



ABEL DAMINA

*Realities
of the
New
Testament*



REALTIES OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

ABEL DAMINA

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ABEL DAMINA MINISTRY
INTERNATIONAL

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Dedication

Introduction

Chapter One: Understanding the Scriptures

- All Scripture Is Given by the Inspiration of God
- The Message of the Scriptures
- What Is the Scripture?
- Jesus' Commentary on the Old Testament

Chapter Two: The Expediency of the New Testament

- The Incarnation of Christ
- The Law Did Not Give Life
- The Incarnation of Christ Did Not Reveal God
- Jesus Did Not Teach Spiritual Things as Christ the Incarnate
- Jesus Taught in Parables
- The Parable of the Unjust Judge
- The Parable of the Unfaithful Friend

Chapter Three: The Realities of the New Testament

- Jesus Introduced the New Testament
- What Is a Testament?
- The Major Difference between the Old and the New Testament

- The New Testament Is a Better Covenant
- The Executioner of the New Testament
- Are You In Zion or Still In Sinai?
- The New Testament Was Before the Old Testament
- The New Covenant Was Built on Promises

Chapter Four: The Revelation of the New Testament

- Jesus Is the Revelation
- Satan Is a Murderer
- There Is No Death in God
- The Case of Job
- Jesus Was the Final Sacrifice
- The New Testament Produced the New Creation
- The Old Testament Was the Shadow; the New Testament is the Substance

DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to the revelation generation, the ministers of the New Testament, who have been given the responsibility to equip the Body of Christ for the work of the Ministry.

Thanks to my wife, Rachel, who after almost thirty years of being together seems as though it were yesterday. If I had to choose again, it will still be you.

Jemima, Jesimiel and Jeiel, you three girls are a complete package, self-contained, in a world of your own. You bring treasures of joy, peace and fulfillment to us.

Power Citizens, the best congregation on the earth. You make it easy for me to blanket the world with God's word. Thanks for being such a supportive and forward-looking team.

INTRODUCTION

Bible interpretation must never be subjected to the whims of modernity. They remain self-interpretative (all books united in thoughts exuded) and its message remains Christ (centred).

Apostle Paul in talking about the scriptures; presented its message as highlighted in his second letter to Timothy (2Timothy 3:15-16) as being salvation through faith in Christ. He pointed out this to Timothy who was skilled in the knowledge of the scriptures.

It follows that this must be the thought or threading with which the Old Testament books must be studied.

Oftentimes, knotty areas, texts, statements, subjects in bible arise from a non - thorough study of bible texts of which a number arise from the Old Testament books. A lack of proper appraisal is further seen in a cross-testamental use or application of words, concepts and phrases. To assert this as the norm in Bible interpretation will mean to deny the epistles their rightful place of being the revelation of scriptures.

The epistles at all times give clarity to the diverse ways and manners through which the son (the message of the

scriptures) was received and communicated aforetime.

Therefore, this material stirs clarity in the way the Bible must always be read - "in Christ!"

I invite you to make such discoveries that will probe your thinking thereby leading you on a quest for more discoveries of what Christ accomplished in his sacrifice for sin(s), who you are in Christ and what you have in Christ.

Welcome to realities of the New Testament.

Pastor Chris Onayinka Olusegun
Senior Pastor
Saints Community Church
Lagos.

chapter 1

UNDERSTANDING THE SCRIPTURES

We need to fully grasp the reason for man's creation, when we do, we will get insight into the purpose of the Church. Most believers do not really understand why God established the body of Christ-the Church. They think that the primary reason for Christianity is to have their needs met, so they come to God ONLY for the purpose of getting something or certain needs met. When they attend a church service, hear a message they feel good about, some prophecies or declarations that go in the direction of their heart desires, they feel church service was wonderful, and the cycle continues. The same prophecies and declarations are repeated in every service, yet, they feel that is all there is to see them through life.

Is Christianity really about having our needs met? If Christianity is just about meeting needs, then Jesus needed not to die. To some extent, even the government meets certain needs of citizens. Government provide water,

electricity, scholarships, soft loans, roads, and brings foreign investors that help to create jobs and improve the socio-economy of its citizens, etc. These are needs that are being met. You do not really need God if all that you need God for is to have your needs met. These are necessities of life, and you really do not need God for all these.

Unbelievers control most of the fortunes of this life. They do not get their wealth through faith in Jesus Christ. They do not go to church to seek “spiritual power” to succeed! Many presidents of the nations of the world do not know God. In fact, they are not interested in Jesus Christ, but they control the wealth of the world. If what you really need is to get money or create financial fortunes, financial experts can show you the way. That is not the purpose of the Church. Many ministers set up churches as business schools, teaching members how to make financial fortunes. This is an abuse of the Church. These teachings are not bad, but they defeat the purpose of the Church. There are many secular institutions where all these things are taught, you do not turn Church into one of them. If we get into the word of God, we will see the exact reasons why God set up the Church.

"And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and some teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, and for the edifying of the body of Christ: 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: 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;"
Ephesians 4:11-14

The primary mission of a pastor is to equip the body of Christ for the work of the ministry. God set up the ministry gifts of apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers to grow believers to the point of maturity where they are able to lead successful lives on earth fulfilling the will of God. The developing and equipping of the Church is the main responsibility of every man called and anointed with the Holy Spirit to stand in any of the five-fold ministry mentioned here. Many believers have no knowledge of God. This gives Satan the open door to afflict and destroy them. It is shameful when people that are born again, and have been in Church for many years do not have the basic knowledge of Christianity. Paul said to the Church in Corinth, "*Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame.*" 1 Corinthians 15:34. You come under the dominion of sin when you lack the knowledge of God, and sin will always expose you to shame and reproach. Wake up to righteousness; be conscious of your right standing with God, and that will take care of sin-consciousness.

It is amazing that many believers do not know the doctrine

of Christianity. This stems from their focus on only teachings that make them feel good, and meet their needs. They really do not care about what they hear, if it is really the word of God or just some fair speeches that go with the modern day charismatic gesticulations. God gave us His word to make profit. You do not put God's word into practice in your life and lose! But how can you use what you do not know? And how can you know what you are not taught? You must sit under the teaching ministry of a man that is anointed and sent to teach God's word in order to be instructed in righteousness.

As wonderful as personal Bible study is, it does not replace the anointing of the ministry gift from Jesus, hence, the need to be taught. The five-fold ministry gift is sent to perfect us with revelation knowledge. Most times, what we have is sensual knowledge, which prepares us for the receiving of revelation knowledge that equips us with spiritual power. Church meetings equip the believer with knowledge of the word. What happens after the meeting plays a very vital role in building the believer.

“Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God. Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls. But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a

hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed." James 1:19-25

God anoints some men, and places them in the Church to furnish believers in Christ with the knowledge of the truth, and bring them to a state of perfection in Christ. You cannot know the word of God because you read it; you have to be taught by a man anointed to do so.

All Scripture Is Given By the Inspiration of God

"All scripture is given by the inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."
2Timothy 3:16-17

All scripture is inspired by God. They are profitable for reproof. The word, "reproof" means evidence. Scriptures are our evidence for believing what we believe. Our experiences in dreams should not form the basis for our faith. Only the scriptures give us the evidence or proof of the faith that we profess. Everything in the Old Testament is written for our learning, but the New Testament is

addressed to us. The scripture is profitable for reproof (evidence). Jesus used the scriptures to produce evidence of His Messiahship. God inspired the writing of the scriptures to give us, among many other things, the evidence of our faith. They are for instruction in righteousness so that a man of God is totally furnished for the work of the ministry. Prophets of God over different times were inspired to write the scriptures.

If you are inspired to do something, it means you are not the source of that thing, it means someone higher than you is behind it; he is the one that inspired you to do it. God inspired some people to write the scriptures. It was not God that wrote the scriptures; men did. But under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. The Greek word for scripture is "*Graphe*", which means, "writings". The phrase, "Holy Scripture" in Greek is "***Hagios Graphe***", which means, holy writings or sacred writings. They are sacred writings because they are from the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

The writings are all inspired by God but not all the acts recorded were inspired by God. God did not inspire all the actions in the Bible. For example, Moses was inspired by God to write the first five books of the Bible. He wrote all the accounts in the book of Genesis. God gave him the details of every action in Genesis and he documented everything with divine precision. God inspired Moses to write but it was not God who inspired Eve to eat of the fruit

of “*the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.*” The writings of the scriptures were inspired of God, but not all the events were inspired by God. **Everything written is truly stated, but not everything written is a statement of truth.** For example, it is written that an evil spirit from God was sent to torment Saul. That is not a statement of truth, although it is truly stated! “*But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD troubled him. And Saul's servant said unto him, Behold now, an evil spirit from the LORD troubleth thee...*” 1Samuel 16:14-15.

As earlier mentioned, this is truly stated but it is not a statement of truth. Saul's servants thought that the evil spirit that troubled Saul was from the LORD. They sought a solution for their master's source of trouble by getting a man that was anointed to play music for him in order to drive away the evil spirit any time he was attacked. If this demon was from God, how would an anointed music drive it away? How could both the Spirit of the Lord and an evil spirit be from the Lord? They just did not know any better.

It is important to note that the Old Testament was written as “types and shadows”. For instance, Moses wrote Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. He was not there when all the events happened. So, it was given to him in a vision, and with various mediums of communications, both literal and symbolic representations of persons and things were responsible for

his seeing Satan as a serpent rather than an action. Also, the fall of Adam was not eating of a fruit as represented by Moses in Genesis. Jesus gives us the **substance** of what happened in Genesis 3.

"When He had entered a house away from the crowd, His disciples asked Him concerning the parable. So He said to them, "Are you thus without understanding also? Do you not perceive that whatever enters a man from outside cannot defile him, because it does not enter his heart but his stomach, and is eliminated, thus purifying all foods?" And He said, "What comes out of a man, that defiles a man. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within and defile the man." Mark 7:17-23

This means if Adam ate fruit, it would not have defiled him, as it would have been digested and passed out as waste. So, the incidence in Eden was not eating as suggested in the shadow. In the substance, which is the revelation of Scriptures, Jesus began to explain that it was thoughts from within Adam that defiled him. The Epistles gives us the clear picture of what really happened.

"Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned —(For until the law sin was in the

world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law. Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come. But the free gift is not like the offense. For if by the one man's offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many. And the gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned. For the judgment which came from one offense resulted in condemnation, but the free gift which came from many offenses resulted in justification. For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.) Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous." Romans 5:12-19

By one man, SIN entered into the world. What was the sin? Paul uses three different words to describe the sin of Adam:

Romans 5:12- Sin: The Greek word, **Harmatia** means to miss the mark.

Romans 5:14- Transgression: Greek word, **Parabasis**

means going aside.

Romans 5:19-Disobedience: Greek word, **Parakoe** means refusal to listen promptly. This “hearing” has the attitude of refusing to take heed. Choosing to disobey because of disinterest.

So Adam's sin is described thus: He refused to listen properly, choosing to disobey because of disinterest. So he went aside, thereby missing the mark. Meaning He was in unbelief; did not believe God, so he rejected God's word in his heart. Satan understood that, so when the second Adam showed up in Luke 4: 3-13, he attacked Him with the same thoughts, trying to make him doubt God's word and fall into unbelief. All those three temptations were in His thoughts, but the second Adam resisted those thoughts and refused to walk in unbelief.

Satan thought since the first Adam fell in his thoughts, “let me get the second Adam in His thoughts also”, but he failed. The sin of Adam is summarized in unbelief and that can only be understood in the substance which is the revelation of the mystery called the New Testament.

The New Testament unveils two personalities to us that were hidden in the Old Testament-God and Satan. The Old Testament people were natural people and functioned under death.

"Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come." Romans 5:14

And Paul in the Epistles, **the substance** tells us, *"But as it is written: 'Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.' But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God... But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."* 1 Corinthians 2:9-10, 14. The Natural man cannot receive the things of the Spirit, neither can he know them. The Old Testament people did not have revelation, but we are the revelation generation.

There are many of such instances under the Old Testament. *"I formed the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these."* Isaiah 45:7. This could not be a true statement because Jesus did not give us the picture of God as evil. God does not create evil. John says, *"God is light, and in him is no darkness at all."* 1John 1:5. How could He create darkness if there is no darkness in Him? Again, in Amos 3:6, the Bible says; *"Shall a trumpet be blown in the city, and the people not be afraid? Shall there be evil in a city, and the LORD hath not done it?"* In fact, this is an indictment on God. How could God

be the source of evil?

The prophets under the Old Testament thought this way because Satan was mystical in their understanding. They thought that every supernatural act was from God. But when Jesus came, He unveiled and told us exactly who Satan is. He called him a murderer, a thief, a destroyer and a deceiver (liar). *"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it."* John 8:44. Jesus unmasked Satan right here. He has nowhere to hide and commit crimes anymore! To deceive Adam, he hides to commit crime and put all the blames on God. But to us that are in Christ, we now know him. The word of God says;

"Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted of evil, neither tempteth he any man:" James 1:13

"Do not err, my beloved brethren. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variableness, neither a shadow of turning." James 1:17.

If it is not good and perfect, then it is not from God. You are in error when you ascribe the works of Satan to God. If it is not good and you ascribe it to God, you are in deep error.

God does not tempt anyone with evil. In fact, He does not tempt anybody. God does not have evil spirits, and thus, He does not send evil spirits to torment or trouble people. All evil spirits come from Satan, and does not work for God. God does not share nature with Satan neither does He send evil spirits on errands.

The Message of the Scriptures

The Bible is a collection of writings of different men, written at different times with intervals of years, but when these writings were brought together, these men said the same thing. This is what makes the Bible authentic and different from every other written material. The message of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation is one! There were years in between the writings, yet when collated and put together, every writer focused on one message. The whole sixty six books of the Bible have one message. Everything in Genesis, the laws of Moses, those spoken by the prophets and the Psalms; all the teachings of Jesus, and the Epistles are all centred on one Person-Jesus Christ. He is the centre and the focus of all the writers of the sixty six books of the Bible.

"Then he (Jesus) said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory? And beginning from Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all scriptures the things

concerning himself."

Luke 24:25-27

Jesus called them fools because they were ignorant of what the scriptures said about Him. Jesus expected them to have believed what the scriptures said about the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. They were in doubt of the news of the resurrection and treated it as mere rumour or speculation. Jesus called them fools. When you do not know the scriptures, you remain a fool, and it takes only the scriptures to make you wise unto salvation.

Apostle Paul called the Galatian church, fools, *"O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you?"* Galatians 3:1. You act foolish when you do not know the scriptures which focused on the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that would follow. Only the knowledge of the scriptures will make you wise in the things of God. Our profiting in the scriptures comes by rightly dividing the word of truth. You will certainly be in error when you lack the knowledge of the scriptures.

Peter said, *"Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and search diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand (ahead of time) the sufferings*

of Christ, and the glory that should follow." 1Peter 1:10-11. They prophesied of the grace that was to come. The Bible says grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. So all prophecies were focused on the coming of Christ! Peter calls it "...the prophecy" not a prophecy or just prophecy, but "*...the prophecy*". "*...For the prophecy came not...*" 2Peter 1:21. It refers to the message contained in the scriptures. The sufferings of Christ and the glory that should follow was the centre of the prophecy in the scriptures.

You realise through the references that we have been reading that the focus of the scriptures as contained in the law and the prophets, and in the Psalms have been consistent. It is about the sufferings of Christ and the glory that should follow. We cannot over emphasise this truth. It is not just about the sufferings, nor only about the glory of Christ. It is about both the sufferings and the glory that should follow. What the prophets testified was actually not for them, they testified (prophesied) beforehand, what was ahead. Now, let us look further into what Peter said in his second epistle;

"Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."
2 Peter 1:20-21.

The scriptures were written by holy men of God as they were moved (inspired) by the Holy Ghost. The prophecies came not by the will of men. They did not just decide that they would prophesy when they did. But they were moved by the Holy Spirit to prophesy. None of these prophecies was or is of any private interpretation. What that means is that the prophecies did not originate from them. They were from the breath of God. None of the writers of the scripture can claim ownership to the document because they were used by God to write.

Jesus went through all the scriptures from the writings of Moses, and of the prophets; He went through the book of Psalms and expounded to them things concerning Himself. The summary of the writings of the scriptures is the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that would follow. The message is not how to prosper and have a fortune; it is not even about divine healing, because in Him contains everything (John 14:16). The Scripture is about the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. The message of the Scriptures is Jesus.

The Bible points thus; *"He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?"* Romans 8:32. If you have Jesus, you have every other thing. The blessings in Christ are spiritual - Ephesians 1:3-7..., Colossians 1:12-14..., 2 Peter 1:2-4, Romans 8:32-38. The word, "with him" is "accompanied with him" which has already happened in

the gift of Christ.

All the prophets spoke of Him. Christ is in all the scriptures. When Jesus expounded the scriptures to those two disciples, He spoke specific things concerning Himself. Those are the important things. He did not go into all the events recorded in the scriptures; He focused on things concerning Himself. *"And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake 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. So, all the things that are written in the law of Moses, spoken by the prophets and in the Psalms were concerning Jesus. Jesus was the focus of all the sacred writings of the Old Testament. They all wrote about Him.

What Is the Scripture?

"Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem." Luke 24:45-47.

Jesus opened their understanding that they might understand the scriptures. He re-emphasised that the scriptures were focused on the sufferings of Christ, which

included His death, burial and resurrection, and that through His suffering, the remission of sins should be preached among all nations. In another scripture, the Bible says; *"Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God."* Matthew 22:29. When you do not know the scriptures, you cannot help but err. You will also not be able to function in the power of God when you are ignorant of the scriptures.

What then is "the scriptures"? Is the whole Bible referred to as "the scriptures"? When Jesus expounded the scriptures to these two disciples, there was no New Testament. He quoted from the laws of Moses, from the Prophets and the Psalms. The New Testament was not yet written. In fact, even the four gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John were not yet written. So, the phrase "the scriptures" refers exclusively to the Old Testament. Therefore, the New Testament is NOT the scriptures. The New Testament is the revelation of the scriptures. When Jesus taught, He referred to the scriptures as the mysteries of the kingdom. Of course, Jesus was not teaching under the New Testament. He was born under the law.

"But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law. To redeem them that were under the law that we might receive the adoption of sons." Galatians 4:4-5.

As captured by the verses above, Jesus came under the

law. He could not redeem them that were under the law and **bring redemption to all mankind** if He were not born under the law. He would have no covenant to minister under if He were not born under the law. Thus, He would not be able to fulfill the law and establish the New Testament. Jesus was born under the law, He used the law but He used it the right way and got the desired results from it. He read ONLY from the law of Moses, the prophets (Luke 4:16-17) and the Psalms.

The Old Testament was Christ concealed, and the New Testament is Christ revealed. The Old Testament writers spoke about Jesus in “types and shadows”; they spoke of Him in prophecies and in different narrations, but they did not know Him, neither did they see Him. The scriptures were a mystery to the Old Testament writers. They had no insight into what they wrote. The revelation or manifestation of what the law and prophets talked about is the document called the New Testament which was inaugurated by Christ.

"Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me." John 5:39.

The scriptures testified of Jesus. The message of the Old Testament is not about the rituals or the sacrifices that were performed daily in the temple nor the ritual of sacrifices that took place on the Day of Atonement annually. The message was JESUS! To testify is to give

evidence. Jesus said the scriptures gave evidence of Him.

"And Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." John 1:45.

We see so clearly here that Moses and the prophets focused on Jesus in their writings. When Simeon took Jesus in his arms in the temple when he was brought to perform customary rites on Him, he said; *"For my eyes have seen thy salvation..."* Luke 2:30. He called Jesus, **SALVATION**. The entire attention of the law and the prophets was Jesus. Everybody was looking forward to His coming. When Simeon saw Him, he was satisfied that the Messiah had come, he was now ready to depart from this world. The Bible says he was waiting for the consolation of Israel. When he saw Jesus, he knew all that the scriptures said were now being fulfilled.

"Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began, But now made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith: To God only wise, be glory through Jesus Christ for ever. Amen." Romans 16:25-27

Paul called the scriptures of the prophets a mystery. The scriptures were a mystery to them. It was a secret that was to be revealed in Christ. The prophets wrote as they were inspired by God, but they did not quite have insight into what they wrote. They did not really know what they wrote. The scriptures were not for them, they were written for a people yet to come.

None of the Old Testament prophets is our example. We do not use the mirror of the Old Testament to see ourselves. Moses is not our example; he is not the standard for the Church. The manifestation of Jesus is the manifestation of the truth, He is the substance, the reality of what the prophets testified of.

"For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect" Hebrews 10:1

The law was a shadow. It was symbolic of the real thing that was to come. There was no perfection under the Old Testament, it was a hint, an idea of what was to come. The Old Testament is not real and cannot bring perfection. The laws of Moses have no expression under the New Testament. The Old Testament is an expired document, it cannot produce the right result.

"God, who at sundry times and diverse manners spake in

time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom also he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;" Hebrews 1:1-2

God spoke to the fathers by the prophets. The prophets had portions of truths, they spoke in parts, none of them had a full revelation of God. All the names of God contained in the Old Testament were portions of His revelation under that Covenant. God reveals Himself through Christ now. Jesus is the ONLY expression of God now. Jesus is the fulfilment of the Scriptures and the explanation of all things. You can never know God through any other source; He is the perfect imprint of God.

The Old Testament prophets served as the medium of the message. We are the custodians of the complete revelation of Christ. Under the Old Testament, they had a progressive revelation, but everything climaxed with the manifestation of Christ. The Prophets were messengers but Jesus was and is the message. John said the testimony of Jesus is the Spirit of prophecy. Any prophecy that is not about Jesus is of the devil. Be careful about prophets that always point to danger, spreading fear in the name of God. The essence of all the gifts of the Spirit is to point to Christ. Any prophecy that brings fear is of the devil.

The testimony of Jesus is the Spirit of prophecy. Revelation 19:10. All prophecies should draw men to

Christ not to draw them to their needs. The Prophets prophesied until Jesus came, the last of them was John the Baptist. When Jesus arrived, no prophet was raised in Israel again, because the Prophecy Himself, the message was now in the midst of God's people. The coming of Jesus through Mary was the first time God appeared to man. Hebrews 1:1-3, John 1:1-3, 14, 31-39.

The Bible is not about any prophet or character, but about Jesus. All prophecies reveal Jesus because Jesus is "the prophecy"; He is the fulfilment of all prophecies, anything outside that is not of God. People that run around looking for prophecies are blind. They do not know what they are looking for, that is why they fall into all kinds of deceptions.

Jesus' Commentary on the Old Testament

Jesus' teachings on the law *seem to have* contradicted what Moses said. Going through His teachings in the book of Matthew, we see that He actually differed from Moses significantly.

"It hath been said, Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorcement: But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery. Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by

them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths: But I said unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne: Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King. Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black. But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil. Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth: But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if any man will sue thee at law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloak also... Give to him that ask thee, and from him that would borrow of thee, and him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away. Ye have heard that it was said, Thou shall love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust." Matthew. 5:31-45

When the prophets spoke, they said "*Thus saith the Lord*", but when Jesus came, He said; "*I say unto you*". Jesus went contrary to what the law and the prophets said. Concerning marriage, He told them that Moses yielded to their demands because of the hardness and wickedness of

their hearts, that it was not so in the beginning. They quoted Moses for Jesus and Jesus took them to the very beginning when creation was still in its perfect state.

Jesus quoted Genesis 2:24 for them. Genesis is not part of the law, it is referred to as the beginning. Man lived in a state of perfection then; no sin, disease, and curse of any kind. Jesus made it clear that divorce was not in the original plan of God. Marriage was intended to be a lifetime preoccupation between **man** and **woman**, and not **man** and **man** or **woman** and **woman**. God made them male and female!

Jesus went through what was written in the law and explained it in its pure form. The law said we should hate our enemies but Jesus said we should love them and do good to those that hate us, those that spitefully use and persecute us. Amazingly, we hardly hear this type of preaching on the pulpit today. What we hear is to kill our enemies.

Jesus gave us an instructive pattern revealing the Father's heart to us. Remember, Jesus came to reveal the Father to us. He said, *“If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him. Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us. 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?” John 14:7-9. “Jesus said unto them, When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am he, and that I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things. And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him.” John 8:28-29

He desired to go to Jerusalem through the village of the Samaritans, but they resisted him, “...*And when his disciples James and John saw this, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did?*” Luke 9:53-54. But he rebuked them “... *and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of. For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them...*” Luke 9:55-56

The Church is producing a generation of haters. Believers desire to kill those they consider enemies than to save them. People brag about how many people they have sent to hell. They see it as a sign of spiritual power when it is actually a proof of spiritual weakness. Fear is the reason for such prayers. The fear of witches, wizards, and death propagated by these preachers is the basis for most prayer points in today's so-called “deliverance churches”. People get demon-possessed in many of these gatherings. Majority of those demonic manifestations are demon possession and oppression taking place. There is no

deliverance in such places. It is impossible for deliverance from demons to happen under the atmosphere where Satan is lifted and fear is generated.

We have judgmental prayer points in the Church than we do on supplication for the salvation of those that hate us. All these "fall down and die" prayers are from the occult. Preachers are teaming up with Satan to destroy mankind. God does not kill. When you pray for people to die, you and Satan are in the same "murderous ministry". Jesus said, Satan is a murderer from the beginning. God does not kill!

These so-called preachers propagating judgmental prayers are raising wicked people in the Church. They create the consciousness of evil and keep people bound by the spirit of fear. They have turned the body of Christ into something other than what it really is because they have chosen to obey Moses against Christ. To them, "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth" remains valid even though Jesus taught otherwise. They see no reason for a believer to walk in love with those that are without. They cannot see why believers should pray for those that hate them. They cannot understand why Jesus said we are to love our enemies, do good to them, and pray for them that hate us, and for them that persecute and spitefully use us. They are confused about the message of love, and see it as a sign of weakness or lack of spiritual power. Jesus did not say we should pray AGAINST our enemies, but to pray FOR

them. Matthew 5:44-45. He said, by that, we will be like our Father who is in heaven. Any other way we act concerning our enemies will place us in the same mission with Satan.

When we fail to make the word of God our standard for living, we become victims of demonic oppressions. The word of God is powerful. God would not ask us to do what could give Satan advantage over us. He is the all-wise God. When we trust God's word, even when it does not make any sense to us, we stay where the wicked one cannot touch us. Let us not allow our senses stand on the way of our faith, God cannot be wrong. Now, Paul says we should bless and curse not, that when we love our enemies, and do good to them, we heap coals of fire on their heads.

"Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not... Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him (he did not say "kill him"); if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good." Romans 12:14, 20-21.

This is the Christian response to those that hate and persecute us. This is the proof of our faith and our confidence that no evil can overcome us. When we seek revenge or seek to do evil to those that hate us, how are we any different from those that do not know God? If we seek to do good ONLY to those that do good to us, what difference does it make? Do unbelievers not do the same?

Remember, the love of God is unconditional.

Remember, you are not like God when you pray for your enemies to die, you are like Satan. If you are born of God, you ought to be like God. Jesus said Satan is the father of some people:

"Ye are of your father the devil, and lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own (he speaks his native language): he is a liar, and the father of it." John 8:44

This is what Jesus says about people desiring to kill others by the "anointing". All these "dangerous" prayers have their origin from the Old Testament. God does not hate even those who reject Him. That was why Jesus could forgive those that nailed Him on the Cross while still in excruciating and agonising pains. He could have cursed them, and prayed down thunder to destroy them in moments. He could have come down from that tree, and smote them with blindness. He could have commanded the ground to swallow them alive and sent them to hell. But He did none of these. He rather prayed for them. He was acting just like God. Jesus tells us that God causes sun to rise over all people. He sends rain on all people. He does not kill people because they hate Him, act or talk against Him. He said what Moses said in the law on these things were wrong. Would you choose Moses over Jesus? It will be

tragic if you choose Moses.

Moses himself admonished in Acts 7:37, that God would raise Jesus “*and Him shall ye hear.*” Remember on the mount of transfiguration, when Moses and Elijah appeared, Peter said let us build three tabernacles (Matthew 17:3-4), but Moses and Elijah gave way and behold a voice out of the cloud which said, this is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased, hear ye Him. HEAR JESUS ONLY!

chapter 2

THE EXPEDIENCY OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

In the previous chapter, we established the truth that all the scriptures spoke of Jesus. The mission of the scriptures as contained in the law, the prophets, and the Psalms is to reveal Jesus. All the prophets looked forward to His coming. The Old Testament was about Christ but the revelation was hidden. It was a mystery hidden in God. Thus, the Old Testament was Christ concealed. Until the New Testament came into operation, everything about God remained a mystery. God still remains mysterious to those that read the Bible with the eye of the Old Testament. Even the prophets that were inspired to write the scriptures did not understand what they wrote. Paul says there is a veil in the hearts of those that read Moses.

"But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same veil untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which veil is done away in Christ. But unto this day, When Moses is read, the veil is upon their hearts.

Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the veil shall be taken away." 2Corinthians 3:14-16.

You can never know God by reading the law of Moses. In the law, the prophets, and in the Psalms, Christ was concealed. It was therefore expedient that the New Testament came into operation. Otherwise, men would not know God. As we study along this line in this book, we will continue to make reference to the same scriptures as we see them in different perspectives to exhaustively unravel the mysteries thereof. This subject is so crucial to our faith in the risen Lord that we must fully understand it in order to lead a successful and powerful life on earth through the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

The Incarnation of Christ

"And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory."
1Timothy 3:16

The coming of Christ into this world was the mystery of ages. God put on flesh and became a man. The prophets prophesied of it over a period of four thousand years. Their prophecies dominated centuries until God finally took on flesh and became like one of us. Paul says God sent His Son in the likeness of sinful flesh. Romans 8:3.

'Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on a tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.' 1Peter 2:24.

His flesh was perfect, therefore sin could not judge it, it rather judged sin and took it away. The sacrifice that would provide remedy for sins must be an innocent one. What is referred to as a perfect sacrifice is actually a sacrifice of an innocent animal. Jesus was sin-free. His birth was not the same as the birth of the rest of us, He was born of God. There was no human sperm involved in His birth. He was born of the Holy Ghost. Because Jesus was not conceived in sin, and did not commit any, He was therefore able to deal with sin and end its reign on the human race. Jesus was the Lamb of God that took away the sins of the world.

The incarnation of Christ, without controversy, was the greatest mystery of all. Paul summed it up in 1Timothy 3:16. It totally unsettled Satan because he did not expect it. Satan had no idea that God could become a man. He could not see how a Holy God would become **SIN**.

It was a mystery hidden in God. God became hidden in human flesh, and being a man, He had all the rights and privileges of all men to function on earth and exercise authority. Jesus repeatedly said that He had authority on

earth because He was the Son of man. Satan was totally ruffled by this divine arrangement, but it happened; God became a man with the full rights of a man, yet He was God, and remained the God of the universe. In Philippians 2:5-9, we see Jesus lay down his rights as God to fully function as Man. And in John 1:14, the word was made flesh (from the Greek **GINOMAI** – to become, to be found as flesh).

The human mind cannot fully explain God, but we can know Him through His word. Even His people, the sons of the prophets did not recognise Him. He walked in their midst for thirty three years, yet they did not know Him. Jesus was mystical to the people of His days. They followed Him not because they believed in His preaching but because He thrilled them. Many of them saw Him more like a magician or a miracle worker than the incarnate Christ. They never saw a man like that. To them, He was a mysterious being. Jesus was a powerful man, the most powerful human being that ever set His feet on this planet. He walked to a graveside and called out a man that had been mummified and buried for four days in the grave. His words lifted that man out of the grave, put him on his feet, and forced him out jumping. That is powerful!

In the actual sense, the new birth is not a miracle. They say so because they do not know what a miracle is. In the actual sense, the new birth is not a miracle. **A miracle is when the spiritual acts on the natural, and causes it to**

be what it could not be in any other way physically or scientifically; like the birth, resurrection of Christ, and many other miracles that we read about in the word of God. It must take the spiritual acting on the natural to have what is called a miracle. The new birth is a spiritual thing happening on a spiritual plane. It is a creation of God.

The religious leaders were uncomfortable with His rising popularity and thought to catch Him by His words and kill Him. They sent officers to go and get Him because they were sure He would talk against the law of Moses, but the officers returned with these words; "*...Never a man spake like this man.*" John 7:46. When He rebuked the storm and the winds to cease, His own disciples said, "*What manner of man is this that even the winds obey Him?*" Matthew 8:27. They were astonished at His doctrine. Jesus was nothing but mystical to most of the people He ministered to and among. The Incarnation of Christ brought God among men but Christ needed to be revealed before men could walk in the light of redemption. Christ's incarnation was still a mystery, He was part of the Old Testament.

The incarnation of Christ was necessary because without the incarnation, there would be no redemption. God needed to put an end to the Old Testament and bring in the New Testament because the Old Testament failed to produce righteousness and thus, brought death. Sin entered into the world through man. Redemption could only come into the world through man. There was no such

pure man through whom redemption could come, for “*All (men) have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.*” Romans 3:23.

Satan accessed all men since the fall of Adam to the birth of Christ through sin. God had to come down Himself by becoming a man to put an end to the reign of sin and death, and put in place righteousness and the reign of the Spirit of life that is in Christ Jesus.

The Law Did Not Give Life

"Is the law then against the promises of God? God forbid: for if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law. But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe." Galatians 3:21-22

"Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin....Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law." Romans 3:20-21, 28

The law could not give life because it failed to produce righteousness. No man can be justified by the law, therefore, it was expedient that the law be abolished and righteousness introduced into the hearts of men. The law empowered sin, and thus produced death. Paul calls the

law engraved on stones, the ministration of death.

"But if the ministration of death, written and engraven in stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not stedfastly behold the face of Moses for the glory of his countenance; which glory was to be done away: How shall not the ministration of the spirit be rather glorious? For if the ministration of condemnation be glory, much more doth the ministration of righteousness exceed in glory." 2 Corinthians 3:7-9.

The law of commandments given by Moses ministered death, it condemned people. It was therefore expedient that the "ministration of death" was folded and another ministration that would give life and produce righteousness unfolded. It was therefore necessary to fulfill the Old Testament and fold it up, then establish the New Testament. Those that still try to live by the laws of Moses bring death into their lives, because there is no life in that document. Sin used it then, and still uses it to bring condemnation and death. It was therefore expedient that Christ came to put an end to the ministration of death by fulfilling the law of commandments and abolish it, that He might put in place a ministration that will give life and bring man and God in one piece. This information is powerful!

The Incarnation of Christ Did Not Reveal God

The incarnation of Christ did not manifest the life of Christ. Like we discovered above, even those that followed Him did not know Him. Until Christ is revealed, He cannot be known. Men that followed Him at best knew Him after the flesh, that was why Philip asked Him to show them the Father and they would be satisfied.

"Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us. 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? Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works. Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the works' sake." John 14:8-11.

Philip's statement was the general standpoint of all the apostles. Even Peter who spoke by revelation in Matthew 16:16-17 later rebuked Jesus in the same texts (verse 20-22). Upon Jesus' resurrection, all the apostles doubted until they had seen Jesus (Mark 16:14). Even those who had miracles, in John 6:46 – 67, men saw the miracles and still went back from following him. They were still under the veil of the Old Testament. Even Philip, being part of His ministry for three and a half years, witnessing some of

the most outstanding miracles of all times, did not know Him.

Jesus shows us here that we know God by revelation which will be available after his resurrection. He told Philip to believe that the Father was in Him and He in the Father. He told him to believe that the words He spoke that produced all the miracles he witnessed were the words of the Father that dwelled in Him. Why could Philip and the rest of the disciples not see all that? Christ had to be revealed for Him to be known. You can never know Jesus by looking at Him in the incarnation (2Corinthians. 5:16). When Peter received a revelation of Him being the Christ, the Son of the living God, Jesus knew immediately that those words were a revelation from the Father. He said flesh and blood did not reveal that, but the Father which is in heaven. Jesus went on to say, the gates of hell shall not prevail against that revelation. Yet, Peter could not retain that revelation because he needed regeneration to operate in that reality, which would only be available in the New Creation which the incarnate Christ could not make possible. The New Creation was only possible after His death and resurrection.

The religious leaders of Jesus' days were very confused about Him. They tried to know Him after the flesh, but the more they did, they more they were confused about Him. *"Then came the Jews (referring to the leaders of the people) round about him, and said unto him, How long*

dost thou make us to doubt? If thou be the Christ, tell us plainly." John 10:24. He walked in their midst, yet, they did not know Him. John the Baptist who recognised Him as "*the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world*" doubted Him, and even sent his disciples while he was in prison to go and check again whether He was truly the Christ. "*When the men (from John the Baptist) were come unto him, they said, John the Baptist sent us unto thee, saying, Art thou he that should come? or look we for another?...Then Jesus answering said unto them, Go your way, and tell John what things ye have seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, to the poor the gospel is preached. And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me."* Luke 7:20-23. How in the world could someone like John the Baptist, the greatest of all the prophets that came before Him, doubt Him as the Christ? Jesus was not yet revealed, He was Christ "the incarnate".

Jesus Did Not Teach Spiritual Things as Christ the Incarnate

The incarnation of Christ has a two-fold purpose, this is stated in the book of Galatians. "*But when the fulness of time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons."* Galatians 4:4-5. Jesus was made of a woman, and born under the law. There was nothing spiritual in the law. Paul calls it the

law of carnal commandments. He came to redeem them that were under the law by fulfilling the law. He observed every detail of the law and folded it up. Only Jesus could do that in His incarnation and that was His first mission in the incarnation- to fulfill the demands of the law, and die, then rise as the first begotten-the “**Prototokus**” (as translated in the Greek), which is interpreted prototype or sample of the New Creation.

Secondly, He brought the Gentiles into the promise that God made to Abraham through the adoption of sonship. Adoption could not be possible while the law of Moses stood. The law separated Israel from the rest of the world. It was called the wall of separation. Until the law was kept and removed through the sacrifice of Christ, the Gentiles had no access into the promises that God made to Abraham. These were the two cardinal reasons for the incarnation of Christ, teaching spiritual things was not part of it and Jesus did not teach or preach spiritual things.

Nicodemus, a teacher in Israel did not understand Jesus. The man was very confused when Jesus talked to him about being born again. Hear what Jesus said to him;

"If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly (spiritual) things?"
John 3:12.

Even Nicodemus did not understand Jesus' teachings

under the law. Jesus said if he could not receive such low level teaching, how could he receive spiritual truths? The teachings of Jesus in the Gospels were not to build the spiritual lives of believers, and were not taught to born again people. There are great lessons of high spiritual value in those teachings when the Holy Spirit reveals them, but until that happens, the teachings of Jesus in the Gospels by themselves cannot develop believers in the knowledge of the truth. They were not intended for that purpose. First, they were taught to correct some misconceptions of the law. Jesus pointed out that some of the things taught in the law were written by Moses because of the hardness of their hearts. (we shall talk more on this in the next chapter), secondly, to build faith in people that they might be in the position to receive healing and find help.

Jesus tells us that no one could walk in the truth until after His death and resurrection, which will now give birth to the New Creation, who will have capacity to walk in the truth. The Truth lived and walked within Israel, but He was concealed, kept as a mystery for a people not yet there. When Jesus said, *"I am the way, the life and the truth..."* The people that heard Him did not recognise Him as such. Truth would be unveiled when the New Creation was put in place.

"I have many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he

will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself (not speak His own words); but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you." John 16:12-14

This scripture shows that Jesus did not actually teach them what He intended to teach them, because they lacked the capacity to receive it at that time. If you know anything about Jesus' ministry while on earth, you would know that there was no teacher like Him. Even the leaders of the Jews called Him "Rabbi". Jesus could teach from morning to evening non-stop. He taught for three days non-stop. Jesus taught more than He healed and prayed. Yet, Jesus told His followers that there was lot more that He could not teach because they had no capacity to receive them. What else did Jesus leave out for the Holy Spirit to come and teach?

Men were not recreated in the spirit. There was no way they could receive revelation knowledge in its fulness and walk in it at the time He ministered on earth. We see that even when Peter caught sight of it, he could not really function in it. He soon pulled Jesus by the side and rebuked Him for walking in revelation knowledge. He even cut off Malchus' right ear in the garden in his attempt to stop the revelation that Christ received of His death, burial and resurrection. Peter was fully in the flesh. He had no understanding of the mission of the incarnate Christ in

this world. Even John the Baptist who introduced Jesus in John 1:29 doubted him after a while in Luke 7:20 because he lacked capacity to retain the truth.

Jesus said, until the Holy Spirit came, men would not be able to walk in truth. He said only the Holy Spirit would guide us into all truth. Why did He say that? It was the Holy Spirit that guided Him into the truth that He Himself walked in. He knew that without the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit, men could not walk in truth. He called the Holy Spirit the Spirit of truth. Isaiah had prophesied seven hundred and fifteen years earlier that Jesus would be equipped with the Holy Spirit to minister the word of God, that He would be anointed with the Holy Ghost to destroy the yoke of the devil. Again Isaiah said;

"And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth (his word), and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked." Isaiah 11:2-4.

This prophecy dominated seven centuries until Jesus showed up on this planet. He was equipped with the Spirit

of understanding to judge righteously. He judged sickness and disease. He judged poverty and lack. He judged the laws of Moses and eventually put an end to them. But the people that followed Him, including those that He appointed and ordained apostles, did not have the understanding of the Holy Ghost. Even after preaching the gospel under the law, they still did not quite get it. They would always ask Him in secret for the explanation of what He taught. Jesus was so moved by their inability to comprehend the truth that on one of such times He asked them; "*Are ye also yet without understanding?*" Matthew 15:16. But subsequently, Jesus told them that after His **death, burial and resurrection**, when the new creation would be put in place, they would receive that Spirit and have understanding of the things He taught them.

"But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you," John 14:26.

The word, "remembrance" means understanding. The Holy Spirit would bring to their understanding what He said unto them. Jesus said it was expedient that He went away, because they would continue to be without understanding if He did not go away. *"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."* John 16:7.

There is no way anyone will walk in the perfect will of God without the revelation of Christ given to him by the Holy Ghost. Only He, the Spirit of truth, can reveal Christ. By their letters, the teachings of Jesus were not for born again people. Well, Paul says the letter kills (2Corinthians 3:5-7) in relation to the law, but the Spirit gives life. The New Testament does not go by the senses, it works by believing. Those that saw Jesus in the flesh mostly missed Him. They interpreted Him on natural line. They thought about His brothers and sisters in the flesh and missed out the truth that He was the Christ, the Son of the living God. When they thought on natural lines, they hindered the impact of His anointing on their lives. *“Jesus could there do no mighty works, and He marvelled at their unbelief”* in relation to Mark 6 in his hometown.

When people go by the laws of the Old Testament, they miss everything about God. Those laws were for carnal people, they could not fit into the new creation. Jesus said you cannot put new wine in old wine skin, nor patch old clothe with new piece of cloth. The covenant that was to come could not function alongside with the law of Moses. Jesus said it was expedient that the New Covenant be in place so that people would know God. You could not know God under the Old Testament. Was God evasive to the people? No, sin separated man from God, and until sin was removed, no one could access God. Accessing God will be the outcome of the complete work of Jesus paying the price for man, and man accepting Him as his substitute.

Jesus, the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world, was now set to remove that evil from men. He was set to take it away along with the law of commandments that inspired its operation, and to bring in a better covenant that would be established on better promises.

John chapters 14, 15, 16 and 17 are one discourse and it should be seen and studied like that. Jesus shows us in these chapters that only the Holy Spirit can reveal Him. He said the Holy Spirit would not speak His own words, He shall speak only the words of Jesus. We see from here that the words of Jesus are not only in the four Gospels. The advanced teachings of Jesus are actually in the epistles. The New Testament therefore was important for mankind, for no man would know God without the revelation contained in the New Testament.

Jesus Taught In Parables

As I pointed out above, Jesus could not teach deep things as it will require the new creation to handle that, which was not part of the assignment of the incarnate Christ. Jesus taught in parables. Parables use carnal things to illustrate spiritual truths. If you understand them in the literal sense, you will miss the truth in them. The people to whom Jesus preached were carnal people, He could only teach them in parables using fictions and material things that they would easily identify with. Until the Spirit of truth dwelled in men, it was not possible for men to be

taught spiritual things.

"All these things spake Jesus unto the multitude in parables; and without a parable spake he not unto them: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world."

Matthew 13:34-35

All the teachings of Jesus were in parables. He did not teach them anything without using parables. He could not teach them in any other way because they were unregenerated. The disciples asked Him why He spoke to the people in parables, and Jesus took time to explain to them why He must do so.

"Who hath ear to hear, let him hear. And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest 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. For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath. Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and

shall not perceive: For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them. But bless are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear" Matthew 13:9-16.

Jesus tells us exactly why He taught the people in parables. He said anyone who has ears to hear, let him hear. Hear what? Hear what the scriptures said about Him. Those that have ears to hear, it shall be given to them to have abundance of what the scriptures said, and those that do not have ears to hear, they would lose whatever they have in the natural. Why? Only the Gospel gives abundant life. Every other thing you have remains vulnerable to the devil. These people did not have the hearing heart Jesus is talking about here. They would never know or understand the mysteries of the kingdom of God. They were people with callous hearts. Jesus said their heart is waxed gross, and closed their eyes to the truth. They were dull of hearing, and were without understanding.

These people that Jesus taught in parables were not recreated in the spirit, they were full of unbelief and doubts. The only way to get to them was to teach them in parables, and this He did to bring them to faith. But to His disciples He said; "...*blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear.*" Matthew 13:16. Why was

the case of His disciples different from the rest of the people? Was it that the disciples were born again? No! His disciples were also unregenerated just like the people He taught in parables. The difference was that, the disciples were covered by His life, they walked in His light, so they had their understanding enlightened to some extent. Even then, they did not understand His parables until He explained to them secretly. He would call them to Himself and explain the parable He taught the people.

"But without a parable spake he not unto them: and when they were alone, he expounded all things to his disciples."
Mark 4:34.

Until He expounded the parables to them, they did not understand. This implies relationship; there can be no revelation without relationship. If those that followed Jesus needed further explanation to understand what Jesus taught under the law, how do you suppose the ignorance of the people He taught would be? They were certainly in darkness concerning the things He taught them. The best He could do to get them into faith was to teach them in parables. All the help the teachings of Jesus brought to those people were physical help. His teachings could not produce spiritual help in them because they needed to be recreated in the spirit for them to find spiritual help. Sin separated man from God. And until sin is removed (which is the greatest spiritual help all mankind needed), there can be no spiritual co-ordination between man and God.

The parables of Jesus therefore are not for the reborn people. They were for people that were dull of hearing; people with callous hearts. They were for those that closed their eyes and their hearts to the word of God. They were not for born again people. Parables were for unbelievers. They were spoken to ordinary, natural people. They are not for born again, spirit-filled people. In Romans 5:12, the Bible says, *"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:"*

Until Jesus died, went to hell and paid the price for sin to free all mankind from the lordship of sin and death, every man was born on earth a sinner **by identification with Adam**. These people to whom Jesus taught parables were sinners. They were blind in their hearts. They could not in any way understand divine mysteries. The parables are not for the Church. Unless the Holy Spirit beams His searchlight on them to unravel certain truths in them to us so that we learn some lessons in them, the parables of Jesus do not add to the development of the Church.

Some of the misconceptions in our prayer services today came out of some of those teachings. Teachings like what we refer to as the Lord's Prayer is not a New Testament teaching. Jesus was not giving the Church a formula for prayer. You cannot find anywhere in the epistles where that was repeated even by the people He taught the prayer. Let us examine it closely and see why it is not for the body

of Christ.

"After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen."

Matthew 6:9-13.

This was an Old Testament format for prayer, after Jesus went to the Cross, this formula for prayer became obsolete. "Thy kingdom come" is no longer valid because the kingdom of God is in the heart of the believer now. His kingdom is already here. His will on earth is already contained in the covenant called the New Testament. So, His will is already with us. We do not pray for His will to be done, we get on the will of God by acting on His word as contained in the New Testament. When a will has been written and handed over to the administrator of that will and the writer of the will dies, you do not ask for the will to be written, it is already there; you execute it.

Again, our daily bread has been provided in the covenant as well. We do not pray for it, we receive it in the name of Jesus. We do not ask God to forgive us our sins; He had already forgiven us our sins. What we need to do is receive it. That is the teaching of the New Testament. *"In whom we*

have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;" Ephesians. 1:7. We already have the forgiveness of sins. We need to walk in the light of this truth. Forgiveness of sins is not answer to prayers. It is a gift from our loving heavenly Father.

Let us look more into some of the things said in "The Lord's Prayer": "...*lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil...*" These have no place in the New Testament. The Bible tells us that God does not tempt anyone. As such, He cannot lead us into any temptation.

"Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted of evil, neither tempted he any man:" James 1:13.

It is very clear that God does not lead anybody into temptation. He does not put us in the hands of Satan for any reason. We do not also pray that He delivers us from evil. Actually, the Greek renders it as the evil one, because He has already delivered us from the power (authority) of darkness and has translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son. Colossians 1:13. There is no evil where we are; we are in Christ, and there is no evil in Christ. Our responsibility is to claim our covenant rights and stay where we are. The Lord's Prayer (as we call it), therefore, is a prayer strategy for Old Testament people. It is not for the Church.

There is a practice among the Charismatics called PUSH (Pray until something happens). This idea came from one of the parables of Jesus. We will go through some of these parables in order for us to see clearly that such teachings are not for the Church. It is very important to note them so we can protect our faith. A lot of these Old Testament practices have robbed the body of Christ of the blessings of God. They have turned us into a begging and confused Church. We pray in the Church as though we have no covenant with God in Christ Jesus. We need to remove these unholy practices from our way and lead a powerful life on earth through Christ the resurrected Lord and Saviour.

The Parable of the Unjust Judge

Luke was the most educated of the writers of the Gospels, he used a lot of contrast in his writings. Luke was a doctor who travelled with Paul for a number of years in field ministry. He wrote the book of Luke and the book of Acts which was addressed to Theophilus who himself was a very educated man. Luke's arguments were incomparable. He had some details in his writings more than the other writers of the Gospels. We will therefore discuss some of these parables in the light of Luke's writing.

"And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought to pray, and not to faint; (grow wearied or give up).

Saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man: And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary. And he could not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man; Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me. And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith. And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them? I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on earth?" Luke 18:1-8.

This parable is certainly not a teaching for the body of Christ. First, let us identify the characters here. The unjust judge and a widow. You cannot take the unjust judge's actions to be the same as God's. God is not unjust. He is a righteous God. This is talking about a wicked ruler! Thus, the actions of the unjust are not the same as God's. The next character is the widow, that is not in reference to the Church either. The two characters here immediately show us that this teaching is not for the Church. This unjust judge did not fear God and had no regard for man. We also see in this teaching that the widow troubled this unjust judge and wore him out. When we pray to God, we do not trouble nor weary Him. So, this has nothing to do with the Church. Jesus ended the parable by saying, God will avenge His elect that cry before Him speedily. The context here was Jesus emphasizing the place of relationship in

prayer.

From verse 9-13, God desires to give to us. He said if you being evil, know how to give gifts to your children, how much more He. Thus, based on our own relationship with Him, we have access to rights and privileges of relationships.

The Parable of the Unfaithful Friend

Another parable I want us to examine is in the book of Luke chapter eleven. This parable has been taught as the reason for praying until something happens. It actually helps build unbelief and thus, produces no results.

"And he said unto them, Which of you shall have a friend, and shall go unto him at midnight, and say unto him, Friend, lend me three loaves; For a friend of mine in his journey is come to me, and I have nothing to set before him? And he from within shall answer and say, Trouble me not: the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give thee. I say unto you, Though he will not rise and give him, because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will rise and give him as many as he needeth. And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given to you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened." Luke 11:5-10

Jesus is not saying that God will not hear us unless we pray

for a very long time, agonize and fast hours without end. These are not even close friends. The friend that came seeking help was not even allowed into the house. He hung outside. His friend considered his request, “trouble”. None of these situations is same as our relationship with God. We are not kept outside the kingdom. We are a family headed by Jesus Christ (Ephesians 3:1), hence, we are not like these two friends. This friend came to borrow from his friend. He said, "lend me...". We do not borrow from God when we come to Him in prayer. We have a right to answered prayers.

At the end of this parable, Jesus talked about a father and son relationship. He said when a son asks anything of the father, he gets it. If he seeks for anything, he finds it. And whenever he knocks, the father opens the door. God does not behave like that guy that kept his friend outside and would not open the door. This was how things happened under the Old Testament because people had no relationship with God. They observed many rituals to get answers from God. This teaching is wrong, and not for the body of Christ.

Like I stated in the previous chapter, most of the false teachings in the Church have their roots in the Old Testament. Until we come to the understanding of the New Testament, the truth will be impossible to comprehend. The four Gospels; Matthew, Mark, Luke and John are documented accounts of Jesus. They are basically for

historical purposes to show us the transition between the Old Testament and New Testament. They give the historic account of Jesus' humanity. In what I call Jesus' disclaimer in John chapter 16, the real message Jesus had for the Church was to be given by the Holy Spirit. Parables are made of fictions, facts and contain useful lessons. But they are not for the body of Christ. They were teachings for those that had closed their eyes to the truth, those that had callous hearts and would not receive the truth. It was therefore expedient that the New Testament be put in place for the fellowship between man and God that was breached because of sin to be fully restored. Only the New Testament provides a medium of operation between God and man, bringing man and God to function on the same frequency. Until we step into the realities of the New Testament, we will live without a revelation of who we are in God's sight.

chapter 3

THE REALITIES OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

From the previous chapter, we have established the truth about what is referred to in the Bible as the scriptures. When Jesus rose from the dead and met with the two disciples on the way to Emmaus, He said to them;

"...O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken. Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter his glory? And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself...And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake 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 24:25-27, 44.

Jesus began from Moses (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy), and went through the

prophets, and the Psalms, expounding things concerning Himself.

The Old Testament is referred to as the scriptures. The centre of the scriptures is the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. This truth cannot be over-emphasised.

The Old Testament prophecies focused on the coming of Christ. They foretold things that were yet to come. The substance of their prophecies manifested with the coming of Christ. From Exodus to Malachi, all prophecies were directed at the coming of Christ which would culminate with the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. Their message was on the grace of God that would bring salvation. They did not see it. They did not experience it. They did not even understand it. But they were moved by the Holy Ghost to prophesy on the coming salvation that the grace of God will bring on the human race.

“Of which salvation the prophets have inquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have

preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into." 1 Peter 1:10-12

The four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John are not part of the New Testament. Jesus was not a New Testament preacher. He was the fulfilment of the scriptures which is the Old Testament. The Bible says Jesus was the end of the law for righteousness. "*For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone that believeth.*" Romans 10:4. Jesus ended the law to establish righteousness. No one was made the righteousness of God until Jesus folded the Old Testament and established the New Testament. Jesus was born under the law. He came to fulfil all that was written in the scriptures and to establish a better covenant containing better promises.

"But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. Because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father."

Galatians 4:4-6.

His assignment was to redeem them that were under the law, He fulfilled the demands of the law and took it out of the way (Romans 10:4). No one had a relationship with God under the Old Testament. But under the New

Testament, there is a father- son relationship between us and God. We are God's sons both by birth and by adoption. While on earth, Jesus ministered as a prophet of God under the law. He said He did not come to destroy the law but to fulfil them. Jesus is the fulfilment of the law.

The four Gospels have to be understood the same way the Old Testament should be understood. If you teach purely from the Old Testament, you cannot help it but to be in error. In the same vein, if you teach purely from the Gospel, you will not be able to communicate the truth of the Gospel, but rather be in error. Did you know that the apostles did not quote any of the teachings of Jesus? They talked about Jesus, made some references to the Old Testament to establish certain New Testament truths but they did not repeat any of the teachings of Jesus in the Gospels. It was not relevant to the dispensation of the Gospel they preached. In the Gospels, we have the account of Jesus, the incarnate Christ. In the epistles, we have the account of Jesus the risen Lord. In the Gospel, Jesus came from God to us, in the Epistles, Jesus went from us to God. Everything in the Gospel is the operation of Jesus the incarnate, but everything in the epistles is the operation of Jesus the risen Lord.

Yes, it is the same Jesus that went to the Cross, died, and was buried that rose from the dead. But Jesus before the Cross is significantly different from the resurrected Lord in many respects. Before He went to the Cross, He was

flesh and blood, but when He rose from the dead, He was flesh and bones. He functioned in a glorified body, and could walk through walls, which shows His immortality. Before the Cross, He never went to heaven, He brought heaven down by faith. After the Cross, He ascended to heaven in the morning to establish the New Testament, then came back in the evening. He went to heaven in the sight of His disciples on mount olive without chariots of fire. He just went up, until the clouds received Him from their sight. Before His resurrection, He was anointed by the Father. When He rose from the dead, He became the baptizer with the Holy Ghost. The risen Lord is significantly different in expressions from the incarnate Christ.

Jesus Introduced the New Testament

Before He went to the Cross, Jesus introduced His followers to the New Testament. They had no idea what the New Testament would entail. Jesus did not tell them anything about any New Testament in three and a half years of their being around Him. As the time approached for the law of commandments to be abolished, Jesus began to open them up to the greatest spiritual shift that would soon come into operation.

"And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed it, and brake it, and gave to his disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave

it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the New Testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins."

Matthew 26:26-28.

Jesus said His blood is the blood of the New Testament which was shed for the remission of sins. For Him to speak of a New Testament means there is a testament before this one that He was about to establish, and that other testament is now old. This was the first time Jesus spoke about another testament other than the one He ministered under. He was about to put that Old Testament to an end and bring a new one which would be more powerful and effective to accomplish what the Old Testament failed to accomplish. If Jesus, who was the focus of all the scriptures, the one spoken of in the law and the prophets, and in the Psalms talked about a New Testament, then we had better listen to Him.

From Jesus' words, every testament is powered by blood. The power of every testament depends on the blood that backs it. So, when He spoke of His blood as the blood of the New Testament, He was saying that this New Testament is backed by divinity.

What Is a Testament?

The word "testament" also means covenant. A testament or a covenant is not just a promise, an agreement or a

contract. These words do not accurately define what a testament really is. The closest word in English language that defines a testament is the word "will". But a testament cannot actually be defined, it can only be explained. I will endeavour to explain what a testament is and the power it holds.

A “will” or a “testament” is a legal term that expresses someone's desire concerning his properties and/or money after his death. A testament is actually a will, but it is not just a will, it is a will backed with an oath. There are promises in a testament, as well as terms or conditions which are binding on both parties, and every testament or will has a seal. So, when the word of God talks about a covenant or a testament, it does not just refer to some promises somewhere to lay hold on without understanding the binding force and engaging the spirit behind it. Every covenant or testament must have executioners otherwise known as administrators.

A testament is a life and death issue. You do not violate the terms of a testament and go free. It is therefore of great importance that we understand this truth as we delve into this all-powerful document called the New Testament. The New Covenant was established between Christ (representing all men) and God. He shed His blood to endorse it. That sacrifice was accepted by the Father and it is now the ONLY valid testament that produces life. In this covenant, Jesus kept all the terms on our behalf. We are the

beneficiaries of His sacrifice. We did not do anything to qualify for it; Jesus did everything and qualified us for it. This is awesome!

Believers are beneficiaries of the covenant between God and Christ. As soon as a man gets into Christ through the regeneration of the Spirit, he becomes part of that covenant as much as Jesus is. Jesus is the mediator of the New Testament. Understanding the New Testament therefore, is very crucial for our wellbeing because it is the only basis of receiving anything from God.

The Major Difference between the Old and the New Testament

There are two main testaments or covenants in the Bible, the Old Testament and the New Testament. Most believers have no insight into this most holy, sacred and all powerful document called the New Testament. The charter of this New Covenant is thus, *“For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.”* Hebrews 8:10-12

The Old Covenant demanded from man, the New Covenant supplies. God does it in us. The Bible says God took away the Old Testament in order to establish the New Testament. "...*He taketh away the old (Old Testament) that he may establish the second (the New Testament).*" Hebrews 10:9. But the New Testament is not just the replacement of the Old Testament, it is actually the fulfilment of the Old Testament. The Old Testament were prophecies, types and shadows. The New Testament is the reality of all that was written in the law, all that were spoken by the prophets and all that is written in the Psalms concerning Christ.

The difference between the Old Testament and the New Testament is not that God changed or changed His mind. God never changes, He is constant. For us to really understand these two testaments, we must understand in context the books of Hebrews and Galatians. These are the two most important books that unravel this truth. The book of Galatians helps us to understand the revelation concealed in the Old Testament in relation to the Gentiles, and the book of Hebrews was primarily written to the Jews to unravel the same truth to them. These two covenants or testament actually deals with the two races spoken of in scriptures, which are the Jews and the Gentiles. The Jews are the natural descendants of Abraham, and the Gentiles are the other races.

"Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles

in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands. That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:” Ephesians 2:11-12

That was the condition of every non-Jew in the flesh. They had no laws, no covenants, no promises, and were strangers to the commonwealth of Israel. They had no hope because they were without God in the world. All the provision mentioned here were ONLY for the natural Jews. They were the ones whom all these privileges were given to.

”Who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises;” Romans 9:4.

Peter addressing the Jews after the cripple was healed at the gate called beautiful said; *”Ye are the children of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying unto Abraham, And in thy seed shall all the kindreds (the nations) of the earth be blessed.” Acts 3:25.* There is no doubt that before Jesus went to the Cross, only the Jews, the natural descendants of Abraham through Isaac and Jacob had right into the covenants and the promises. The book of Hebrews was dedicated to them so they could benefit from the redemption that is in Christ.

The book of Galatians is our book of Hebrews. That is what God sent to the Gentiles that we might receive the adoption of sonship. The Cross of Christ brought us into the covenant that the realities of the Abrahamic covenant might be fulfilled in us through faith in the risen Lord. We benefit in all the epistles not because we are sons of the prophets but because we are part of the covenant that brought salvation to the human race. Jesus engrafted us into the vine that we might be the partakers of both the life and the fatness of the vine.

The New Testament Is a Better Covenant

The Old Testament was a conditional testament. You have to do something to merit the benefits thereof. You are required to keep certain rules before the blessings of God can manifest in your life. We see this in so many promises of God's blessings in the laws. "*And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and do all his commandments which he command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God.*" Deuteronomy 28:1-2. Of course, we know that none in Israel walked in the fulness of those blessings mentioned there because nobody kept all those laws. They had to hearken and OBSERVE all the laws to see the blessings manifest in their lives.

Another similar scripture is in Exodus. *"And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee."* Exodus 15:26. This scripture suggests that God was the one that put diseases on the Egyptians, and that is not the truth. God could not be both the killer and the giver of life. Jesus tells us that the devil is the thief, a murderer from the beginning, a destroyer and a fraud. Well, Moses must be wrong here, God cannot be the one that inflicted diseases on the Egyptians. Once again, we see that you are required to keep the commandments and the statutes of God to walk and receive healing from God. This order is in all the Old Testament verses that dealt with the promises of receiving God's blessings. But when Jesus came, things changed.

"When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed ALL that were sick;" Matthew 8:16

Jesus healed without demanding any condition. All through His ministry on earth, Jesus demanded no condition from any one that needed healing from Him, He was moved by compassion not by certain sets of rules. All He demanded from those that needed help of any kind from Him was faith in the grace He carried. Jesus hated no

one and gave no man any commandment to keep in order to receive healing from Him.

"Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously: Who his own self bare our sins in his body on the tree, that we being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed." 1 Peter 2:23-24.

Everything He did was an act of love. He showed mercy instead of judgment. He did not fight back against those that put Him on the Cross. He did not exclude them from the provision of redemption. By His stripes we were all healed. There is no condition for receiving divine healing, just believe in the provision of Calvary and claim your healing by faith in Christ Jesus. Paul says in Ephesians that God, *"the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, has blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ."* Ephesians 1:3. He blessed us with all the blessings before we even knew Him. He asked for no condition before He did. Again the Bible says *"Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law being made a curse for us: for it is written, cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; and that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith."* Galatians 3:13-14. God redeemed us from the curse into the blessing of Abraham. He did not demand any condition from us

before He did it.

What really is the blessing of Abraham? *"What shall we say then that our father Abraham, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found? For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God. For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness."* Romans 4:1-3. What Abraham found was justification by faith. Abraham believed God, and God treated him as though he never sinned once in his life. That is the blessing of Abraham. It is called, "Righteousness" or right standing with God. Abraham did not seek things, he never ever did, but had faith in God. He believed the words of God and found justification. This is the core teaching of the New Testament. We do not merit it. Jesus merited it for us, and we are blessed by it. These are realities of the truths revealed in the New Testament.

"But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises. For if the first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Jacob. Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of

Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord." Hebrews 8:6-9

I want you to take note of a very important statement here; *"...because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord."* That covenant was based on human efforts, you had to do some "righteous" acts to be regarded. But because the blood that powered it could not produce righteousness, no one could really continue in it and therefore God had no regard for them. God calls the New Testament a better covenant established upon better promises. The phrase "better covenant" there refers to the blood that effects the workings of the covenant.

The Old Covenant was powered by the blood of animals, but this New Covenant is powered by the blood of Jesus Christ. If the Old Covenant were perfect, God would not replace it with the New Covenant. God Himself found fault with that document. God tells us here what He calls the Old Testament. He said it was the covenant He entered into with Israel when He delivered them from Egypt.

The Old Testament was the document obtained on Mount Sinai which produced the law of commandments. The New Testament became necessary because the Old Testament did not produce perfection. Rather, its mission was to find faults. It detected errors and man could not keep its demands, hence, it unveiled death, while the law

exposed the condition of man. The New Testament took care of sins once and for all, and thus, produced righteousness. Jesus kept the demands for man and supplies life to all who receives his offer.

"But this man (Jesus), after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God; From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool. For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified." Hebrews 10:12-14.

That blood perfected forever them that are sanctified. Man can now fellowship with God under this covenant, the blood of Jesus, which is referred to as the blood of the everlasting covenant, keeps us in absolute perfection. The blood of Jesus does not only forgive sin, it wipes it out leaving no evidence that sin ever existed. We are now the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. Let us read further into that passage.

"For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws in their minds, and write them in their hearts: and they shall be to me a people: And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and iniquities will I remember no more." Hebrews 8:10-12

These few verses form the charter of the New Testament. God was no longer going to write His laws on table of stones. He would engrave them on the hearts of men. Paul says in the book of Romans that "*God has shed His love abroad upon our hearts*". Love is the law of the New Testament. There was no love under the Old Testament, there was hate. In fact, the law said they should hate those that hate them. Again, it says the New Testament makes us God's people. There was no father-son relationship under the Old Testament, they were all servants. But under this New Testament, we are sons and heirs of God. "*And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ...*" Romans 8:17. Again Paul says; "*And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, Abba Father.*" Galatians 4:6.

One of the cardinal and outstanding features of the New Testament highlighted here is that, under the New Testament, people will know God. There was no knowledge of God in the Old Testament. Even the prophets that God used to write the scriptures had no knowledge of God. In many instances, they could not tell the difference between the works of God and the works of Satan. Some of them prophesied and said God made some dumb and blind. To them, every supernatural act was an act of God. But under the New Testament, the Holy Ghost lives in the believer and teaches him all things. There is a Father-son relationship between the New Testament believer and God. So, he is in the position to know God.

Paul went on to emphasise this truth in the tenth chapter of Hebrews.

"This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them. And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin." Hebrews 10:16-18

Under the Old Testament, there was a remembrance of sins every twelve months-the Day of Atonement where sacrifices were made for sins took place year after year. It was not possible that the blood of bulls and goats should take away sins. But under the New Testament, there is no remembrance of sins. This is the charter of the New Testament. Sins are not only forgiven, they are forgotten forever. This is one of the major differences between the Old Testament and the New Testament. No need for guilt, inferiority complex and condemnation. Your sins and iniquities, He shall remember them no more. Because there is no remembrance of sin, there will be the knowledge of God. People did not know God under the Old Testament because man had no relationship with God. However, people under the New Testament will walk in the knowledge of God. They will know God because there is no sin-barrier between God and man, and God will be merciful to the transgressions of His people, and does not hold them accountable for sin. He will not impute or

accredit sin to their account because He has already punished it on Jesus.

The Old Testament is the law of sin and death. The New Testament is the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus. This is very important to note, the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus operates the New Testament. Therefore, there is no death in it. The Old Testament produced death because the law of sin and death operated it. Once you come into Christ, there is no more death; you have “passed from death to life” (John 5:24). You do not need intermediaries between you and God. The blockage between you and Him, which is sin, has been removed. You do not need “Virgin Mary” to pray for you. You can pray for yourself and be heard in heaven. He is your Father, and you are His son. You can approach God and talk to Him as a son would talk to his father. The blood of Jesus is the basis of that relationship. We become one blood with Him through the sanctification of the Spirit by the blood of the everlasting covenant. John says; *"...And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. And he is the propitiation for our sins (the appeasing sacrifice): and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world."* 1 John 2:1-2. God has put everything in place to see that nothing separates us from Him. We are good to go to any extent in our relationship with Him.

When you have a father that is not a terrorist, you do not nurture fear in your relationship with him. Sin, which was

the major setback in man's relationship with God was removed through the sacrifice of Christ once and for all. There are no more reasons for fear. We are not only God's children. We are His heirs. Jesus has instituted a testament in place that guarantees our success and wellbeing on earth.

The Executioner of the New Testament

As I stated earlier, there are executioners or administrators of every will. The Old Testament was operated by angels. The Bible says that testament was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator. The mediator of the Old Covenant was Moses. *"Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator."* Galatians 3:19. That covenant was actually entrusted in the hands of angels, who handed over the document to Moses, and they operated it waiting for a better covenant in the blood of Jesus that would be operated by Jesus. It was a "care taker" covenant and not the real deal. Thus, it did not produce righteousness.

The Old Testament writers encountered angels, they did not see God at any time. What they saw were angels. When Moses saw a burning bush that was not consumed and turned to carefully observe, he had an encounter with an angel. When he went into the thick cloud in the midst of

lightening and thundering, he did not see God. He saw and dealt with an angel. No one under the Old Testament had a direct encounter with God. None saw Him.

"For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward; How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him;" Hebrews 2:2-3

The word under the Old Testament was spoken by angels. They were in charge of that covenant. The Bible says they received the law by the disposition of angels, and they did not keep it. *"Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in hearts and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye. Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? And they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now betrayers and murderers: Who have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept it."*
Acts 7:51-53.

Are You In Zion or Still In Sinai?

The laws of the Old Testament were given on Mount Sinai, but the law of the New Testament was given on mount Zion. That is where God has chosen to place His name,

and it refers to the Church. On Mount Sinai, there were thunderings, lightnings, tempest, clouds and judgments. It was a scaring sight. There were fears and deaths. Even animals were not spared when they crossed the boundaries. Sinai was a mountain of judgments.

"For ye are not come unto the mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire, nor unto blackness, and darkness, and tempest, And sound of a trumpet, and the voice of words; which voice they that heard intreated that the word should not be spoken any more: (For they could not endure that which was commanded, And if so much as a beast touch the mountain, it shall be stoned, or thrust through with a dart: And so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake:)" Hebrews 12:18-21

That was how terrible the Old Covenant was. Everything that happened under it brought death. It was frightening that even Moses, the mediator of that covenant, feared and quaked. The words were so harsh. They were words spoken by angels, and had no love in them. Those words received a just recompense of reward. You did not go free when you disobeyed them. The people did not want to hear those words any more. But under the New Testament, things changed. Jesus Christ Himself, the One that so loved the world and died for mankind is the custodian of it. Jesus is love personified. The Bible says we have come to Mount Zion, the heavenly Jerusalem...

"But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, And to Jesus, the mediator of the new covenant, and unto the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than the blood of Abel." Hebrews 12:22-24.

Things have changed! Jesus is the mediator of this new covenant. It is not some angel overseeing it. It is Jesus Himself that has the oversight function thereof. When He speaks today, men want to hear Him more and more. He brought mercy and grace; not judgment. While people ran away from the words spoken on Mount Sinai, they run to Jesus to hear Him again and again because He is merciful to their transgressions and removes sins instead of punishing it.

Jesus is the administrator, the executioner of the New Testament. We now have the blood of the everlasting covenant. *"Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen."* Hebrews 13:20-21. Now there is peace between man in Christ and God. This peace is on the premise of the blood

of Christ. Jesus is our peace. There is perfection under the New Testament because of the blood of the everlasting covenant. Because of the blood of sprinkling, we are able to function in God's will and receive the blessings (spiritual) of the New Testament. The priesthood under the Old Testament took care of the earthly tabernacle only. The blood of animals offered under the Mosaic law was a natural blood. It could not effect any change in heaven. The blood of Christ on the other hand is eternal. The Bible teaches that Jesus cleansed the utensils of worship in the heavenly tabernacle after His resurrection from the dead. *"It was therefore necessary that the pattern of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these."* Hebrews 9:23.

The mentality of continuous repentance does not take away sins, it rather creates sin-consciousness. That practice came out of the Old Testament. There were daily sacrifices in the tabernacle, the place had a terrible smell of blood. But those sacrifices did not remove sins. It only provided temporal succour for sins. But in Christ Jesus, His blood continuously cleanses us from all sins. Christ's blood is eternal. It never ceases to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Your sins; past, present and future have been wiped out by the eternal blood of Christ. This is not difficult to understand. The blood of Christ is eternal. You cannot just limit the workings of the blood of Christ to the past. It is the blood of the everlasting covenant. Jesus

finished His job with perfection, and sat down expecting His enemies to be made His footstool. He sat down because there is no more sin to atone for. There are no records of sins under this testament either.

The New Testament Was Before the Old Testament

The Bible makes it crystal clear that the Old Testament was a temporal fix occasioned by the hardness of the hearts of the people to whom it was given. It was not part of the eternal plan of God to put that document together for man. Sin generated it, and thus, used it to expose man's weakness and inability to live right.

"Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ. And this I said, that the covenant, that was confirmed in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect. For if the inheritance be of the law, it is no more of promise: but God gave it to Abraham by promise." Galatians 3:16-18

The Covenant that was confirmed in Christ was built on **promise** NOT on the **law**. In the book of Hebrews 8:9, the Bible tells us exactly when the Old Testament came into effect. It was given when God took them out of Egypt. As we see all through the passages we have studied so far, the

laws that regulated the Old Testament were given on Mount Sinai. That was when it actually came into operation. The priesthood was set up in the wilderness to guide in the operation of that covenant and to provide succour for the defaulters of that covenant. It came four hundred and thirty years after God made a covenant with Abraham, which covenant was confirmed in his Seed which was Christ. God did not give Abraham a certain set of laws to make the covenant work for him. In fact, God did not at any time talk to him about sin. Even when he went to Egypt, and to Gerar and lied, God did not mention anything to him about sin and how to atone for it.

Under the promise, which is the substance of the New Testament, and the binding force between Abraham and God, sin was inhibited, it just did not function. Abraham experienced the New Testament grace before the law. The law was an interruption. It was not part of God's eternal plan, but was demanded by man. When they came to Sinai, the people asked God to tell them what He expects of them, and they would do. They rejected the idea of depending on God for everything and wanted to merit things through their own acts of righteousness. So God gave them the law at His own terms and standard of purity. He gave them Ten Commandments and six hundred and twenty other laws associated with them. Then He made it stiff by telling them that if anybody breaks one, he is guilty of all. That made it impossible for anyone to observe, so they were all guilty before God. The law made the need of

a Saviour compulsory. No one kept them. And, the consequences of breaking them went unabated. There was a need for a Messiah otherwise man would remain subject to sin and death.

"Wherefore then serveth the law? The law was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator." Galatians 3:19. The law made sin sinful. It exposed its power to bring death. "... But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful." Romans 7:13. The law made the need of a Saviour crucial. Paul said the law was our school master to bring us to Christ. The laws by themselves were good if man kept them, but no one could. There was therefore the need for a Saviour to save man from it. Sin and death drew their powers from the law. The law actually became the law of sin and death.

"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there was no law." Romans 5:12-13.

Sin was in the world from the fall of Adam to the giving of the commandments on Mount Sinai. But sin was imputed on no one. To impute is to hold accountable. Sin was in the world but no man was held accountable for it until the law

came. Noah was drunk and stripped himself naked but God called him a righteous man. Abraham lied twice, but God blessed him. Jacob lied and cheated but was blessed by God. God NEVER called Jacob a liar or a fraud. Did God not see all that? The sin of Adam was our collective sin. He committed it with us in his loins. So, every human being came into this world a sinner. But sin was not imputed on anyone until the law came.

Think about this. How could God had protected Cain by putting a mark on him so that he was not killed by anybody? God said anyone that killed him would receive seven-fold of his punishment. What really was Cain's punishment? "A vagabond and a fugitive". Was that enough for someone that committed murder? There was no law to define what Cain did. There was no law against murder. So, he did not commit murder because there was nothing called murder then. The sin-nature in Cain produced the "killing of Abel". Nobody taught Cain how to kill. Nobody taught Noah how to get drunk. Nobody taught Abraham how to lie; the sin-nature in them produced those results. Until the law came, sin was not defined nor imputed to anyone. The consciousness of sin came with the law. Now, what I want you to see is that the promise pre-existed the law. The law dramatized the covenant, and watered it down because of the human elements involved. Even the priesthood that existed under the promise was superior to the priesthood that was put in place under the Old Testament. Melchizedek was

certainly superior to Aaron. The preaching of the law to born again people is an insult to redemption. The Bible says if there had been a law that would give life, righteousness would have been by the law. The law could not give life, it produced death instead.

The New Covenant Was Built on Promises

God made promises to Abraham. He did not give him a set of rules to keep. What God told him was to get out and go to the place that he would show him. And that if he got out, He would bless him; He will give him a great name; He would bless those that blessed him; and those that cursed him would be cursed. That if he gets out at the instance of His word, He would bless all the families of the earth through him. Those were the promises God made to him. How was He going to bless the whole families of the earth through him? He would do that through Abraham's seed, which is Christ. When Abraham engaged the word of God, everything got into operation. God began to protect him because protection was part of the promises. Even when he lied, God protected him from the effect of that sin, and did not record it. The promise covered him from all guilt. Abraham did not feel timid whenever he went wrong. He did not regret any of his actions. Whatever he needed, the promise provided it. He did not need to pray and fast in order to breakthrough. The promises covered his past, present and future.

When we come into Christ, we come into the promise, not

the laws of commandment. Jesus ended that and reconnected us into the promise. "*And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.*" Galatians 3:29. The New Covenant was built on the promise, there are no set of laws required for it to function. We do not carry out any action different from the one our father Abraham carried out. How did Abraham function in the covenant and became the father of all them that believe? He simply did whatever God told him to do, and went wherever God told him to go. When God asked for offering, he offered the required offering. He did not bargain things with God because he trusted God. What we need to realise is that the promise is higher than the law. Jesus fulfilled the law, He kept them for those that were under the law. But it did not end there, He engrafted us into the promise through the adoption of sons.

The truths shared in this chapter are the realities of the New Testament. There are no assumptions here. Everything is documented to serve as a guide for all those that would believe in the New Testament. Right now, the New Testament is the only effective testament in place upon which God can deal with the human race. There is no other way to get God involved with your life outside this. The eternal blood of Christ is the power behind the efficacy of this testament.

chapter 4

THE REVELATION OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

As we continue to unravel truths in the word of God that will place us on the solid rock, we will be making references to some of the things I explained in previous chapters so that we can have more light on the subject of this book. There is the need to be exhaustive in our explanation so we can comprehend spiritual truths.

The New Testament is the **ONLY** valid spiritual document that guarantees man's relationship with God. The Church will live in total defeat without the operation of the New Testament. We cannot get any result from God through the Old Testament that has been abolished. You cannot mix the Old Testament and the New Testament. That will be inappropriate. It will corrupt what “Calvary” provided for us in redemption. They are two separate testaments: one is old and has been done away with, and the other is new, and valid right now. Understanding and walking in the light of the New Testament is crucial to a victorious life.

All prayers are answered ONLY on the platform of the New Testament. Consequently, victories over all situations are attained on the same platform - the New Testament. The laws of Moses DO NOT produce any positive result now. Where the laws of Moses are applied, Satan thrives and death is the result. You cannot intersect the Old Testament with the New Testament. It just does not work. The Bible says, "*Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone that believes.*" Romans 10:4. You cannot mix Christ and Moses.

Jesus Is the Revelation

"God, who at sundry times and in diverse manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; Who being the brightness of his glory, and express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power; when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high:" Hebrews 1:1-3

Jesus was the intent from the beginning. He was the ONLY communication throughout. Hence, Hebrews 11 shows Him received throughout the ages. The prophets received that communication in diverse ways because Peter says, "*unto us was it revealed and not unto them*"— 1 Peter 1:10-

12, 2 Peter 1:19-21. He is the revelation, and remains the eternal word that cannot be changed. God spoke unto the fathers in various manners in the past by the prophets, but now He speaks by, and in His Son. The original rendering of this passage is that, “in times past, the prophets spoke unto the fathers” It was not God that actually spoke. The prophets spoke as they were moved by the Holy Ghost. They spoke in portions; a little here and there. Their prophecies were progressive and pointing toward the coming of Jesus. Being sinners by nature, they were not perfect. They could not handle God in their prophecies, hence, they assumed many things as they prophesied. They saw through dark glasses, and could not comprehend the truth in its fulness in their understanding.

The Old Testament was handled by angels through Moses who was the mediator of that covenant. Old Testament prophets did not see God. Even Moses did not see God. He was a natural man, a sinner by nature just like every human being born on earth. The prophets spoke in parts. They were dealing with this invisible being that they had no details of. But when Jesus came, the full revelation was made manifest. Jesus is pure truth. He is THE message spoken of by the law and the prophets. Only He can tell us exactly who and how God is. He is the express image of the Father. If you want to see God, look at Jesus, who is the expression of the Father. You cannot know God by other ways, but Jesus. He is the brightness of the glory of God. Jesus is God wrapped in human flesh. He came in the

likeness of sinful flesh, but there was no sin in His flesh. He was a perfect being, as perfect and innocent as Adam was before the fall because there was no sin in Him. There was no barrier between Him and God, and death had no claim on Him. Only Jesus gave us the perfect picture of God.

None of the prophets knew God. They were used as channels and mediums (of expression), but had no relationship with God. When Jesus stepped into this life, He told us that God is a Father. The prophets did not know that. They never thought of God as a Father. They saw God more as a Judge who tolerated no criminality or faults. What else would they think of God when the fiery serpents were killing people? They believed God sent the fiery serpents since they did not know any better. They also thought God was angry with them because that was the picture of God the prophets promoted. However, when Jesus came, He gave us a completely different picture of God when He introduced Him as a Father. Even the Jews were angry with Him, and sought to destroy Him because He said God was His Father. Only Jesus can tell us exactly who God is and how He expects man to be. He became man to show us how man was created to be, and what man can do when he connects back to his creator. If you do not know Jesus, you can never know God.

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

John 1:18

No man hath seen God at any time. This word is instructive. No prophets since the fall of Adam to the coming of Christ saw God. Jesus says it, therefore, that is the truth. No one can tell us anything about God accurately but Him. Whatever He has not declared about God is not true. We must trust Jesus above Moses, because Jesus is the manifestation of truth. Like I stated in the last chapter, Jesus had to correct a lot of things Moses taught in the law. They were simply not right. Jesus used the phrase; *"Ye have heard that it was said of them of old time... But I SAY unto you..."* What the law and the prophets said of old time was no longer valid when Jesus, the revelation Himself, stepped His feet on this planet. He did not fulfil the laws the way they were presented by them of old. He corrected them, straightened them out, and kept them to the details before He folded them up. When He came, it was no longer *"Thus says the Lord"*, it is *"But I say unto you"* because He is the message. Jesus was telling the people what He was actually saying through the prophets that they did not quite get. He was correcting their wrongs.

All prophecies consist and exist in Jesus. Any prophecy that is not about Jesus is fake! He is THE PROPHECY. Jesus is God's last word. God is no longer speaking, He spoke in Jesus and that is the word that is eternally abiding. When preachers prophesy something outside Jesus, do not accept it, it could be the work of "familiar

spirits”. Familiar spirits do not talk about Jesus, He is not their message. They go the line of the senses because they are flesh bound. Jesus is the sole expression of God. You must trust Jesus over Moses and all the prophets that lived before Him. He is the perfect imprint and the very image of the Father. He said “...*I and my Father are one*”. John 10:30. Hebrews 1:2 is the fulfilment of Hebrews 1:1. He spoke through the prophets, and in diverse manners. But when He stepped down in the person of Jesus, He spoke by Jesus Christ.

Satan Is a Murderer

Under the Old Testament, prophets did not quite separate what God did from what Satan did. They did not have a perfect knowledge of God, and Satan was a mystery to them too. Satan is a spirit, and Old Testament people were natural people. They were not born again people so they could not comprehend spiritual things. Natural minds cannot discern spiritual things. The Bible says, to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Rom. 8: 6. “*But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned (spiritually known or understood).*” 1Corinthians 1:14. Nobody can know God on the natural line.

When Jesus came, He demystified Satan. When He

showed up, demons started crying out of people. That never happened under the Old Testament. Satan did all things under cover. He was not detected, and God was blamed for all his atrocities. Men could not just tell the difference between God's work and Satan's work. Everything beyond their explanation was put on God. They thought God kills, made people dumb, deaf, and blind. Satan hid his atrocities from men, even men that followed God. But he could not hide from Jesus. He started crying out of people when Jesus showed up. He started accusing Him of breaking spiritual protocol by coming to earth being the Son of God. Jesus unmasked him, identified his true person; a thief, destroyer and liar. Before the coming of Christ, if there was a tornado, people thought God caused it. If there was "fire from heaven" that destroyed like in the case of Job, people thought God caused it. But Jesus said Satan is the destroyer. We now fully know who was behind Job's trouble. That is the guy behind all evils in the time of old which the Old Testament prophets could not decode.

Even in the days when Jesus was physically on earth ministering, religious people did not know Him. They thought He was Beelzebub, the prince of flies (the Chief demon), because demons trembled in His presence. They had lived all their lifetime under the delusion of the devil. Jesus told them that Satan is a killer. Natural disasters are not acts of God. They are creations of man because of his union with Satan. There is really nothing natural about

them. Satan is the one operating them with the cooperation of man. Whether they are volcanoes, tornadoes, ocean surge of any kind, earthquakes or whatever disaster; they all come from the groaning of the earth. The earth is presently groaning based on the ageing of the earth – Hebrews 1:10 -11. Everything is not the activity of the devil though he can use that. Nature groans right now, waiting for the manifestation of the Sons of God. That manifestation is the glorification or resurrection of the human body because he calls us sons of God in verse 14 and then proceeds to talk about the manifestation (**Phaneroosis** in the Greek which means a full disclosure-also used in 1 Corinthians 12:7, 2 Corinthians 4:1-2). He is saying that man's body becoming immortal is what the whole of creation expects, as man's body was fully paid for by Jesus' sacrifice. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20.

This truth was really not known under the Old Testament. That was why when Satan killed, they put it as the act of God. They had no understanding of the supernatural world. Satan was a mystery to them. Even up to this day, people who are not exposed to the word of God think God sometimes kills. They say God killed Ananias and his wife because they lied to the Holy Ghost, but that is not true. In the case of Ananias and his wife, they came to test the spirit of God. It should also be noted that the result of that event was that men did not join themselves to the Church yet the Church grew. The seeming controversy is how can the Church grow if men did not join? So, men joining is

different from people added. Ananias and his wife must have joined to test the Spirit. That was what stopped them. Acts 5:13-14. Again, in those times, it was common for unbelievers to come among believers because they met in common places (see 1 Corinthians 14:23 – 25), the synagogue was the primary place of fellowship. Also, observe that it was easy to get believers because they met in such places.

That said, looking at Peter's statement also helps. There were things they believed on even after the Church began that were gotten from the law. This text is similar to the one in Acts 8 on Simon the sorcerer but he was milder in his pronouncement. It will suffice to say that Peter ministered the law like the prophets of the old who called down fire. Jesus' response to the disciples in Luke 9:54-56 shows that destruction is not God's intention for the unbeliever, rather God's intention is salvation. 1 Timothy 2:4, 2 Peter 3:9, 1 Corinthians 14:23 -25.

Many people are lying to the Holy Ghost today and God does not go about killing them. Do you know how many preachers and testimony givers that would die every week if God does that? It was not God or the Holy Spirit that killed Ananias and his wife Saphira. It was unbelief that killed them. They doubted what God was doing and thought it would cease one day and therefore, made provision for themselves in the event that the move of the Spirit stopped. It was unbelief that killed them, and that is

not difficult to see because unbelief killed three million people in the desert. Hebrews 3:17-19. Unbelief is an old time killer.

When Jesus came, He told us who was behind all the murders and the destructions in the time of old. Only Jesus could decode that murderer called Satan.

"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it." John 8:44.

"The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death"
1Corinthians 15:26

Death is an enemy. God could not have used death, because He could not use the enemy. I do not know any right thinking person that will hand over his children to his enemy to do them whatever he chooses. If we natural men cannot do that, why do we think we are better people than God? Do we expect God to use His enemy against His children? But we are certain that death is not of God. Jesus has demystified death. He died and rose again. He used death and broke its power and control over humanity. We can now be in charge of how long to live on earth and use it when we want to exit this life to be with the Lord. The Church will demystify death by revelation knowledge.

When someone is a mystery, you do not really know how he operates, when he does what, etc. That will leave you in fear of him because you cannot really tell what he can do. But when he is demystified, there is no more fear of him. In the Old Testament, death was a mystery. In the New Testament, death has been demystified. It is no longer a threat.

"Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage."

Hebrews 2:14-15

Through death, which was separation, Jesus reconciled man to God, thereby destroying Satan's authority in separation. He rendered him impotent. When Jesus rose from the dead, it removed every potency of Satan's power. *"I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and I have the keys of hell and of death."* Revelation 1:18. The keys are with us, we are in charge. The revelation of the New Testament puts an end to the reign of death. Jesus says *"the gates of hell shall not prevail against it"*. Revelation knowledge is the key. It is the authority over death and hell.

Hear what the word of God says; *"But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the*

heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God." 1Corinthians 2:9-10. Paul was actually quoting the lamentation of the prophet Isaiah because they could not see the things of God. They could not understand nor receive them. But now, under this dispensation, men can receive eternal life and be born of the Spirit of God. The Holy Ghost searches through God and unveils to us and in us the mysteries of eternity. We are not in the dark over anything anymore, Jesus is speaking now, and there are no mistakes in His words.

There Is No Death in God

There is no death in God. When we pray for people to die, Satan uses that to carry out his normal duty-murder. Like I pointed out in the previous chapter, the Church has been a place that so-called preachers have developed too many people in envy, hatred and malice. They express so much bitterness against one another in the name of prayers. Where is the love of God when we want to kill everybody that we consider our enemy? Church people have grossly improved on the incantations of native doctors. If you check all those wicked prayer books, the verses they use in backing them up are all from the Old Testament. You can NEVER see any of those dangerous and wicked prayer points backed by the New Testament. The New Testament is life. There is no death there. The Old Testament is the

letter that kills, it is a testament of death. That is where the promoters of "fall down and die" prayer points get all their backing. God is consistent. He is always good. We do not serve a temperamental God that is sometimes happy and blesses people, and sometimes angry and destroys people because He feels offended. That is the devil's opinion of God.

When they came to arrest Jesus in the garden of Gethsamene, this was what He said to them; "*When I was daily with you in the temple, ye stretched forth no hands against me: but this is your hour, and the power of darkness.*" Luke 22:53. The executioner of Jesus' death was the power of darkness. When James and John wanted to call down fire from heaven like Elijah and burn down a whole city, Jesus rebuked them. He told them that it was not the right spirit. In other words, the Spirit of God was not involved with what Elijah did. People that pray for others to die are working for Satan. God has promised to deliver us from wicked and unreasonable men, and it is more exciting. Before they scheme anything against us, there will be deliverance. You do not need to kill anybody by prayers.

The Case of Job

What about Job, did God not give him over to Satan? No! God did not give Job over to the devil, Job stepped over to where Satan had access to him. Job was ignorant of what

he did and that brought destruction into his life. Let us read what he said at the end of his trials. *"Who is he that hideth counsel without knowledge? therefore have uttered that I understood not; things too wonderful for me, which I knew not."* Job 42:3. His words brought his woes. Job was naive. He was full of fear and unbelief, and thus said and did things that he was ignorant of their spiritual implications. You may say, but I thought Job was a righteous and perfect man.

"And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil." Job 1:8.

The word, "perfect" in scripture means innocent. He was an innocent man. He did right before God, and that was why he walked in the blessing of God in the first place. Job was a sinner by the standard of redemption. Actually, there was no hedge around him. Satan just did not know. In verse five, we see that Job lived in unbelief. He was constantly offering sacrifices in fear that his children would do something wrong against God. Job was living in sin-consciousness, fear and ignorance. Those were the things that brought Satan into his life. Satan simply took advantage of him. Even when Satan was still attacking him, Job thought it was God punishing him, yet that scripture says Satan went out of the presence of God and smote him with sore boils. Job 2:7.

"For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me." Job 3:25.

It was not God that put Job into the hands of Satan, Job opened the door for Satan into his life through fear, unbelief and ignorance. Many of God's people are doing the same thing today. We speak what we do not know and open the door to the wicked one. When he strikes, we cry, "Why me God?" God is not the cause of any man's trouble. You see, if you do not lay hold on this truth, Satan will convince you to believe that God is against you, and use your belief in what he tells you to destroy you. Just like he got Eve to believe his lies, he tries to convince us that God does not have our interest at heart. Satan does not have love in his nature; he cannot love. When he accesses a person through deception, he drives the evil nature of hatred and bitterness into that person. That is how he brings people into the path of destruction.

When you received Christ into your life as Lord and Saviour, you passed from death to life. You cannot die again. You are free from the authority of darkness, and are now in the kingdom of God's dear Son. Death has been abolished by Christ, and He has brought life and immortality to light by the Gospel. Jesus is the final word from God and He has put an end to all prophecies. He is the prophecy.

Jesus Was the Final Sacrifice

"...when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high." Hebrews 1:3.

He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high because He was through with sin. Sin can no longer be a part of Him. There is no more sacrifice for sin. It can no longer be a barrier between man and God. *"But this Man (in reference to Jesus), after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God; From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool. For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified."* Hebrews 10:12-14. He did it once and for all. It was Charles Spurgeon that said; "Since Jesus died for all once and for all, the believer is saved once and for all." You see, the concept of re-dedicating your life to Christ is born out of sin-consciousness. It says here that *"with one offering He perfected forever them that are sanctified."* You do not lose your sanctification.

There is no word in the New Testament called "backsliding". We may lose or miss fellowship with the Father but we do not backslide. That word came from a wrong understanding of the word of God. It is a religious jargon intended to make you feel sorrowful and lose your confidence in the ever abiding presence of our loving heavenly Father. We are not of them that draw back, we are of them that believe to the saving of the soul. We do not

backslide, we only press forward toward the mark of the high calling of God. You do not re-dedicate your life to God, you are dedicated and separated unto God for life.

Jesus will not die again. He died once and for all, and He is sure of what He did. The moment you accept Him into your life, He puts His stamp of ownership over you, and nobody can remove you from His hand. *"My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand."* John 10:29. Jesus seals us with the Holy Ghost and the devil cannot break that seal. He is able to save us to the uttermost. No more guilt or condemnation. No more need for endless fasting and prayers to please God because it is not your fasting and prayers that pleases Him. It is your faith in the cleansing power of the blood of Jesus that makes all the difference. The Father is already pleased with Jesus. Once you are in Jesus, He is pleased with you because He sees you through Christ. Being in Christ Jesus is the only requirement to please God, for nothing shall separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus. Your salvation is eternally secured in Jesus. Paul says, *"From henceforth let no man trouble me: for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus."* Galatians 6:17. You have the marks of the Lord Jesus in your body too. No man can remove it.

The New Testament Produced the New Creation

This is the crux of the New Testament. It produced beings

with the nature of God. There was no regeneration of the human spirit until the New Testament came into operation. Jesus had said just before He went to the Cross, *"Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit."* John 12:24. He was the only "Jesus" before His death. But after His resurrection, He reproduced Himself in every man that accepted Him. It is not a different Jesus that lives in the believer today, it is the same Jesus that rose from the dead that lives in the heart of everyone that has received Him. He is not less powerful or less wise in the believer than He is in heaven. The same Jesus in heaven is the One that lives in our spirits through the mighty Holy Spirit. The new creation is the epitome of divine operations. It is the biggest thing God ever did. It was worked in hell itself, in the depth of darkness where nothing could have worked. Jesus initiated this in the very bottom of the pit, and the new birth became a reality. Jesus reproduces Himself in the heart of everyone that comes to Him by faith. This is the crux of the matter, the most powerful thing that ever happened.

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creation: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given us the ministry of reconciliation;" 2Corinthians 5:17-18.

Jesus is the mold that produced all believers in Christ.

When we come into Christ by faith, He does not only forgive us our sins, He removes them, and recreates us in the spirit. You cannot fix any person back into the former shape of the old sinful nature. Old things are passed away, and all things are become new. The new things are the things of God. There is nothing belonging to Satan that remains when men receive Christ into their spirit. This is the revelation of the New Testament -God manifesting Himself in men. It is not just the remission of sins that takes place but the reborn of the human spirit. Man puts on God and becomes one unit with Him. This is BIG!

Again, Jesus said shortly before He went to the Cross that when the Holy Spirit came, He would be with us and IN us. *"Even the Spirit of truth (the mighty Holy Ghost, the third Person of the Godhead); whom the world (the unbelievers, people still with the sin-nature) cannot receive, because it seeth him not (sinners are controlled by their senses), neither knoweth him (sinners have no access to revelation knowledge): but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be IN you."* John 14:17. This is it! This is Jesus revealed. He lives in us. No more looking for Jesus through some manifestations or operations of spirits. He resides in us. We are members of His body, His flesh, and His bones. Ephesians 5:30. We are of His kind, and because of that, the Holy Ghost resides in us the same way He resided in Him when He was here on earth. He said, *"For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given the Son to have life in himself."*

John 5:26. The life in the Father is the same one in the Son. That is the life in the believer. Eternal life in the believer is the proof that the New Testament works.

To the Corinthians, Paul marvelled at their lack of the knowledge of this truth and said; *"What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?"* 1Corinthians6:19. It is tragic when a born again man does not live in the consciousness of this truth. God inhabits our bodies by the Holy Ghost. This consciousness drives away all fears. We live with the assurance that greater is He that is in us than the devil that is in the world. Nothing in this world order shakes you anymore. You are sure that you are more than a conqueror through Christ Jesus. The new birth is the manifestation of Jesus in the life of a human being.

Until Jesus rose from the dead, He was not revealed in the human heart. Jesus in Jerusalem was still a mystery. He was God concealed. It was the resurrection that manifested the life of Christ in men. Christ on earth in blood and flesh was sent to Israel. He manifested God to them, but they did not even recognize Him. They thought He was one of the prophets. They could not even put Him in the same level as Moses and Elijah. They could not see beyond His human skin. It was the resurrection of Christ that manifested His glory and power in the believer. Beyond the shadow of doubt, the leaders of the Jews knew that He was truly the Messiah that was to come, but their

pride and religion hindered them from accepting the obvious. The resurrection of Christ brought God into the human heart.

The Old Testament Was the Shadow; The New Testament Is the Substance.

God NEVER intended that He would relate with man on the basis of the Old Testament. That old agreement was an interruption in God's plan of redemption. It did not work because it empowered the law of sin and death. It was a fault-finding testament, and because of that, what came out of it was death.

"For if that first covenant (the Old Testament) had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second (The New Testament). For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah." Hebrews 8:7-8.

There was no fault with the first covenant. That is not what this passage is saying. The Old Testament did not make people sinners. It actually pointed people to Christ. What the Bible is saying here is that, the first covenant identified faults; it was a fault finding covenant. It says, *"For finding fault with them (finding fault with the people), he saith..."* There was no fault in the Old Testament. Paul says, *"Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandments holy,*

and just, and good." Romans 7:12. There was no evil in the law. But the law exposed man's weakness and inability to meet the demand of justice by his efforts. The Old Testament made demands of people, which no one could meet. It actually showed the need of a Saviour. That covenant exposed man to Christ, because it showed clearly how impossible it was for any man to attain justification by works.

The Old Covenant was not the real covenant that could form the basis of man's relationship with God. It was not intended to meet that requirement, it was a shadow of good things to come. *"For the law having the shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which were offered year by year continually make the comers perfect. For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins. But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year."* Hebrews 10:1-3. The Old Testament could not bring perfection because the blood that backed it was not a perfect blood. It was not possible for the blood of animals to bring the needed reconciliation between man and God. The Old Testament was not intended to be an end to itself, it was to point to a better testament that was to come which would be established on better promises. It was a shadow of the good things to come.

Note that Jesus referred to the Holy Spirit as a good gift from the Father. *"If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your Heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?"* Luke 11:13. The Holy Spirit is certainly the substance of the "good things" to come which was a typology in the Old Testament.

The Holy Spirit manifests the life and nature of Christ in the believer. The resurrection of Christ was made possible by the Holy Spirit. He is the Spirit of resurrection. The new creation is effected in the spirit of men by the Holy Spirit. There is no revelation knowledge without the Holy Spirit. They of old had no way of knowing God because the Holy Spirit did not dwell in men. So, all of the Old Testament was a shadow of the good things to come. It did not hold the substance of the good things to come, but pointed to it. Even the last prophet under the Old Testament that announced Jesus as the Lamb of God that took away the sins of the world, functioned only in types and shadows. The baptism which John the Baptist did was not the real baptism, it was a shadow of what was to come.

"I indeed baptise with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after men is mightier than I, whose shoes I am worthy to bear: he shall baptise you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire." Matthew 3:11

"And I knew him not: but that he should be made manifest

to Israel, therefore am I come baptizing with water...And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost.” John 1:31, 33

“Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.”

1 Corinthians 2:12

The Spirit which is of God simply means the Spirit of God and the believer has the same.

“What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.” 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Now, observe the progression: “...your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you...your Spirits which are God's. Therefore, the same way the body of the believer is of God, is the same way the Spirit of the believer is of God. What Spirit was Paul talking about here? “...*he that is joined together with the Lord is ONE SPIRIT*” 1 Corinthians 6:16.

Therefore, your spirit which is God's is the same as your

spirit which is of God, and this is the same as saying your spirit is the Spirit of God! The spirit of the believer is the Spirit which is of God; the Spirit of God!

So, there are no two Spirits in the believer, the Spirit of the believer after he heard and believed in the gospel is the Spirit which is of God and this is the same as or with the Spirit of God. They are one and the same! Hence, Paul kept using the phrases one Spirit, Same spirit, and self-same Spirit.

“But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.”
1 Corinthians 6:17

Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.

“And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as

he will. 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.” 1Corinthians 12:4 -13

The New Testament is the last and the only valid covenant that brings God and man together. It is the only acceptable basis upon which salvation can be realised. The blood of Jesus is not only superior but eternal. He does not only remit sins but produces His life in the heart of those that believe in His finished work of redemption. You cannot access God any other way but by the shed blood of Christ. You cannot succeed on your own, all success are predicated on our walking in the light of the New Testament. Bringing Old Testament laws into operation corrupts and renders the New Testament ineffective in your life. Lay hold on these truths you have read in this book and you shall lead a successful and victorious life on earth.



Dr Abel Damina is the founder and president of Abel Damina Ministries International and CEO of Kingdom Life Network (KLN) - A Christian satellite TV channel covering Africa, America, Canada, and parts of Asia. He is the Senior Pastor of Power City International, a multifaceted, multicultural, and multinational Gospel Centre where thousands meet weekly to worship God. He is also President of International Covenant Ministers Association (ICMA), a body that provides covering and ministerial resources for Ministers of the Gospel globally.

Dr. Abel Damina hosts the TV program Righteous Invasion of Truth (R.I.O.T.) on KLN (Africa) and KICC TV (Europe) through which millions are being transformed across the world. He is a recipient of many awards and honors for ecclesiastical excellence, and travels around the world preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ with demonstration of power.

He is happily married to his sweetheart, Rachel, and are blessed with three lovely girls - Jemima, Jesimiel, and Jeiel, the Triple J Plus singing sensation.

BIBLE INTERPRETATION MADE EASY

This book is written for the sole purpose of unveiling the Christ. To find out who you are, you must first know who He is.

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- The whole Bible is not the scriptures.
- The incarnation of Christ did not reveal God to us.
- The new creation is exclusively a product of Christ's resurrection.