Volume 7

Revelations on Revelation Series Revelation 3:1-8

The knowledge of this world poisons the church.

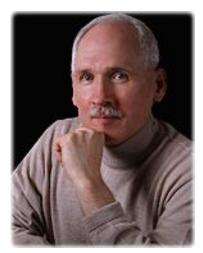
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Second 8th Week® Ministries



Revelations on Revelation Series

By Apostle Eric vonAnderseck



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What should we understand from the book of Revelation? End times Apostle and Prophet, Eric vonAnderseck's series "Revelations on Revelation", brings clarity to the epoch events that will soon be cast upon the world's stage. Make no mistake, the human race is about to enter into a time of judgment.

The day of reckoning is here! The world, having refused God's grace, will openly accept their false messiah and bring upon themselves utter destruction and sorrow, the likes of which no human eye has ever seen.

The book of Revelation is the disclosing of God's judgments upon man for having rejected His Christ. The Antichrist, False Prophet, and Dragon will come into power and fallen angels will again rule the world as in the days of Noah.

Demon locusts are released to plague mankind, angels pour out the judgment vials upon the earth, 1/3 of all waters are poisoned, earthquakes and tsunami remove all islands and many coastal cities, 2 billion people die in the first year of the Tribulation. In anguish the people cry out, "Hide us from the face of Him that sits upon His throne," (Revelation 6:16) for they know their judgment is just.

As things progress in the second half of the seven year tribulation, the Mahdi, having begun his religious reign will confirm the first Beast (Antichrist) as the messiah to join all religions into one. Upon this achievement the Antichrist will stand in the temple to join the Jews to this new world religion and make his proclamation, claiming the gospel scriptures to be prophetically written and not historically. To him, the Jesus of Nazareth stories was only a prototype of himself.

The Beast shouts out a scripture from Isaiah saying, "That you may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed" (Isaiah 43:10). Shrines of the image of the Beast will emerge in all places and the 'temple-banks' will issues credits to the faithful.

Not long after the resurrection of the two witnesses, Enoch and Elijah, and the second rapture (the rapture of the 144,000 elect and called ones), the Lord God Almighty will issue an order for the defeat of the three entities called the Antichrist, false Prophet, and the Dragon as they join forces to face off with Christ at Megiddo.

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Revelations on Revelation Series Transcription of Lecture by Apostle Eric vonAnderseck Revelation 3:1-8 Series:7 of 38 Lecture Date: June 01, 2008 Audio Quality (1-5): 2 (): Audio Time Hacks begin at **(4)** minutes and end at **(52)** minutes []: Notes added for clarity

Published By http://www.s8wministries.org/

Revelation Chapter 3

As God warned the church of the transitioned from the 1st 8th Week to the 6th, so God today is proclaiming and announcing the transition of the church from the 6th Week to the 2nd 8th Week and warning the church of the coming 7th Week of Tribulation.

Poisonous wormwood, by which God will contaminate one third the world's water supply is likened to the world's use of Satan's false knowledge, which has contaminated the faith of the church. God's last call is heard, "Come out from among them. You must untether yourself from the snares." Who will hear? As we continue on here, concerning the angel revealing to the Apostle John, the chief steward of the church, as Peter and James; they were giving instructions for correcting and bringing back into government (for the purpose of their refuge and oversight) and was writing these letters.

John, on the Isle of Patmos, was receiving these by the order of the Lord. Notice these angels as they appear—the angel of the Lord of these churches, was the power and authority of the church—the same angel being present, which sanctified the faith of the saints, even as (here) we see the Lord, who appeared to John, was sanctifying also the information he was receiving in order to give to them. So, we can see that this transition of the church always takes place at the hub of government. The transition of the church does not take place in the text; it takes place in the stewardship.

Stewardship sets the foundation of truth in the hearts of the saints for the purpose of (as the Apostle Paul brings out) reproof, rebuke, exhortation, and correction concerning doctrine¹. But the gifts of the Spirit are used for the purpose of edification, exhortation and comfort². And the church, not understanding these things, cross-wired these two forms of exhortation and instruction, thinking that the correction would come by the Spirit through the text, rather than that which is through the government of God.

So the transition of the church comes through the governance of the stewardship, the sanctified vessel, and not through the text, whereas it's left up to the interpretation of each individual. We can see that when the transition of the church was left in the hands of unsanctified stewards, that they tried to bring about a form of revival through text, whereas confusion will arise because each will take ownership of his own logic of the text.

So, the revelation that came to the Apostle John was for the purpose of a transition and bringing the church into the form of government. The Apostle John also, through this revelation, provided a template for the other epistles to reflect upon regarding the present state of the church and the transition that would again take place during the second 8th week.

We also see that the first 8th week was going to go through another transition, regarding the weeks, from the first 8th week into the 6th week, which was a time of darkness for the church; even as Israel went through a transition from Moses (the 4th week) to David (the 5th week), and then from David (5th week) it reached its apex during the time of Solomon.

And at that point in time, the temple being built was the praise of all the earth. But when hypocrisy entered into the temple, and faith was absent from the priesthood, we can see that there was great conflict and competition. And the competition arose through Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, who set up two idols and also established the worship of Baal in competition of the temple of Solomon.

^{1 2}Tim 3:16 All scripture [is] given by inspiration of God, and [is] profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

^{2 1}Cor 14:3 But he that prophesies speaketh unto men [to] edification, and exhortation, and comfort.

Dissension (4) and sedition and treachery arose between these two camps, like the gospel of Ishmael and the gospel of Isaac, or as the gospel of Cain rivaled (was in competition with) that of Abel.

A mighty angel appeared to John. What's interesting about these powerful angels is that they emit from their soul a substance manifesting a particular feeling, maybe even an electrical charge, which in effect has a turbulent effect on the minds and the hearts of the lesser beings (which includes us), which we view as a paranormal experience. This can result in a feeling of dizziness or weakness on vessels of flesh.

We see that in Daniel in his experience when Gabriel, an angel of high rank, appeared to him. He also felt weakness, and fear, and much trembling, as we also experience today when the angel of the Lord is present; even as it did during the times of Moses, when the angel appeared to Moses.

As we also see here in the book of Revelation, when the angel of the Lord appeared to John; he felt the same thing. That's why the Lord had to give him strength in the form of contact when he touched him.

Apostle John also felt a form of light-headedness and dizziness, he even felt heat, and electrical charges from the angel that was communicating to him, which was also causing a moment of trembling, disorientation, weakness, and fear. This is the presence of angels, and not something to be viewed as some kind of demonic manifestation.

When we were kept in the state of ignorance in the church, we would view any manifestation that produced some kind of paranormal effect upon us as being demonic **(6)**. But the church does not have to fear those things; as we see in the epistles—that we don't have to fear the devil because the presence of the angel of iniquity, his manifestation is through the tokens of envy, murder, and strife and deceit; as the Apostle Paul wrote about—concerning envy, and bitterness, and division³. That's the presence of the angel of iniquity.

But the holy angels of the Lord also possess great ranking and manifest themselves in these things (concerning) the fragrance of his orders, blessing the saints, making known the presence of the Lord, which we also accept as our shield. The presence of the Lord is the shield of the righteous.

These are things the church needs to understand that also we can have strong consolation in these things. So, here, in the book of Revelation, chapter 3, as we begin again,

^{3 &}lt;u>Rom 1:28-32</u> And even as they did not like to retain God in [their] knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; (29) Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, (30) Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, (31) Without understanding, covenant-breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: (32) Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

1: "and unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that has the seven Spirits of God,"

These spirits (again) distribute the knowledge and the presence of God under the orders, to the orders which are under them.

Now, there are angels that are also called, Thrones. They have no pier over them, only the Lord, himself. But God has selected them to perform certain tasks, filling them with all the necessary powers in order for them to oversee and to distribute authority and also to initiate those things God has assigned to them.

So, "The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein (8)", as the psalmist writes about (Ps. 24:1). And we can see that the prophet, David, wrote of these things, which gave him great confidence in those thing God assigned him to perform, taking him from among the sheepfolds, and sending him over to the tribes of Israel to be the light of Israel.

David was considered a candle to the Jews of his time because of his stewardship and the angel that worked with him. As also the angel that worked with Jesus to establish a record for our faith in the second covenant. And the Spirit led him in the wilderness to be tempted of the devil⁴.

It's kind of interesting that the Spirit did not shield him from controversy or conflict, but (rather) the Spirit *led him into* the circumstances of reward. And receiving the tokens of reward, these are the things he was establishing for our experience, so that as we overcome the Lord continually provides tokens of reward for us: enlarging of the heart, the measure of grace being increased, our understanding is increasing, our faith is increasing in all utterance, knowledge, and charity. These are the tokens God gives to those who overcome.

What are we overcoming? We'll read about this here in chapter 3. He that overcomes...what are we overcoming? We're overcoming our perception, we're overcoming our personal feelings; that the knowledge God gives to us is for the purpose of rebuke, as we see also in Titus 2:15⁵ "Let no man despise you", as Paul was telling Titus; "*but be ye an example of believers*" as he said in another place— "*in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, and in purity*" as he said to Timothy⁶. In Titus he says (10), "*rebuke, exhort, and correct*"⁷, and he also said that to Timothy.

These things were given for the purpose of the stewardship in order to oversee the direction of the church, that it would not fall into apostasy. And as Paul said again, "Not that we have dominion over your faith, but are helpers of your joy."⁸

^{4 &}lt;u>Mat 4:1</u> Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

^{5 &}lt;u>Tts 2:15</u> These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee.

⁶ 1<u>Tim 4:12</u> Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

⁷_<u>Tts 2:15</u> These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee.

^{8 &}lt;u>2Cor 1:24</u> Not for that we have dominion over your faith, but are helpers of your joy: for by faith ye stand.

We're not here for the purpose of dominating your choices, but rather for helping you and directing you in your choices, that as you continue to choose faith, the Lord continues to reward you with these tokens.

"He that overcomes will I grant to eat of the tree of life."⁹ "He that overcomes will not be hurt of the second death."¹⁰ "He that overcomes I will give to eat of the hidden manna." and "He that overcomes I will give him a white stone."¹¹ Now, a lot of these things we look upon as rather insufficient for our present distress, but these tokens, which he grants to us, have [more] far reaching effect and reward than just for your present distress.

These tokens that he grants to us, which all who overcome shall inherit— "all those who overcome shall inherit all things"¹², for God has provided richly these tokens. But the choices you make also will determine other rewards, which God has reserved for those that overcome.

The overcomers, all of us receive the same rewards in the end, yet we also receive different (12) portions in the end, like [for example] the martyr's reward. The martyr's reward and those that endure until the end are two different rewards; those that endure to the end—the consistency of your faith is the greatest reward. The martyr's reward has a certain brightness, and the overcomer's reward, in your consistencies, are those that will first see the Lord.

Also the portions of your dimensions will be different, as the children of Israel received different portions and lots; when they came into their province. Notice that the portion of Judah was greater than the portion of Simeon. And also the portions that were granted to Manasseh were split in two; as also that which was of Ephraim—being sons of Joseph, their lot was then included within the inheritance of Jacob (or Israel). So, there's going to be different levels concerning rewards, but all who overcome will receive the overcomers rewards.

The rewards of your fruit are going to be different than the rewards of your overcoming; those of your consistencies are those things that have to do with your fruit bearing. God rewards you according to your fruit.

This is what was rather astounding when the Lord was teaching his apostles about the parables. He taught about those that had the 5 talents, the 3, and the 1. And he that had 5 talents gained 5 more, as concerning cities, as an example of that. And those that stood by listening to this said, But Lord, he has 5 already. Why don't you give to the

⁹ Rev 2:7 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

^{10 &}lt;u>Rev 2:11</u> He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.

^{11&}lt;u>Rev 2:17</u> He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth [it].

¹² Rev 21:7 He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

person that has less? That's because the person that has the most are those that have the experience and insight, discerning good and evil. So in the very end, the fruit that you bear will also determine the issuance of the size of the inheritance.

But he that overcomes shall inherit all things, as we read on in the book of Revelation. (You might want to keep some of these things in mind.)

You can see that both these things were brought to the attention of the church—that of your own consistency. That's why those that are slow in their continuance will also have few rewards, as the Lord also gives us different intensities of light, different powers (14).

Everything that God gives to us will be with us throughout eternity. But (again) the rewards depend upon the fruit that you bear. That's why you want to give all diligence to these things that you could be saved, so that not only will you receive the same rewards for overcoming, as all of us who overcome will partake of the tree of life, and all of us that overcome will receive a white stone, and all of us will receive that new name, and all of us will be as pillars in the temple of our Lord. But the intensity of your fruit in the very end (will be) like the basket—you can put either a couple of apples in the basket, or you can fill the basket to overflowing, depending upon the individual.

If you want to remain a baby all your life, then don't apply yourself with the tools of the covenant—or--scarcely apply yourself with the tools of the covenant. But I will greatly emphasize that your prayer life, will play (count as) the greatest determining factor in the very end because through prayer the mind remains humble before God, you learn the fear of the Lord, and you also begin to grow in wisdom, knowledge, and in your understanding. You have to grow into these things.

When we were in the false religious system we always severed the work of the Spirit from the Spirit; we put the work of the Spirit (according to) our own individual choices. But the work of the Spirit is not in your individual choices, severed from the work of the covenant, but it's included within the covenant (not severed from it). We began to look at holiness as a separate work of regeneration, that holiness was concerning a particular lifestyle of the flesh, when it has to do with the lifestyle of the priesthood.

In the false religious system, we viewed holiness as a separate entity and work, so that we saw holiness as the last (16) frontier—when the church enters into its holiness, we will need to become holy unto the Lord, and then perhaps at that point in time there will be revival.

That's a strong delusion; they have severed holiness from sanctification. And when you isolate holiness from sanctification, you also look at miracles, healings, and deliverance as also isolated from the Giver.

When people do that they're looking for some kind of secret formula, like a 10 step formula in order to be more holy, or a 12 step plan to try to find your deliverance or your purpose in God's kingdom. So the purpose-driven life is then independent of the covenant. And you're trying (then) to discover yourself and your potentials apart from the work of regeneration. So, regeneration, severed from the covenant, becomes an act of the flesh. And what happens with the act of the flesh, emulation takes place. The tokens are different, and the outcome is as the spirit of antichrist. And what did Jesus say? "I'll sever them and put them aside with the hypocrites, in the very end."¹³

Using all diligence with these tokens that God has provided for us for the increase of His kingdom, that we're not to think in terms of selfishness, for God has granted this time for you to grow. You don't want to selfishly use this time for the purpose of trying to gain everything of the pleasures of this world.

Part of your circumcision has to do with correcting your perspective, healing that broken bone, so you're no longer standing in doubt of what God's will is for your life. Rather, you're standing on the strong leg, with the title of Israel—the true Israel of God is those who are of faith (18).

"And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; these things saith he that has the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars;"

We talked about that earlier, concerning the seven Spirits of God, that these are entities, which God has created that represent certain portions of himself.

Can you imagine that having the fulness of these entities within yourself, not separate as separate individuals speaking, but rather as one power? This is what God is going to do concerning Christ's fullness. So, we see here, the portions of God manifesting themselves.

How would you like all these portions to be put back into that one pie? That is yours completely, not in part anymore. You don't have to take a slice of the pie, you can have the whole thing...like buying popcorn in the movie theater—you can indulge yourself in the whole thing; everything that's in there is yours.

The seven Spirits of God, we talked about that earlier, regarding their names. And we can see that the seven Spirits of God are manifested: Radweriel, Serapiel, Opanniel, Kerubiel, Hayliel, Rikbiel, Soperiel YHWY, and the other Soperiel YHWY. There's 8 great princes, and the two are one. The reason why the Lord put portions of himself in these 8 great princes (which are thrones, having no pier over them) was to show us Christ in part.

Now, when Christ comes in us, and we experience his fulness, these no longer will be issued to us in part, but God will give us the same capacity he has, that we can function as him, as an equal, as a god in the third covenant. This is God's plan. That's why we're traveling (as) migrating, traveling through this dimension as strangers and pilgrims (20); not strangers to God, but strangers to those of the moral code. And we're pilgrims because we are not homesteading in this dimension of death.

^{13&}lt;u>Mat 24:51</u> And shall cut him asunder, and appoint [him] his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Why would you want to homestead in the dimension of death? That's like trying to set up a tent in a hurricane; you're trying to establish some kind of residence in something that's uncertain.

Our residence is not within this dimension; it's within God himself. God is our inheritance, as the Lord said: "I will be their God, and they will be my people." And God, himself, is our inheritance, as we are also the inheritance of the Lord. We are heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, as the Apostle Paul brings out.¹⁴

Now, all said about that, the seven Spirits, we can see how they have diversity of operation, but they're of the same spirit. They're working right from the authority of the throne. And that's what we're doing. We are following suit; we have imitators of the throne, we are children of light, we're children of the day, the Apostle Paul brings out. We're no longer of night, nor of darkness¹⁵, nor are we of drunkenness¹⁶. That means we see things clearly.

Under the influence of false knowledge everything takes a form of obscurity, that means, we're in the state of uneasiness, a state of nausea. False knowledge will nauseate the soul, and it puts you in a state of uncertainty, as it brings out in the book of Proverbs—as he that is lashed to the top of a mast.¹⁷

When you're lashed to the top of a mast, you're going to get rather seasick, as the mast of the ship is going to and fro (22) with every wave and with every trough of the swells of the ocean. That is the way of the knowledge of this world; it's to and fro, back and forth.

And that's the way also in which Satan initiates his knowledge. As soon as he feels he's in fear of being discovered, he sets his weight on the other foot, so that "her ways are movable, that you cannot know them"¹⁸

But the ways of God are established and firm, as the Apostle Peter brings out, that we are now strengthened, stablished, and settled within him¹⁹, that we're no longer tossed about with every wind of doctrine²⁰ as Paul said.

So here, we're going to receive of the fulness of the Lord, but right now we behold him in part. And God has given us these portions through the gifts he has provided richly for us to know him and see him (through these things), that we would continually behold the face of the Lord (through) prayer, preaching, prophecy, government, truth, and Spirit,

^{14&}lt;u>Heb 8:10</u> 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:

 $^{15\}underline{1Thes 5:5}$ Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

^{16&}lt;u>1Thes 5:7,8</u> For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night. (8) But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.

¹⁷ Pvb23:34 Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of the sea, or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast.

¹⁸ Pvb 5:6 Lest thou shouldest ponder the path of life, her ways are moveable, [that] thou canst not know [them].

^{19&}lt;u>1Pet 5:10</u> But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle [you].

²⁰ Eph 4:14 That we [henceforth] be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, [and] cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

the gifts, the callings, and the graces of God.

The Apostle Paul expounds on that in 1Cor 12, 13, and 14, particularly in chapter 14, where he shows the two primary colors of these tokens—prophecy and tongues.

"I know your works," he says here in chapter 3 verse 1, "I know your works" the activity of your priesthood; that the God-Code connected to faith will continually bring more increase within your soul that will not be wasted.

These are the treasures that are laid up for you in heaven. These are the treasures, which the rust cannot corrupt, nor the thief break through and steal, nor the moth eat.²¹ These tokens do not diminish with time, but the tokens of the world diminish with time, with corruption, with death.

The tokens God gives to you identify your sovereignty, but the tokens of this world work death. If you embrace the tokens of this world, at the time of your passage, when you depart out of this dimension, you have nothing for your sovereignty to work with; you become a slave forever concerning death and sin.

"I know your works" concerning the activity of your priesthood "that you have a name" (24) The name here, has to do with what you're identifying with— "that you live, and are dead." Interesting.

He said, that you live—the knowledge you have received you embrace, but yet you're dead (with regards to) being severed from government.

The letter I'm writing to you is for the purpose of bringing you back under the government and stewardship (the sanctified stewardship); as the Apostles James and Peter both wrote their letters, their epistle to those that were scattered abroad to bring them under the care of stewardship. If not, then you're going to be double minded, and your faith, without the proper stewardship, is dead. (Faith without works is dead.) And your faith, being expressed in the priesthood, which you're embracing, will not be valid with God.

Notice when Moses went up into the mount, after the passage of time the people got bored and decided to choose their own leadership, and they insisted on Aaron (who was part of the stewardship, but was severed from the government at this time). And he became susceptible to the wishes and aspirations of the people.

^{21&}lt;u>Mat 6:20</u> But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

This is what's happened in the false religious system today. Without the anointed stewardship their priesthood became defiled. And they said, "Let us make a god to go before us; let us make a Jesus that we can associate with and have a relationship with." But the Jesus they made is a silent Jesus; it's the Jesus of money, it's the Jesus of the aspiration and the principle.

And Aaron's stewardship was put in a state of corruption at that point. So, when Moses came back, he investigated it, and said, What did these people to you in order for you to make this transgression?²² And Aaron said, You know the hearts of this people, that they're bent on their own morality and their own vices.²³

And that's the state of the church today; it's bent on their own morality and their own vices. They've created a Jesus, which is a lifeless Jesus (26).

In the house of the Lord, the Lord is living, and you behold the face of the Lord every day. I behold the face of the Lord everyday in the tokens that he's given to me. I behold the face of the Lord; I constantly reflect upon the grace, which he has given to me, and he issues more and more and more grace.

If you want the grace of God to increase toward you, then you have to use and savor that which God has given to you. Use it. If you don't use it, then you're abusing it, and if you're abusing it, it falls into the state of decay. How does the grace of God fall into the state of decay? Because it goes beyond the time of limitation.

The time of limitation we can also see when the children of Israel gathered manna: Those who gathered manna and held on to it, it bred worms, according to the word of the Lord. If you don't savor to what you gain, then it's going to breed worms and it's going to become (or turn) from a type of blessing to a curse.

In the false religious system we have pots and bowls full of worms; the grace that God gave to them for salvation, they never entered into covenant with God. They can't understand why the manna tastes different—Wow, when I ate this manna yesterday it was delicious in my mouth, but today it's rather crunchy and tastes a little different. In fact, my manna is moving around in my bowl. It breeds worms. That's the gospel of the false religious system.

God gives grace for salvation, and they savor it for the moment and rejoice in what they have received, but not being directed in the terms of the covenant, their priesthood falls into decay, and they end up eating worms. And that's what the church has been doing—they've been dining on worms.

When they hear the gospel of truth they don't understand—Why is it that your manna tastes different than my manna? And we have to say, Well, did you ever look at the expiration date in the bowl, on that which you have there? Notice that it's beyond the

²² Ex 32:21 And Moses said unto Aaron, What did this people unto thee, that thou hast brought so great a sin upon them?

^{23&}lt;u>Ex 32:22</u> And Aaron said, Let not the anger of my lord wax hot: thou knowest the people, that they [are set] on mischief.

expiration date (28). Wouldn't it be good to rather smell the milk before you drink it? You've been gobbling down that spoiled milk.

Well, that's what the false religious system has done...what they have done, and what they're doing right now, is they keep changing the expiration date on that manna, and it's still old. And their revival centers around the expiration date, rather than the living grace of God. So they have stinky manna. They have to do what the stewardship tells them to do. And God continually tests their hearts.

That's what Moses said, Today is the 6th day. I want you to go out and gather twice as much [today] as you did during the week, because tomorrow, there's not going to be any manna out there, and you'll have to reflect upon that which you have received today. That's why it's important that you continually build on the grace of God.

This is what we teach our students: the first thing you need to understand is, not only government, but you have to understand what grace is. If you don't understand what grace is, then you become rather careless in your understanding of the things of the Lord. And you want to hoard the knowledge of God, but not using it, it just breeds worms, and then you can't understand why your priesthood is ineffective.

Why is it I'm not overcoming? Why is it we keep experiencing the same cycles of growth? The Lord keeps giving the same dreams over and over again. Well, have you ever considered the manna you're eating? It's beyond the expiration date. And (what about) your priesthood? Are you standing before the altar of the Lord, or are you sleeping in a side chamber there, as the prophets wrote about in the old testament?

These are as lazy dogs, loving their sleep, loving their slumber. And the wine that is given for the sacrifices of the Lord, the priest is taking and indulging himself in the chambers. Not only is he bored, he's depressed. And under that form of influence, you're wondering, Where's the priest? Well, he's over there, he's like a bum in an alley, he's sitting over there, indulging himself in the alcohol (30). Well, he can't approach the altar of the Lord in that state. He'd end up falling in the altar, wouldn't he?

And that's the state of the church today in the false religious system. They're as lazy dogs, loving their slumber. And they're indulging themselves in the things that keep them ineffective at the altar of God.

The stewardship, of which the Apostle John as the chief apostle and steward in the house of God here, was writing these letters for the purpose of putting the people in mind of their responsibility of the covenant. So he says,

2: "Be watchful,"

You're dead right now, but you need to wake up. You need to start functioning in your priesthood. So,

"Be watchful"

Be watchful in what? Be watchful in prayers.

Use the tools of the covenant. Set aside the time that's necessary for you to engage with God, praying in the Spirit, praying in tongues. "*Be watchful and strengthen the things which remain,"*

He says here in verse 2, "Be watchful" in prayer, and build. Keep your vessel full of faith, "and strengthen the things", the tools, "which remain, that are ready to die: going beyond their expiration date. Seek the Lord, put aside your flawed logic, and stand in the reason of his grace.

The logic of man has the barriers of the moral code, which has to do with the things he was speaking on—the false knowledge and Satan's tethering kept them in the state of inactivity. They're as a corpse, and their activity is that of the brute beast, which the Apostle Jude also brings out, the things of the brute beast...those that are living by instinct,²⁴ but not living by faith. So he says here,

"the things" the tools "that remain," they're ready to die, they're ready to diminish in their power if you don't use them.

If you want that fresh taste of manna, then you have to use it. The grace of God is present at this time in order to indulge. Eat as much as you want (32) because the more you eat, the more you're going to get.

That's the same thing Jesus did—he showed the transition from Moses to himself when he fed the 5000; as Moses fed the people in the wilderness... "It wasn't really Moses that fed them; it was my Father", Jesus said.²⁵ "Those that partook of the physical things are dead today, but the knowledge I'm giving you is eternal, and I'm showing you the transition from Moses to myself; as it was said, 'The Lord shall raise up a prophet like unto you, Moses, and unto him shall the people hearken.''²⁶

There's going to be a transition taking place of covenants; a transition of covenants will be fulfilled in Christ. Jesus broke the bread and gave it to the apostles, and the apostles (which is the stewardship) gave it to the people. A form of contact identifying Jesus as the master of virtues, as the King of kings; that what Jesus was issuing never was exhausted, but the more they ate, the more they got. And there was so much, they had 12 baskets full remaining.

^{24&}lt;u>Jud 1:10</u> But these speak evil of those things which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those things they corrupt themselves.

^{25&}lt;u>Jn 6:32</u> Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven.

^{26&}lt;u>Deut18:18</u> I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him.

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The grace of God is rich toward those that partake of it. But "*God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.*"²⁷ Those that engage God, setting aside the logic of their own experience of life, taking on the reason of faith will continually behold the face of the Lord and dine on his virtues, and increase in the knowledge of God, increase in the faith.

That's what the apostles asked Jesus, "Lord, would you increase our faith?" (Lk 17:5). Wow, we'd like to have the faith like that.

When we were in the false religious system, faith was always severed from the grace of God, and faith was always some kind of secret formula; Lord, could you teach us the secret formula, that I could cast out devils like you? Well, why would you want to do that? Because I could get a great name. I could be a celebrity. I could start my own ministry. I could start a deliverance ministry.

In other words, I could be the token of the hour. That's what Jezebel did (34). And what did the Lord say to Jezebel? "I will kill her children with death."²⁸ In other words, the school of her theology, which she founded upon that which God gave to her, had a lot of discrepancies within it because it was severed from government. And God says in the false prophetic movement, "It was of the depths of Satan". All they were doing was prophesying of their own demise; they were trying to resolve their issues and relationships through prophecy, and that's not what prophecy is for.

Prophecy is not for the purpose of resolving your issues of life, or speaking into somebody's life—that's false prophetic movement. We can see that just as it was the false prophetic movement in the first century church (as we're reading about right here) so it also emerged in the times of the prophets. There were false prophets, which all they did was (they) spoke the promises of God, but they never brought the people into covenant.

And it's the same thing today in the false prophetic movement, which the false religious system exalted as a great move of God. But now, where is it today? It stands in great question and also in great reproach.

"Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain,"

the tools I have given to you, savor them, partake of them. I'll give you more. And those "(things) *that are ready to die:"*

diminish in their expiration date,

"for I have not found your works perfect before God."

In other words, the God-Code²⁹ within you is being capped with the works of death.

If you want your priesthood to be perfect, keep your vessel full of faith. I want you to reflect upon these things, as the Apostle John said to them.

^{27&}lt;u>1Pet 5:5</u> Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all [of you] be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resistent the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.

^{28&}lt;u>Rev 2:23</u> And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works.

²⁹ Learn more about the "God-Code" at: <u>http://www.s8wministries.org/lesson.php?id=111&lesson=the-god-code</u>

3: "Remember"

Would you reflect upon the things I gave you? "*Remember therefore how you have received"* them Who did you receive them from? Why you received them from us at the very beginning.

Therefore don't despise government, which in the last days, they will despise dignities and speak evil of them.³⁰

Why? Because those that are in the position of stewardship continually will challenge their aspirations, and they don't want anybody to challenge their aspirations. They want their aspiration to be faith, they want their principle to be truth, and they want their covetousness to be honored by God. And God will not honor one's covetousness because covetousness itself is evidence of the lack of faith, whereas in the **(36)** absence of faith covetousness begins to emerge, and becomes dominating in the thinking of the people.

Today, the gospel that's being preached today in the false religious system is emphasizing these very same things, the stumbling stones, which [regarding] those of the children of Israel, had to do with the wealth of the nations.

The wealth of the nations was the stumbling stone of the Jewish people. And it's the same thing today in the church. We see speakers (televangelists, tele-teachers) come on to tell us how to get rich: Here, Read my book! I'll tell you how to get rich. That's the covetousness. And they look at covetousness as sanctified by God....They say, Well, doesn't God promise this? That we can have a hundred fold? No, God never promised that you'd have a hundred fold.

The people that are preaching this gospel are preaching to the aspiration of the people. They're not increasing your faith, but they're trying to *claim* that it's increasing faith. God abhors the covetous; he doesn't bless the covetous, he abhors them.

But we have all these people writing *How To* books on how to get rich. Now we have even the apostles of finance in the church. They're on every day telling you and prophesying to you, telling you how to get wealth. Don't listen to the spoilers. This is what the Lord says. He is admonishing the church right now, Come out from among them.³¹ You must untether yourself from these snares...the health and the wealth of the nations. That was the very stumbling stone of those of that century—the priesthood and the Levites (**38**). It was their covetousness that brought great condemnation upon the people. And it's covetousness today that's bringing great condemnation on the church.

"*Remember therefore how you have received and heard, and hold fast, and repent."* You have to abandon these things: you have to abandon the practice, you have to

^{30 2}Tim 3:1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. Jud 1:8 Likewise also these (filthy) dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities; 2Pet 2:10 But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous [are they], self-willed, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities.

^{31&}lt;u>2Cor 6:17</u> Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean [thing]; and I will receive you,

abandon the aspirations, you have to abandon that perception, and only by the circumcision of the Spirit can that happen.

Therefore, you have to remember, you're forced to remember, you're forced to reciprocate according to this covenant. . .the covenant of Jesus.

"Remember therefore how you have received and heard, and hold fast, and repent." You have to embrace this for increase, and you have to abandon, and come out from among them and be separate, if you want to survive. "But he that endures to the end shall be saved."³² As the Lord has said, "Will I find faith on the earth?"³³

If therefore you shall not watch,"

That's at the altar.

What are you watching?

You're watching at the altar. That's what the Apostle Peter said, concerning the altar: "*Casting all your care upon him; for he cares for you"* (1Pet 5:7). If you want God to be involved with your life, then you have to partake of the altar because it's there that you're going to find the substance of your strength—grace, truth, the tokens of the Spirit.

"If you therefore shall not watch, I will come on you as a thief,"

A thief does not announce his presence.

A thief wants to spoil the house before you get home. And Satan is considered as a thief. A thief (what he wants to do), he will tear apart the whole house looking for what he wants.

And the spoilers are doing the same thing today; they're as a thief. In the absence of stewardship they are spoiling the hearts of the righteous, spoiling the hearts of the saints. The people that really want to find God, that really want to do his will are being ensnared by these spoilers who keep them in the trance or hypnosis of the promises (40).

It was Satan that hypnotized Eve by taking a shortcut to divinity, by partaking of a physical element... "If you eat of this, then your eyes will be opened." His promise, what he said, definitely happened, her eyes were opened, but not in respect of that which was of good, but that which was in respect of evil.

The shortcuts of the system, which Satan was promising to Eve, is still the same gospel that's being preached today in the temples of Baal; shortcuts to divinity—just embrace the promise, and God will initiate and pour forth all his goodness towards you in order to support your aspiration and your covetousness. But that is a lie.

^{32&}lt;u>Mat 24:13</u> But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

^{33&}lt;u>Lk 18:8</u> I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?

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We know that's a lie because God doesn't work with the tokens of Satan. Even as Jesus himself said, "*The prince of this world comes, and has no place in me.*"³⁴ "He has no part in me."

"The tokens of Satan's kingdom are tokens of death. They cannot function within my kingdom. But my kingdom will prevail against his kingdom, because we're going to bring his kingdom to ashes, and upon those ashes, I will establish my throne in this dimension." We see that in the book of Revelation.

The history of God is what we prophesy; we prophesy the things that are to come. This is the Spirit of prophesy which is on the lips of all the righteous. We continually prophesy of Christ and his work and his redemption. We're prophesying of those things that have already been established in the history of God.

Our conscience carries this testimony. And the gospel being preached continually addresses the testimony of God in the conscience, of all that will appear. "*And he that has the ears to hear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.*"³⁵ The history of God has already been imprinted in the conscience of every Adamite. And the gospel that is being preached, continually testifies of these things. And those that have ears to hear will reciprocate with faith, that their conscience is in line with God (42), tethered to his throne.

But those that resist the grace of God want the history of their flesh to be the heritage of their destiny. And it won't be; that is a lie.

When Satan did not accept the history of God, that is, he affronted God to change the history that was already written....How can you change history? You can't change history.

"*I am the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord*"³⁶; "I know the end from the very beginning"³⁷ because everything that is unfolding at this present time has already been done in the bosom of the Father. How can you change it? You can't change it.

The righteous continually prophesy, and confirm, and conform to the history of God. And their conscience bears witness with this; the Apostle Paul said, "*My conscience bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost*"³⁸—My conscience carries the testimony of God in faith, that "*God is true, and every man is a liar*".³⁹

The record of man is a lie; it stands against the history of God and wants to establish its

^{34&}lt;u>Jn 14:30</u> Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.

^{35 &}lt;u>Rev 2:29</u> He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

^{36&}lt;u>Rev 1:8</u> I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty

^{37&}lt;u>Isa 46:10</u> Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times [the things] that are not [yet] done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:

³⁸ Rom 9:1 I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost,

^{39&}lt;u>Rom 3:4</u> God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged.

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own testimony. But God will remove both root and fruit and the memorial of man "*shall* never be renowned"⁴⁰. It shall be removed from the earth as a weed, as a plant that doesn't bear forth fruit. It shall be chopped down, "*hewn down*"⁴¹, because "*Every plant* which my heavenly Father has not planted shall be removed"⁴². And even as the Apostle John said, (as Jesus said), "The axe is laid to the root of the trees".⁴³

And it's happening right now. The axe of truth is removing the fruitless trees. These are trees that don't bear fruit—"*without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots"*, as the Apostle Jude said.⁴⁴

"I will come on you as a thief"

I will spoil the spoilers,

"and you shall not know what hour I will come upon you."

The hour of his presence is now; the eye of the Lord is beholding the conscience of the righteous. And by beholding the conscience of the righteous, when faith is exhibited, the reward is forthcoming; he will reward you with grace upon grace, and faith upon faith (44), and righteousness upon righteousness, and he will bestow richly of his treasures. God is not stingy. He's giving you himself as an inheritance. How could that be stingy? It's not stingy at all.

4: "You have a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments;"

concerning the garments of the priesthood and the tools, which they use... and (they've) not been contaminated, and their conscience remains pure before me.

Not everyone is contaminated. Here he's addressing those whose conscience has been contaminated by false knowledge and by tools of error: tithing is a tool of error, circumcision is a tool of error, baptism (water) is a tool of error, (physical) communion is a tool of error; same thing also with the pew and the stained glass windows—are tools of error. They are *error* because they do not assist your faith in overcoming. All they are is false tokens; they might bring closure to the imagination, but they do not bring the fulness of Christ in the heart.

So, those whose garments are still white, he says,

"and they shall walk with me in white:"

in white, has to do with the pureness of the conscience, which is also the clothing of the holy city, New Jerusalem, the Mother of us all.

^{40&}lt;u>Isa 14:20</u> Thou shalt not be joined with them in burial, because thou hast destroyed thy land, [and] slain thy people: the seed of evildoers shall never be renowned.

^{41&}lt;u>Lk 3:9</u> And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: every tree therefore which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

⁴² Mat 15:13 But he answered and said, Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up.

^{43&}lt;u>Mat 3:10</u> And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

^{44&}lt;u>Jud 1:12</u> These are spots in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear: clouds [they are] without water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots;

She is clothed with the righteousness of the saints; that is our conscience being reflected there. And God says, "Do you see this what she's clothed with? That is your conscience. Do not reflect on anything less than me. If you reflect on your frailty, you're going to transgress against me."

The gospel that's being preached from the pulpit in the house of Baal is always addressing the fractures of Adam's character; it's always addressing his issues, his psyche, and his circumstances.

The gospel is not man's psyche and circumstances, it's about Jesus Christ.

"You have a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments;" or, soiled their priesthood, "and they shall walk with me in white:" which (again) reflects the conscience; "for they are worthy." (46) their reward is equivalent to their faith.

The reward is equivalent to your faith. We see this in the book of Revelation. That's why the Lord is going to judge the mother of harlots, "*double unto her double*"⁴⁵. What she has defiled she must dine upon. And what she dines upon is her own poison.

We see this in the opening chapter of the tribulation, where wormwood will be sprinkled throughout the third of the world from the water reserves. Reservoirs of the world will be so contaminated that those that drink of them will be poisoned; thinking that they're quenching their thirst, they'll be poisoning their body.

That's the knowledge of this world; that's the prince of the powers of the air that works in the children of disobedience.⁴⁶ whose garments are soiled (which is their conscience).

5: "He that overcomes,

Again, the word, overcome; you might want to highlight there in verse 5...overcoming

You're overcoming yourself because you're overcoming these particular things: you're overcoming yourself, which is the moral code; you're overcoming yourself, Satan, and the world. You're overcoming Satan's wiles, his tricks, his distractions. And you're overcoming the world, which has to do with the systems of flattery—the 3 Fs—fantasy, flattery, and finance.

Everything that the world exalts is an abomination to God because everything the world exalts lends certain credibility to their imagination. But that which lends credibility to the imagination is a credibility of a lie because it's going to perish. It doesn't produce faith, and it puts them in a state of wrath, not in the state of grace, but a state of wrath.

^{45&}lt;u>Rev 18:4-6</u> And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. (5) For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities. (6) Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double.

⁴⁶ Eph 2:2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

That's what the great tribulation is about. God is smiting the earth because of the defiled conscience, that they refused the testimony of God and his Christ.

"He that overcomes, the same shall be clothed in white raiment;" which means, it's Christ's light and priesthood (48).

And look what he says—

"and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life,"

God *will* blot out all offenses, but he will not blot out your name out of the book of life which means, he *can* do that. God can blot out the name of the transgressor, but the name of the righteous is inscribed. And your name only remains on the ledge as long as you remain consistent with your priesthood.

"I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name" Now, this is a very important thing. This is the same language that Jesus used in Matthew: *"He that confesses me before men, I will also confess before my Father which is in heaven."*⁴⁷

The word, confess, has to do with, he's assigning an honor. (When he says), "I will confess", the word, confess, isn't just a passing thought. It's not name dropping, as the sinners use. Sinners use name dropping for association for the honor in respect of the people. But that's not the case in God's kingdom.

In the case in God's kingdom, when the Lord says, "*I will confess before men*", he's bringing forth your name as a point of honor, and the angels, hearing your name, will respect you and will not put the plagues of this world on you.

This is an honor, which all the righteous carry, that we are free of the plagues of this world; when God puts his mark upon you. We see this also in the book of Ezekiel. When the angel had the inkhorn, and the angel with the inkhorn and the six angels that had swords followed him⁴⁸. And what was the world of the Lord to Ezekiel?

"You see this man here? And this inkhorn? Every vessel that does not bear my name, every vessel that's contrary to me, every vessel that has idols in their hearts will not possess the mark of his inkhorn⁴⁹; they will die. And begin at my house **(50)**."

^{47&}lt;u>Mat 10:32</u> Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.

^{48&}lt;u>Ezek 9:2</u> And, behold, six men came from the way of the higher gate, which lieth toward the north, and every man a slaughter weapon in his hand; and one man among them [was] clothed with linen, with a writer's inkhorn by his side: and they went in, and stood beside the brasen altar.

⁴⁹ Eze 9:4-6 And the LORD said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof.
(5) And to the others he said in mine hearing, Go ye after him through the city, and smite: let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity: (6) Slay utterly old [and] young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom [is] the mark; and begin at my sanctuary. Then they began at the ancient men which [were] before the house.

That's exactly what Peter said; "*If judgment begins in the house of God, what shall be the end of those that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ?*"⁵⁰ The judgment is beginning at the house of God. God is cleaning house now, at this time in the second 8th week. He's preparing his people for himself. He's preparing his people for his throne.

If you want the mark of Christ within you, then carry faith in the conscience. He will confess your name before his angels, and they will take delight in your presence when they behold your chaste conversation coupled with the fear of the Lord, always in respect of his grace.

"but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels." That's exactly what Jesus said.

Again, it's not name dropping or a passing thought, it is put right out before the angels of respect: "You see this person down there? This person carries my image. You are to respect them, and you are to engage with them with my blessing. You are to bestow unto them my grace. My word is their food, and they dine on me. You're to provide richly of my table for them, that they may eat and not hunger, and that they may drink and not thirst."

"He that overcomes, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels."

because we carry the record of Christ.

6: "*He that has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says unto the churches."* because the voice of the Lord is heard of those of grace, because "*My sheep hear my voice*"⁵¹, saith the Lord.

But those whose ears are dull of hearing, it's because their ears are only open to the voice of the moral code. They only want to hear the things that lend credibility to their own works, but they're works of iniquity. And they're going to cry out in that day before the Lord, "Lord, Lord, Look at our works (52); didn't we do all these great things in your name, as concerning the widow and the orphan, and we established all these things for those that had need; we cast out devils; we even prophesied in your name, Lord."⁵²

But the Lord testified and said, "*I do not know you.* You do not have the reflection of my image within your faith. I see Satan's face I your soul. I see your garments have been moth eaten, and the rust has corrupted your thinking. I cannot utilize your services in my house." *Get away from me you that work iniquity.*⁵³ Your vessels is empty."

7: "And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David,"

^{50&}lt;u>1Pet 4:17</u> For the time [is come] that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if [it] first [begin] at us, what shall the end [be] of them that obey not the gospel of God?

^{51&}lt;u>Jn 10:27</u> My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

^{52&}lt;u>Mat 7:22</u> Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

⁵³ Mat 7:23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

and we'll expound on this a little more,

"he that opens and no man shuts; and shuts, and no man opens;" Again, this is a point of transition for the church.

When he says these things here,

"he that opens and no man shuts; and shuts, and no man opens",

he's not talking about your individual choices, he's talking about the direction of the church. That's what the key of David is for.

The key of David also has to do with the knowledge for your faith. The knowledge of your faith is given as a key to open this door; but it comes through the stewardship, and the apostles had the key.

And this is what Jesus said to Peter, regarding his position as the chief apostle; that I have given you this key, and this key is to my house, and Satan's kingdom will not prevail against it.⁵⁴ That's because you are going to represent me in a whole different priesthood.

Satan cannot enter into the imagination in my kingdom because the imagination is only the door to the sinner, whereas faith is the door to the righteous.

"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy," Jesus is holy; he said "Be ye holy, for I am holy"⁵⁵.

The point of contact of holiness is himself. How do you come in contact with him? By faith in the tools under your priesthood—prayer, preaching, prophecy, government, truth, Spirit, the gifts, the callings, and the graces of God are tools of your holiness. With these your heart is being circumcised, and your perception of life is being changed so that you're growing from grace to grace, faith to faith, righteousness to righteousness, holiness to holiness.

Holiness (or holy) has to do with this form of engagement. God has already sanctified these things for your holiness.

"he that is true"

highlight the word, true, there, which has to do with the original pattern— "I am the original pattern of your faith; I am the record of your covenant. "These things saith he that is holy, he that is true,"

I am the record of your covenant. I am the original pattern. I am the history of all prophecy, which is in your conscience.

"he that has the key of David"

which again has to do with the knowledge and direction of the church; "When I open a door, no man can shut it. When I close one week I can open another. And

^{54&}lt;u>Mat 16:18,19</u> And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. (19) And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

^{55&}lt;u>1Pet 1:16</u> Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

this is what he's doing today. He's closed the door of the 6^{th} week, and he's opening the door of the second 8^{th} week. And the door of the second 8^{th} week is only going to be open for a short time, and then this door is going to be closed, and the door of the 7^{th} week will be opened—the great tribulation.

"he that opens, and no man shuts; and shuts, and no man opens;"

Those of the flesh cannot perceive, nor understand where the door is. That's why they can't open or shut it.

They can't open or shut it because it's not a door of the flesh, it's a door of the Spirit, it's the door of a week, a new week will begin.

"and shuts, and no man opens;"

a new week and direction

8: "I know your works:"

I know your works, concerning the God-Code and priesthood.

If the God-Code is joined in faith, then the soul increases with my tokens. But if the God-Code is joined to the moral code, which is tethered to the flesh and tethered to Satan, then everything that you do will be in the forms of iniquity. Even your righteousness is false righteousness, and your piety is ungodliness.

"I know your works: behold, I have set before you an open door, and no man can shut it: for you have a little strength",

regarding the knowledge you have received; strength also (means) has to do with the assisted ability of my grace.

The assisted ability of my grace—if you hold it loosely, then the yoke of the oxen is loosed. If the yoke of the oxen is loosed, it's like having a tractor with very little gas in it; it's going to spit and sputter out there in the field and not let you get your job done. If the yoke of the oxen is loose it will break loose when you're plowing the field.

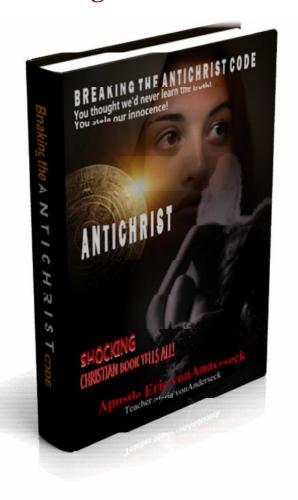
If you don't embrace this God with all your heart (a heart full of faith), with all your soul (the will to serve), and all your strength (concerning your sacrifices), then also your priesthood is going to waver—you'll be double minded. And we know what James said, "A *double-minded man is unstable in all his ways"* (Jas 1:8). Even his sacrifices are halfhearted because his faith is not faith at all; his soul is still full of doubt.

In conclusion,

"for you have a little strength, and have kept my word" This is what the Lord is saying today: "Keep my word."

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Covenant Faith: Three Simple Steps to Making a Decision To Follow Christ

Everyone comes to a point in their life where they want to know more about God. Some people say they want to get closer to God. Some say they sense something missing in their faith. Others say they are desperately trying to fill a void in their life. However you say it, God has been ministering to you and calling you to Him for a long time.

You may have tried different religions or churches, looking for God. Or maybe you tried to find God in nature. But no matter what you tried, you always came back to the same place of emptiness, feeling there should be something more to life.

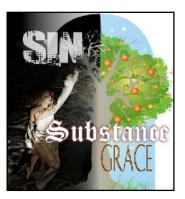


Regardless of how much life or religion has disappointed you, God was there time and again, encouraging you not to give up. He was there telling you that He would help you. There is a Psalm that says, "Hear my voice, O God, in my prayer: preserve my life from fear of the enemy," Psalm 64:1. And another favorite is, "Preserve me, O God: for in thee do I put my trust," Psalm 16:1.

So, here you are. All those moments of intervention on God's part (His grace) has brought you to this point where your faith is about to embark on the final journey home.

Covenant Faith in Jesus Christ is that journey. It is vital that you understand what happened when Jesus shed His blood, and what His death and resurrection means to God. God wants to save, heal, and deliver you. God wants to remove you from Satan's kingdom of darkness where you were spiritually

imprisoned by his lies. God invites you to have a personal relationship with Him in His kingdom, where He will accept you as His child and free you of the hold Satan has on you. God's invitation is to free you to Him.



Covenant Faith is a simple faith to walk. You'll learn what it means to become a Christian, and how it is possible to please God and live the kind of life He wants you to live every day. You'll learn how easy it is to have a personal relationship with God as you walk in your spiritual priesthood. The truth of Jesus Christ will be broken down for you in ways you never thought possible. God will begin to answer many questions that you had about Him and the purpose of your existence.

Let's now go through a few steps that will guide you to make a faith decision to follow Jesus Christ in the new way of His covenant.

Step One: Understand Where You Are Spiritually and How You Got There

For most, life's journey is not an easy one. It is much like being on a ship, drifting through thick fog; you feel lost and uncertain of your future. Every time the waves threatened to capsize your ship you cried out, "God, where are you?! I can't see through this fog, and the waves are too high for me! Help me!"



This cry the soul makes for God is desperately repeated thousands of times every day. The Psalmist said, "Hide not thy face far from me; put not thy servant away in anger: thou hast been my help; leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation," Psalm 27:9.

What the Bible Says About Man's Condition



Man's separation from God is a direct result of Adam having accepted Satan's promises. Satan gave Adam knowledge for his mind to work with that was a direct contradiction to the things God had told Adam. God told Adam not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, and Satan said, "Yes, but. . . if you eat of this tree you will get what you want."

Satan offered Adam knowledge (promise) that worked with what Adam wanted and by that knowledge, Satan taught

Adam how to work around what God had said. In this way Satan took captive Adam's mind, and this is why all Adamites today are prisoners to the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life.

This is what God said: "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die," Genesis 2:17. God breaks sin down for us: Sin is the kingdom of Satan that Adam joined himself to by reaching for Satan's promise. There is no life in Satan's kingdom, only death.

Nothing about sin has changed since the garden. Satan continues to promise liberty, but his promise is a bondage to our self image, which brings uncertainty, works doubt in the heart, and causes man to live in fear.

Knowing these things makes the choice for life easy. Choose life by choosing to enter into God's kingdom by coming into covenant with Him.

Step Two: Recognize the Voice of God Calling You

Did you know: Everyone has heard the voice of God calling them out of Satan's kingdom many times. This call is the most wonderful and sweet thing imaginable. It is like a call home, a longing to be with God, a knowing that you were created for something other than what you are now experiencing.

God's call to you is special. But it's only when you stop and listen that you can hear Him more clearly. You may be wondering, If God has been calling me all my life. why has it been so difficult to find him?



The reason for this difficulty is that Satan has been there too.

Every time you heard God calling you, Satan was there hanging around, listening, just like he did in the garden when God spoke to Adam. Satan designed many spiritual paths hoping you would choose one and get lost, looking for God's purpose in the wrong place.

This is why some think God's call is a call to spirituality and begin to search into everything spiritual, while others think it's a call to find themselves and begin a journey of self discovery.

It's hard to find God's true spiritual path of the covenant when Satan volunteers to be our path finder. It's like taking a trip to a faraway place. You're trying to find your way to the tourist center when this man walks up to you and tries to sell you an allinclusive package to visit the wonderful and exotic places that only he knows about.



Everything sounds adventurous and

exciting, and you trust this guy because he appears to know what he is talking about. But you haven't seen the posters around town warning tourists not to trust themselves to this murderer and thief.

In the same way, when people hear the call of God, Satan is there to send them on another journey far away from God. How do you know that is true? Because you come back to the same struggle, the same questions, the same emptiness, and the same disappointments. Does this describe your condition today?

God's Call Into Covenant With Him

A call into covenant is a call into Christ for the salvation of our souls. The Bible says that God created man in His image and likeness: "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness," Genesis 1:26. When Adam accepted Satan's knowledge, he lost the likeness of God and gained Satan's mindset.

Just as a father would be disappointed in a son who follows another path, because the father no longer sees in his son an image of himself, so God, in the same way, is disappointed with man.

When He looks at man's soul he does not see a likeness of Himself. What does he see? He sees the likeness of Satan. This is the likeness man gained after Adam's fall: "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God," Romans 3:23.

Jesus knows this to be true. This is why he referred to Satan as the "father" of the sinner (John 8:44). All sinners shall have their portion in the lake of fire because that is Satan's destiny. Nothing of Satan can be allowed into God's kingdom.

To change this, God provided man with a way back to Him. God gave man a chance to regain the likeness of God. God sent His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to die for the sins of the world, thereby offering forgiveness by a covenant of blood.

John 3:16

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Hebrews 13:20-21

"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 forever and ever. Amen."

2 Corinthians 3:18

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

God is calling to you to believe the testimony of Jesus Christ, that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Jesus is the Messiah, the Saviour. He is the one who was prophesied to make reconciliation for the sins of the world, to blot out your transgressions, and to join you back to God through Himself.

Jesus shed His blood to provide the terms or grounds of the Second Covenant to sanctify your faith, that your faith may be pleasing to God.

Jesus rose again from the dead to establish a new priesthood in Himself, a living priesthood of knowledge to establish your communion with Him by this knowledge, that God might change you into His image by the power of the Holy Ghost.

You must believe this report and be baptized with the Holy Spirit, evidenced by speaking in tongues. It is by this engrafting of the Holy Spirit in you that you gain His likeness.

Step Three: Make the Decision to Come Into Covenant With God

Jesus said, "him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out," John 6:37. God makes it easy for you to come to Christ that God might establish His testimony in you. All you need to do is respond to His grace and accept His invitation. If you believe that Jesus Christ died for your sins, and if you desire God's forgiveness of sins, I invite you to respond to His grace by praying this prayer right now.

PRAYER

Almighty God, I humbly come before your throne of grace. I believe the testimony of Jesus Christ; that He is the Messiah, the Savior, that He is the one who was prophesied to come to seal our faith and make us complete in Him, and that it is His sacrifice that blots out our transgressions. I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, that He died to make reconciliation for the sins of the world to join me back to You through Himself.

I believe that Jesus Christ shed His blood to provide the terms or grounds of the Second Covenant to sanctify my faith, that my faith may be pleasing to You. I believe that Jesus rose again from the dead to establish a new priesthood in Himself, a living priesthood of knowledge to establish my communion with You by this knowledge that I might be changed into His image by the power of the Holy Ghost.



I ask that You forgive me for walking contrary to your covenant for I ignorantly worshiped what I did not understand. It is You that put a difference between truth and error, darkness and light, and I choose to leave the kingdom of sin and enter into your kingdom.

I am tired of living by Satan's lies, and I desire to walk on the true path of faith in Jesus Christ whereby I can regain your likeness. I accept your knowledge of faith and ask that You baptize me in the Holy Spirit and assist me to pray in tongues. If you have prayed this prayer with faith in your heart, then God has forgiven you of your sins and declared you righteous. He will now seal your faith with the baptism of the Holy Spirit, and you will begin to speak in tongues that you may begin a relationship with Him.

God's 4-Step Program

To convert you to Christ God is bringing you through 4 steps of His own to claim you as His child.

- 1. <u>The first step is *grace*</u>: Grace is His voice that you are hearing right now, calling you. That is God's part, to provide you grace that you may believe in Jesus. *Ephesians 2:8-9*
- <u>The second step is *faith*</u>: That is your part. God's invitation to come into covenant is made effective upon grace entering into your heart. You need to yield to the grace of God and accept it. Your confession of faith means that you believe the testimony of Jesus Christ. *Ephesians 2:8-9*
- 3. <u>The third step is *righteousness*</u>: Upon seeing your heart of faith yielding to His grace God declares you righteous; you have met the standard God placed in His Son for faith to reflect Him, and you are now ready for the final step to come into covenant with God. *Romans 4:6,9,12*
- 4. <u>The fourth step is the *seal* of the Spirit:</u> The seal of the Spirit is the baptism of the Spirit evidenced by tongues. God needs to bring your faith into the house of Jesus Christ where He can properly care for you and nurture you. *Romans* 4:11; *Ephesians* 1:13

Visit our site to learn more about these vital 4 Steps to Covenant Faith and see how easy it is to serve God as a Christian when you have the right knowledge and spiritual tools. Our site features Free Online Courses that are fun and interactive, free Bible study aids, free pdf downloads and videos that will help you as you begin this new journey of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. Our digital magazine features informative and helpful articles from Apostles Today Network of the Second 8th Week. May the God of all grace give you the special blessing of His covenant and may you begin to experience Him in a new and living way.

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