

A PEOPLE AFTER THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK

Part One

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Through baptism our souls and spirits are made immortal. However, the restoration of our bodies will come about as well if we will just allow the word of God to shape and mold us into vessels that are prepared for the change. Sadly, most of us are influenced more by the world, its culture and religions, than we are the revelatory knowledge that is being released from God's Kingdom to prepare us for this day and age. Because of our mindsets, there will be trouble. Just as there was tension between the followers of Judaism, the religion of old Israel, and the new converts that believed the gospel as preached by Christ, or Christianity, so there will be mistrust, anger and hostility against those who are willing to move with God into the next phase of the church today. Before we go on however, let us look back for a moment in history.

JUDAISM

Judaism was established on the law, torah, the feasts, and the prophetic word of the Old Testament prophets. Did Yeshua come with His new gospel and covenant to destroy the law, the feasts, or to make the word of the Lord through the early fathers of no effect? No! He came to fulfill the law as well as the prophetic word, and even released new revelation concerning the feasts. You see, in the Old Testament, the feasts were kept, in the New Testament, Christ experienced them, even as we must experience them today. We are not under the law, but it is written on our hearts and the prophetic word is being fulfilled daily. Most of the church however gives little or no thought to the law, the feasts, or the prophetic word of the Lord through the Old Testament prophets, or today's prophets for that matter.

Since before the foundation of the world, Yahweh had a plan to restore man back to the original state he was in before the fall. Phase one: (Judaism) He would show mankind the proper way to walk by giving them the Torah. He would establish a highway of holiness that those who kept His laws and obeyed His voice through His messengers could walk on. Few, if any, walked on the King's

highway, however. No-one it seemed, could keep the law or be obedient to His voice through His prophets. All were at odds with the Lord.

Matt. 23:37-38

37 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but **you were not willing!**

38 "See! Your house is left to you desolate ;

It was time for phase two of the restoration.

CHRISTIANITY

With the birth, death and resurrection of the Lamb of God man's sin would be removed and he would be reconciled back to his creator.

2 Cor. 5:19

19 that is, that God was in Christ **reconciling the world to Himself**, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

Salvation through this new message would be offered to all people, but to

receive this wonderful gift, many changes would be required of those that would move from Judaism forward into the era of Christianity with God. Did Christianity destroy the law? No!

Rom. 3:31

31 Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law.

God wrote the law on our hearts and minds.

Heb. 10:16

16 "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days (Judaism), says the Lord: I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them,"

We were no longer judged by the law, as our sins are forgiven when we fall short of following them, but the laws were and still are our blueprint to living and walking as God's family. Did Christianity do away with the feasts? It shouldn't have! The feasts were meant to be experienced in each of our lives as we Passover from a lost state to salvation. We are to repent and let the blood of Christ cover our sins at Unleavened Bread, and be born again as a First Fruit. We

as new creatures have life breathed into us, and we are endowed with the personality and ability of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. We are given our call as to who we are in the body of Christ at the prophetic feast of Trumpets, and are encouraged to allow a deeper circumcision of our hearts at the apostolic feast of Atonement. It is here that we offer our lives as living sacrifices at the altar of incense in preparation for the feast of Tabernacles. As the church shifts from Christianity to the Church Eternal and the world moves into the eighth day, the true followers of Christ, that have allowed themselves to be prepared by the Holy Spirit, will experience the feast of Shimini Atzeret. These will not be under the law as in Judaism, nor will they just follow the law in their hearts as in Christianity, but they will become the law over all evil experiencing the feast of Simchat Torah.

There is much more to be understood concerning the feasts in our lives, but for now it is enough to see how most of the church has failed to experience them at all beyond Passover (salvation), and Unleavened Bread (repentance).

Did Christianity delete the prophetic word through God's early prophets? No! In fact the New Testament reveals much of the meaning found in the prophetic word of the Old Testament prophets.

God loved humanity so much that He not only provided a way for man to return to His favor through the death and resurrection of Christ, but through His grace He made provision for him to be born again also. Through baptism, one could be born a different creature that would have a fresh start as a child of God. They were the first fruits of Christianity. These born again ones were to be the true seed of Abraham with the hope of immortality as the manifested children of God. They were to be ones that would never die, but be changed, because they would have no sin to be cursed with any longer. They were to be a new breed, a different kind. They, like Jesus, were to walk according to the commandments of God out of love for Him, and their walk was to be “the way” for others to follow.

BUT THEY DIED!

So what has happened that we are not physically back to the original state of Adam and Eve before they fell, even though we are baptized Christians? There is no "one answer" to that one. Many things stand in the way. For one thing, while some are still trying to live under the law, others are ignoring the law altogether. These have become law-less. As stated before, God's people for the most part have walked more and more after the flesh, becoming enmeshed in the systems of the world and its culture, rather than seeking God's kingdom. They have

become rebellious, neglecting the word of God and their relationship with Him. Herein lies the real key. Generations of people have been born again, only to return to the way of fallen Adam (cursed and dying)! Why?

Largely because of church leadership that has itself walked back into the Adamic state. Sadly, we teach what we know, but we reproduce what we are, so much of the church has slidden backwards like their shepherds and are therefore under the same exact curses that Adam was under. What were these curses? Man would have to toil for a living, women would have pain through childbirth, and where she once was a co-ruler with man over this planet, she would for the most part be dominated by him as a lesser being. The worst part of the curse however, affected them both, along with all creation. God told them that they would die for their disobedience. The wages of sin is death. The situation that I'm trying to bring to light is that the new creature in Christ can slide backwards by returning to his old ways, his Adamic nature, and once again place himself under the curses.

Rom. 6:21-23

21 What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed?

For the end of those things is death.

22 But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your **fruit to holiness**, and the **end, everlasting life**.

23 For the **wages of sin is death** ;, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

So again we raise the question: If salvation is a gift, and it is, then why do we still die physical deaths? We must understand that to become immortal we must be a holy people in the image of a holy God. "**Be holy as I am holy**", God says. Sadly, much of the church has put out the false doctrine "once saved, always saved", so why should their people seek holiness, or even bother to learn how to take advantage of the provision of God to help them maintain a righteous existence. For the most part, the church walks in sinful compromise.

Rom. 6:15-16

15 What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace?

Certainly not!

16 Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, **whether of sin leading to death** , or of obedience leading to righteousness?

Heb. 6:4-6

4 For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit,

5 and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come,

6 if they fall away, to **renew them again to repentance** , since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame.

A feel good message has been preached by greedy shepherds so people would stay without being offended, the sword of truth is too sharp, and the collection plate was the only thing they cared about prospering. No real direction was given as to how to walk the highway of holiness or how to experience the feasts, and so most found their way right back to the tree of good and evil, the tree of intellect.

Side Note: See our book Highway of Holiness, chapter 2, for more on this subject, or chapter 6 for a more detailed explanation.

Because of the cross, sin had no hold over the newborn's life after death if they at least believed in Jesus and were repentant, or experienced the feasts of Passover and Unleavened Bread, therefore making their peace with God before they died. The spirit and soul of these were accepted by the Lord at their death, because of His mercy, but they still had to give up their physical life to become

one of the immortal.

For those of us who want to experience Shimini Atzeret and Simchat Torah to be 1 Corinthians 15:51 children, the seed of Abraham that are truly heirs of the promise according to Galatians 3: 27-29, we must not be afraid to be a minority that is both misunderstood and hated by the majority of the church world.

However, as we walk the highway of holiness into phase three, we will pass from Christianity to the Age of Immortality.