.” Rom. 14:10.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURES FOR FURTHER STUDY.

Isa. 40:10	Matt. 6:1-6	Luke 14:12-14	I Tim. 5:18
Jer. 31:16	Matt. 10:41-42	I Cor. 3:8	Rev. 11:18
Heb. 11:26	Mark 10:41	Col. 2:18	Rev. 22:12

**CAUTION.** “Let no man beguile you of your reward.” Col. 2:18. “If any man’s work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man’s work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.” I Cor. 3:14-15. **There is no reward but shame for failure!**

## **b.] MARRIAGE SUPPER OF THE LAMB.**

### **SUMMARIZATION.**

The marriage supper of Jesus Christ, which most Christians dream of attending, has many facets which must be established by scriptural authority — not by legends or vain imaginations.

#### **The Announcement From Heaven.**

“Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: **for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.** And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white; for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And he said unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb.” Rev. 19:7-9.

#### **The Time.**

At the end of the Great Tribulation, at the end of the Battle of Armageddon, Christ shall come with his Wife or Bride, that is, with His Saints who are holy, sanctified, and faithful. “They that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.” Rev. 17: 14. Also: “The armies which were in heaven follow him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.” Rev. 19:14. These are the Bride! **“These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.”** Rev. 7:14.

These also include those persecuted Christians of our very generation revealed in this prophecy: “And when he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held. . . **And white robes were given unto every one of them.** . . .” Rev. 6: 9-11.

These are the sanctified, holy, faithful “rib” of the Church who are perfected in Holiness — having neither spot or blemish — the Bride. These are caught up to heaven during the midst of the Great Tribulation Period of 7 years! In the Rapture!

**Oh! Glorious victory!** Christ’s wife had made herself ready for the Marriage Supper. This event will occur after the judgment of the nations and Christians by Christ.



### The Place.

The Marriage Supper of the Lamb will take place in Jerusalem - right here on this Planet Earth, not in Heaven! In Christ's palace! Remember: Christ's wedding will have a Bride, a Groom, Bridesmaids, Guests, Servants, and Best Men! This detailed prophecy of Christ's marriage supper is very vividly expressed in the Holy Scriptures: "My heart is inditing a good matter: I speak of the things which I have made touching the King. . . Thou art fairer than the children of men: grace is poured into thy lips: therefore God hath blessed thee forever [i.e., Christ] . . . Thou lovest righteousness and hated wickedness: therefore God, thy God [i.e., the Father of Christ], hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows. . . **Kings daughters were among thy honorable women: upon thy right hand did stand the queen [Christ's Bride] in gold of Ophir.** . . the king shall greatly desire thy beauty: for he is thy Lord; and worship thou him. . . She shall be brought unto the king [Christ] in raiment of needlework; **the virgins [bridesmaids] her companions that follow her shall be brought unto thee.** With gladness and rejoicing shall they be brought: **they shall enter into the king's palace.** . . Psa. 45:1-17.

### The Attendants.

The marriage supper of Christ at which He is presented with a Bride, will have many in attendance: (1) The Bridegroom, Christ; (2) The Bride, the "holy rib" from the Church; also from the Church will come (3) Servants, and (4) Guests, and (5) Bridesmaids; also (6) Best Men such as John Baptist and all the Holy Prophets. Cf. Luke 12:35-38; Luke 13:28-30. John 3:29.

### Note of Caution.

**This great mystery is taught by Christ in His parables.** "The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king [God the Father], which made a marriage for his Son [i.e., Jesus Christ]. And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: And they would not come. **Again, he sent forth other servants, saying. . . come to the marriage.** But they made light of it. . . Then saith he to his servants, the wedding is ready, but they which were bidden [invited] were not worthy. Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye find, bid to the marriage. So those servants [these were true men of God] went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, **both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests** [note this carefully]. And when the king came in to see **the guests**, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. [this could not have been in heaven, but on earth, in

Jerusalem] Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and cast him into outer darkness [not hell, but in the outer darkness of the kingdom of heaven]; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth [regret over their apathy and failure because of a lost reward]." Matt. 22:1-13. The parable ends with this warning from Jesus Christ: "For many are called [i. e. , to be in the Bride and to attend the marriage supper of the Lamb], but few are chosen." Verse 14.

### **A PARALLEL STUDY: Luke 14:15-24.**

#### **BRIDESMAIDS.**

"Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins [bridesmaids], which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom [Christ]. And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. They that were foolish. . . took no oil with them: But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. . . And while [the foolish] went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut." Matt. 25:1-13. This is another of Christ's parables teaching Rewards or Positions in the kingdom of heaven — not of salvation!

### **c. CHRIST'S WORLD GOVERNMENT**

#### **DISCUSSION.**

Here is the prophetic epitomization of the quality of the kingdom of heaven that will be ruled by Jesus Christ as a World Dictator: "But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of the lips shall he slay the wicked. . . [and] the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea." Isa. 11:4-9.

**Make no mistake about it** — the Kingdom of Jesus Christ will be an Absolute Monarchy — a world government lasting 1,000 years — a dictatorship that will tolerate no sin, no war, no violence, and, no insubordination will be tolerated by God's trusted and tested saints who will rule with Christ with rods of iron, to wit: Rev. 2:26-27.

### **SUPPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURES FOR FURTHER STUDY.**

Isa. 11:5-9	Amos 9:11-15	Zech. 8:22-23	Acts 2:30
Isa. 16:1, 5	Zech. 2:12	Zech. 14:1-9	Matts. 25:31-33
Isa. 65:19-25	Zech. 8:1-5	Zech. 14:16-21	Rev. 20:4-6

#### **NOTES:**

### III. THE CHURCH.

#### SUMMARY.

The Church of Jesus Christ, or as it is more prominently called in the Holy Bible, The Church of God, is God's Elect and The Body of Christ. All Christians of the New Testament Church will be present in the kingdom of heaven, both the resurrected dead and the translated living. The Church will supply Christ with His Bride, Bridesmaids, Guests, and Servants. These positions in the Kingdom Age are determined by Reward — not by Redemption or Salvation. **The only Reward that all Christians will receive alike is eternal life.** Every laborer or Christian whether they labored much or little received a penny [i.e., eternal life] at the end of the day. Cf. Parable of Matt. 20: 1-16. The Church of God has been purchased by the blood of Christ. Acts. 20:28.

#### A HOLY TEMPLE FOR THE LORD.

The Church is **"Built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets [i.e., Old and New Testaments], Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone;** In whom all the building fitly framed together growth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit." Eph. 2:20-22.

Also: The Apostle Paul declared again, "Ye [Christians] are God's building." I Cor. 3:9.

#### THE MEMBERS.

"For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles. . . ." I Cor. 12:13. **"For there is no difference between the Jew and Greek."** Rom. 10:12.

"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Gal. 3:28-29.

The Church and Israel are inextricably linked together in the fulfillment of Bible prophecies (yet to be fulfilled) — and much of God's Elect and Saints are yet to be redeemed among the Jews.

**"For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly. . . . But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God."** Rom. 2:28-29.

#### A VARIETY OF CHRISTIANS IN QUALITY.

- (1) **Some bring forth fruit**, an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold. Matt. 13:8.
- (2) **Many are weak in the faith** who argue about Sabbath days and meats/drinks. Rom. 14:1-6; Col. 2:16-17.
- (3) **Many are carnal** and are still babies in Christ though their conversion was long ago. I Cor. 3:1-3.

- (4) **Many Christians have left their first love**, and are very selfish. Rev. 2:3-5.
- (5) **Many are lukewarm** and spewed out of Christ's mouth. Rev. 3:14-19. Unfaithful!
- (6) **Most Christians are prayerless**, careless, and powerless. Rev. 3:1-2. "Many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep." I Cor. 11:30.
- (7) **Many Christians are stumblingblocks** — they are terrible examples to others. I Cor. 8:9.  
 Christ will have a glorious Church without spot, wrinkle, or blemish (Eph. 5:25-27) — this will necessitate tribulation and persecution through God's judgments. The Bride will sanctify "herself," to wit: **"His wife hath made herself ready."** Rev. 19:7. Also: **"He that hath this [Blessed] hope in him, purifieth himself, even as he [Christ] is pure."** I John 3:3.
- (8) **True Saints are "Sanctified by God the Father**, and preserved in Jesus Christ and called." Jude 1.  
 These hate even the garment spotted by the flesh, and are faultless. Jude 23-24. **These are Christ's Jewels** (Mal. 3:16-18); these saints are sanctified believers among the carnal and worldly Christians — vessels of gold and silver among those of wood and earth. See II Tim. 2:20-21. These are the Bride among lukewarm and careless Christians of the Church. The true saints are, as expressed by the Holy Ghost in the Old Testament: **"As a lily among thorns, so is my love [the Bride] among the daughters [other Christians]."** Songs of Solomon 2:2.

### FOR FURTHER STUDY.

**"The Bride of Christ" (Book). . . By Bro. Ray Pringle, Sr.**

Luke 6:35      Gal. 5:7      Gal. 3:1      Heb. 5:12-14

Rom. 15:1      Col. 2:18      Gal. 4:19-20      I John 2:14

### NOTES:



## IV. THE BRIDE.

### DISCUSSION

All members of the visible Body of Christ or Church are not the Bride. The mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are not obvious in the scriptures — they are revealed to apostles and prophets who are holy and faithful. Cf. Amos 3:7; Eph. 3:1-5, 9. Seeing that the Elect of God are all a very distinct part of the kingdom of heaven (or of Christ), then the mystery, as it is revealed through parables, similies, allegories, and types, must be partially revealed of necessity in the Old Testament Scriptures also.

### Old Testament Revelation.

The Song of Solomon is vital to a clear understanding of the Bride of Christ. Christ is revealed in the Old Testament clearly, then why not His Bride? “And [Jesus] said unto them These are the words which I spoke unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the Psalms, concerning me.” Luke 24:44. Old Testament!

And a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, and mighty in the scriptures [Old Testament Scriptures], came to Ephesus. . . He mightily convinced the Jews, and that publicly, shewing by the [Old Testament] scriptures that Jesus was Christ.” Acts 18:24-28. All of Christ’s Early Church, preachers and members, taught and preached Christ from the Old Testament — that’s all they had!

#### **a.** Character & Quality Of The Bride of Christ: Old Testament.

**1. The Song of Solomon is a dialogue between Christ and His Bride with several exceptions.**

“I am black but comely, O ye daughters of Jerusalem [The Bride speaking to the Bridegroom]. Look not upon me, because I am black, because the sun hath looked upon me: My mother’s children [the mother is the church] were angry with me; they made me the keeper of the vineyards; but mine own vineyard have I not kept.” Songs 1:5-6.

In simile or allegory, the Bride is blackened by the sun because it is the Bride in the Church who does the vital work of Christ — keeping the vineyard, a type of the church — and, this is true all through this great Book declaring the mystery of the Bride. The “other daughters” in the church have always disliked the holy, sanctified, and faithful laborers for Christ within His Body.

2. **“I am the rose of Sharon, and the lily of the valleys [Christ speaking]. As the lily among thorns, so is my love among the daughters.”** Songs 2:1-2.

**Note this carefully:** The Bride of Christ among the other Christians is like a beautiful lily among thorns!

**Christ’s Warning.** “Take us the foxes, the little foxes, that spoil the vines: for our vines have tender grapes.” Songs 2:15. Paraphrased, this says, **“Look out for those little sins in your life — they will ruin you!”**

3. **Christ further says to His Bride:** “Thou are all fair, my love; there is no spot in thee.” Songs 4:7. Also: “A garden enclosed is my sister, my spouse: a spring shut up, a fountain sealed. Thy plants are an orchard of pomegranates [a type of the Gifts of the Spirit], with pleasant fruits [a type of Fruit of the Spirit]; camphire, with spikenard. . . A fountain of gardens, a well of living waters [a type of the Holy Ghost], and streams from Lebanon.” Songs 4:12-15.

**The Bride’s reply to Christ the Bridegroom is:** “My beloved is white and ruddy, the chiefest among ten thousand . . . His mouth is most sweet: Yea, he is altogether lovely.” Songs 5:10,16.

#### 4. **The Shulamite: The Bride!**

The Bridegroom declares: “My dove, my undefiled is but one; **She is the only one of her mother** [i.e., the Church], **She is the choice one of her that bare her.** The daughters [i.e., the other church members] saw her and blessed her; Yea, the queens and the concubines, and they praised her. Who is she that looketh forth as the morning, fair as the Moon, clear as the Sun, and terrible as an Army with banners? [the Bride, of course] . . . Return, return O Shulamite; return, return, that we may look upon thee. What will ye see in the Shulamite? As it were the company of two armies.” Songs 6:9-13. This is the glorious, sanctified, Spirit-filled, unblemished “Rib” out of Christ’s Church — The Bride.

#### 5. **A Beautiful Analogy.**

Many theologians declare erroneously that the Song of Solomon is spurious — just a lurid romantic novel of King Solomon’s love affair with his many wives and concubines. It is gross error! The analogies of this inspired Book, as in Christ’s own teachings, uses the natural to teach spiritual revelations. “We have a little sister, and she hath no breasts [a type of a lukewarm, worldly Christian]; what shall we do for our sister in the day when she shall be spoken for [i.e., betrothed to Christ, but rejected from being in the Bride]? If she be a wall, we will build upon her a palace of silver: and if she be a door, we will inclose her

with boards of cedar. [Then the Bride speaks] I am a wall, and my breasts like towers: then was I in his eyes [Christ's] as one that found favour [i.e., to be in His Bride]." Songs 8:8-10. "Breasts" signify strength to nourish and bring up children in Christ who will be strong Christians!

### FOR FURTHER STUDY.

The Textbook: "The Bride of Christ" by Bro. Ray Pringle, Sr.

#### **[b.] Character & Quality Of the Bride of Christ: New Testament.**

1. "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and **the dead in Christ** shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord." I Thess. 4:16-17. **Note the key phrase — "dead in Christ" —** which means what the scriptures declare to be the qualifications for the Rapture: "Whosoever abideth in him [Christ] sinneth not: Whosoever sinneth hath not seen him [i.e., hath not understood Him], neither known him." 1 John 3:6. Cf. also vss. 7-10; 1 Cor. 15:34.

### THE MYSTERY UNVEILED.

The Bride, perfected and sinless, are "in Christ," but even these sanctified saints will not be taken up or raptured out of the Great Tribulation until the complete harvest of souls is complete. Rev. 14:14-16; Rev. 15:2.

2. "Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat [i.e., meat of God's Word] in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. **Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods.**" Matt. 24:45-47. **FAITHFULNESS** means to be continuous, uninterrupted in our service to Jesus Christ — never wavering! This is the quality of the Bride — make no mistake about it!

#### 3. **God's Methods of Purification.**

##### **a. Fasting & Prayer in Travail.**

"And Jesus said unto them, Can the children of the bridechamber mourn, as long as the bridegroom is with them? but the days will come, when the bridegroom [Christ] shall be taken from them, **and then shall they fast.**" Matt. 9:15. The Bride will fast very much! Also Jesus said, "A little while, and ye shall see me. Verily, verily, I say unto you, That ye shall weep and lament, but the world shall rejoice: and ye shall be sorrowful, but your sorrow shall be turned into joy. A woman [a type of the church] when she is in travail hath sorrow, because her hour is come." John 16:19-21. The church's hour of purging and purification has come!

### b. Physical Suffering.

“And he [God’s Angel] said, Go thy way, Daniel; for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end. **Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried . . . but the wise shall understand.**” Daniel 12:9-10.

Also: “Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin . . .” 1 Pet. 4:1. And: “For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, **but also to suffer for his sake.**” Phil. 1:29.

## SUPPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURES — BIBLE EVIDENCE:

Psa. 66:10-12	Isa. 48:10	I Peter 4:12-13	James 5:10-11
Rom. 12:1-2	Rev. 2:10	II Peter 3:14	Heb. 12:5-11
II Cor. 10:3-5	Rev. 3:4	Col. 1:22	Rev. 12:9-12
II Tim. 2:12	Luke 6:40	Col 1:28	I John 3:8-10

### c. Two Brides in Bible Perspective.

#### Discussion.

**Two Brides are revealed in the Holy Scriptures.** A woman is used symbolically to identify both the Bride and the Church. There is the Church of old that was called out of Egypt — nationally referred to as Israel, to wit: “This is he that was in **the church in the wilderness.**” Act. 7:38. These were God’s “ecclesia” or called out ones, a designation used also for the New Testament Church of Jesus Christ.

The two brides vividly revealed in the prophetic scriptures are:

(1) a holy remnant of Israel — **the Bride of Jehovah**, and (2) a Holy “Rib” out of the Church of Jesus Christ **for His Bride.**

#### 1. Jehovah’s (The Father’s) Bride.

“For thy maker is thine husband; the Lord of hosts is his name; and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel; The God of the whole earth shall he be called. For the Lord hath called thee as a woman forsaken and grieved in spirit, and a wife of youth, when thou wast refused, saith thy God. For a moment have I forsaken thee; but with great mercies will I gather thee.” Isa. 54:5-8.

To restored Israel God has promised: “As the bridegroom rejoiceth over the bride, so shall thy God rejoice over thee.” Isa. 62:5. But alas! God gave rebellious and unfaithful Israel a writing of Divorcement many centuries ago.

### THE DIVORCEMENT.

“Thus saith the Lord, **Where is the bill of your mother’s** [Church of Old] **divorcement**, whom I have put away?” Isa. 50:1. Also: “And I saw, when for all the causes whereby backsliding Israel committed adultery I had put her away, **and given her a bill of divorce**; yet her treacherous sister Judah feared not, but went and played the harlot also.” Jer. 3:8.

### RESTORATION.

“God said, plead with your mother [Church of Old], plead: for she is not my wife, neither am I her husband: let her therefore put away her whoredoms out of her sight, and her adulteries [spiritually] from between her breasts . . . And I will visit upon her the days of Baalim, wherein she burned incense to them, and she [Jehovah’s divorced wife] decked herself with her earrings and her jewels, and she went after her lovers, and forgot me, saith the Lord.” Hosea 2:2, 13.

#### Then the Restoration follows.

God continues, “Behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak comfortably unto her . . . And she shall sing there, as in the days of her youth, and as in the day when she came up out of the land of Egypt . . . **And I will betroth thee unto me for ever** . . . I will even betroth thee unto me in faithfulness: and thou shalt know the Lord.” Hosea 2:14-20.

### JERUSALEM.

Jehovah’s Bride will be in Jerusalem at the return of Christ who comes with His Bride to save His Father’s Bride. **Christ was born out of the church of old:** “Made under the law —” Gal. 4:4; “He came unto his own, and His own received him not.” John 1:11. “As birds flying, so will the Lord of hosts defend Jerusalem; defending also he will deliver it; and passing over he will preserve it.” Isa. 31:5. Why is it, “he that toucheth [Jerusalem] toucheth the apple of his eye?” (Zech. 2:8). Answer: Jehovah (the Father’s) Bride will be drawn to Jerusalem before Christ’s return and 1/3 of those Jews present will be saved out of the Great Tribulation and Armageddon. **These are His Bride!** To wit: “In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness . . . And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the Lord, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein. And I will bring the third part through the fire, and shall refine them [i.e., purify them] as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The Lord is my God.” Zech. 13:1, 8-9. Amen!

#### The 12 Apostles Shall Rule Israel.

Jesus declared: “Ye are they which have continued with me in my temptations [sufferings]. And I appoint unto you a kingdom, as my



Father hath appointed unto me; That ye may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.” Luke 22:28-30. My, what a Reward of Honor and Authority. For 1,000 years, their faithfulness in laboring for Jesus is rewarded. **The kingdom will then be Restored to Israel.** Cf. Acts 1:6.

## **2. Jesus Christ’s (The Son’s) Bride.**

### **Summarization.**

God, the Father, has chosen a Jewish Bride out of Israel. Christ has chosen a predominately Gentile Bride out of the Church, His earthly Body. God, the Father, will build up earthly Jerusalem in which His Bride will live forever. Cf. Isa. 66:17-19. The Heavenly Jerusalem, coming down to earth from God will be the dwelling of Christ’s Bride forever. Cf. Rev. 21:1-5.

### **The Gentile Bride.**

“Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name . . .” Study Acts 15:14-17.

## **NOTES:**

## V. THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

### DISCUSSION.

At the end of the 1,000 year reign of Jesus Christ, with His Bride, He will turn the kingdom back to His Father with full honors. To wit: "But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming. Then cometh the end [i.e., at the end of His 1,000 year reign], when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and authority and power . . . The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. For he [i.e., God the Father] hath put all things under his [Christ's] feet. But when [God] saith, all things are put under him, it is manifest that he [God the Father] is excepted, which did put all things under him [Christ, the Son]. **And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him [His Father] that put all things under him [Christ], that God [i.e., the Father] may be all in all.**" I Cor. 15:23-28. This is one of the greatest revelations in the Holy Scriptures on the Godhead.

### The Beginning.

The Kingdom of God (the Father) begins immediately after Christ's Kingdom comes to its end! The invisible Kingdom of God will become visible at the end of the 1,000 year millenium: "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men . . . and God [The Father] himself shall be with them, and be their God . . . And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new." Rev. 21:1-5.

### a. INVISIBLE KINGDOM OF GOD

1. Jesus made it plain: "The kingdom of God cometh not with observation [literally]: Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for behold, the kingdom of God is within you." Luke 17:20-21.
2. "The kingdom of God is not meat and drink (i.e., not literal or outward); but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost." Rom. 14:17.
3. At the end of the kingdom of heaven (1,000 year reign of Christ), "The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather **out of his kingdom** all things that offend, and them which do iniquity: And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Then shall the righteous [i.e., those who have submitted to Christ's rule during His 1,000 year reign] shine forth as the sun **in the kingdom of their Father** [the literal Kingdom of God]. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear." Matt. 13:41-43.

**Note Carefully:** In Christ's kingdom, there are both good and bad — In the Kingdom of God, there are only the righteous.

4. "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God?" I Cor. 6:9.

"This I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God." I Cor. 15:50.

"For the kingdom of God is not in word, but in power." I Cor. 4:20.

"We must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God." Acts 14:22. Cf. II Thess. 1:4-5.

5. "But seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness." Matt. 6:33.

"And [Jesus] said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That there be some of them that stand here, which shall not taste of death till they have seen the kingdom of God come with power." Mark 9:1.

### SUMMARY

The existing invisible kingdom of God has wonderful subjects — the true, sanctified, Spirit-filled saints, blood-washed and holy, who are completely submitted to God's Word, God's Ways, and God's Will. Partially obedient Christians will be in the kingdom of heaven — but not in the kingdom of God until the 1,000 years are fulfilled. "Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, [shall be] in the kingdom of God, and yourselves thrust out." Luke 13:28.

### The Kingdom of God is manifested by power — Holy Ghost power.

As this prophecy of Jesus to His disciples was fulfilled, only a handful of his many disciples obeyed His command, "to tarry in the City of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with [that] power from on high." Luke 24:49. That divine command was also, "Ye shall receive [that promised] power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you." Acts 1:8. That Holy Ghost Power fell on the Day of Pentecost upon those who fully obeyed the command of Jesus Christ. Partially obedient Christians do not have Holy Ghost Power — only the fully obedient. This factor separates Christians into the two great spiritual spheres — the kingdom of God and the kingdom of heaven. The division is largely invisible **now**, but will soon be visible at Christ's return, at His Judgment Seat of Rewards!

### SUPPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURES FOR FURTHER STUDY.

**Matt. 16:28 Luke 9:1-2 Two classes of God's People. Jer.4:30-31**

**Matt. 6:33 Luke 10:9-11 Their Resurrection Dan. 12:2**

**b. VISIBLE KINGDOM OF GOD.****DISCUSSION.**

**The parables of Christ also contain the mysteries of the kingdom of God.** These parables are recorded in Mark 4, Luke 8, and Luke 13. The kingdom of heaven as revealed by the parables of Matthew 13, 22, 25, contains Christians with both good and bad records of their life-time activities. The kingdom of God has only Christians who have “righteousness, and peace, and joy in the [power of the] Holy Ghost.” Rom. 14:17. Jesus also warned: “[Christians] who put their hand to the plow and look back, are not fit [worthy] for the kingdom of God.” Luke 9:62.

The holy saints of both the Old and New Dispensations will be in the Kingdom of God (visible) with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob — and all the prophets. Today’s Christians and God’s People in all generations have hated prophets — how can they then sit with them in the kingdom of God?

**A HOLY GHOST DECLARATION.**

The saints of God who have the kingdom of God within them (with power) will rule this world with Christ at His return from Jerusalem — the first visible manifestation of the kingdom of God! **Saints of the kingdom of God will rule those in the kingdom of heaven until they are fully disciplined in the ways and laws of God.** This authoritarian rule will result in all the partially obedient Christians and those from other dispensations becoming eligible to live in the kingdom of God which will literally appear in full glory at the end of the 1,000 year millenium. Word-conforming Christians will be servants in Christ’s kingdom for 1,000 years — ruled over and disciplined by God’s truly sanctified, Spirit-filled saints — **until** they are fully submitted to God’s holiness and Lordship! This is “Christ being formed in them.” Study Gal. 4:19-20; Rev. 12:5.

1. “Then cometh the end [i.e., of Christ’s 1,000 year reign], when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority, and power.” I Cor. 15:24.
2. Jesus prophesied: “The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom [i.e., the kingdom of heaven] all things that offend, and them which do iniquity [i.e., practice rebellion].” And after this mighty feat is fully accomplished: “Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father.” Matt. 13:41-43.
3. HEAVEN ON EARTH. (a) There will be a new heaven and earth; (b) Heaven or the holy city New Jerusalem comes down upon earth; (c) God dwells with men; (d) God wipes away all tears and there will be no more sorrow nor sickness nor pain nor death; (e) Everything in

God's great universe is made new; (f) All saints and Christians will now have equality — their reward equal — i.e., to live in Heaven on earth! Cf. Rev. 21:1-11.

### THE NEW EARTH

“And the nations of them which are saved [i.e., from the 1,000 year reign of Christ] shall walk in the light of it [New Jerusalem]: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour unto it.” Rev. 21:24.

**Also: “Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.”** Rev. 22:14. Heaven or New Jerusalem is foursquare — a cubicle of about 1500 miles. It will sit on the earth perhaps where one of the oceans once was. Cf. Rev. 21:16.

### THE INHABITANTS.

The immortal saints with their incorruptible bodies will live in God's Holy City — Heaven on earth. The natural nations will be populated by Abraham's natural seed or descendants. They will be as numerous as the stars and the sand of the sea, innumerable, according to God's promise. To wit: (1) “By myself have I sworn, saith the Lord, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying **I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore . . .** And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; **because thou hast obeyed my voice.**” Gen. 22:16-18.

Also: “He [God] hath remembered his covenant for ever, the word which he commanded to a thousand generations. Which covenant he made with Abraham, and his oath unto Isaac . . . for an everlasting covenant: Saying, unto thee will I give the land of Canaan [Israel], the lot of your inheritance.” Psa. 105:8-11. God's promise to Israel also was: “And the Lord God shall give unto him [Christ] the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.” Luke 1:32-33; cf. Ezekiel 34:23-24; 37:23-28. Israel is God's favored nation that will endure forever.

### IV. FOR MEMORIZATION.

John 3:29	Songs of Sol. 2:1-4	II Cor. 11:1-3	Mal. 3:16-18
Rom. 14:17	Songs of Sol. 4:7	Matt. 22:14	Luke 17:9-10
Eph. 5:25-27	Songs of Sol. 6:8-10	Rev. 17:14	Luke 6:40
I Peter 1:2	Rev. 2:26-29	Rom. 11:20-22	Rev. 19:7-9



# The Bible School of Prophecy

## The High Calling...

If God has called you to be really like Jesus in all your spirit, He will draw you into a life of crucifixion and humility, and put on you such demands of obedience, that He will not allow you to follow other Christians, and in many ways He will seem to let other good people do things which He will not let you do.

Other Christians and ministers who seem very religious and useful may push themselves, pull wires, and work schemes to carry out their plans, but you cannot do it; and if you attempt it, you will meet with such failure and rebuke from the Lord as to make you sorely penitent.

Others can grab on themselves, on their work, on their success, on their writings, but the Holy Spirit will not allow you to do any such thing, and if you begin it, He will lead you into some deep mortification that will make you despise yourself and all your good works.

Others will be allowed to succeed in making great sums of money, or having a legacy left to them or in having luxuries, but God may supply you daily, because He wants you to have something far better than gold, and that is a helpless dependence on Him, that He may have the privilege of providing your needs day by day out of the unseen treasury.

The Lord may let others be honored, and put forward, and keep you hid away in obscurity, because He wants to produce some choice, fragrant fruit for His coming glory, which can only be produced in the shade.

God will let others be great, but keep you small. He will let others do a work for im, and get the credit for it, but He will make you work and toil on without knowing how much you are doing; and then to make your work still more precious, He will let others get the credit for the work which you have done, and this will make your reward ten times greater when Jesus comes. The Holy Spirit will put a strict watch on you, with a jealous love, and will rebuke you for little words and feelings or for wasting your time, which other Christians never seem distressed over. So make up your mind that God is an infinite Sovereign, and has a right to do as He pleases with His own, and He will not explain to you a thousand things which may puzzle your reason in His dealings with you. God will take you at your word; and if you absolutely sell yourself to be His slave, He will wrap you up in a jealous love, and let other people say and do many things that you cannot do or say. Settle it forever, that you are to deal directly with the Holy Spirit, and that He is to have the privilege of tying your tongue, or chaining your hand, or closing your eyes, in ways that others are not dealt with. Now when you are so possessed with the living God that you are, in your secret heart, pleased and delighted over this peculiar, personal, private, jealous guardianship and management of the Holy Spirit over your life, you will have found the vestibule of heaven.

The End.

**We have nothing to call our own but a will to choose. The power to do so comes from God. "Yielding to God" is the condition of His approval.**

# “THE BRIDE OF CHRIST”

## Lesson No. 7 The Bible School of Prophecy

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### DO YOU KNOW THAT:



### TIME TO READ THE BIBLE

It takes 70 hours and 40 minutes to read the Bible at pulpit rate.

It takes 52 hours and 20 minutes to read the Old Testament.

It takes 18 hours and 20 minutes to read the New Testament.

In the Old Testament the Psalms take the longest to read: 4 hours and 28 minutes.

In the New Testament the Gospel of Luke it takes 2 hours and 43 minutes to read.

*(That's less than twelve minutes a day to read it through in a year.)*

### DO IT THIS YEAR

**Or read it all during one week of your paid vacation.**

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This Lesson Prepared For  
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