

RETURN JOURNEY & LAW OF THE SPIRIT

"World steals man's time by offering him vain promises to make him a 'somebody' in the world. However he is forced to depart from the world as a 'nobody'.....!

Treasures of truth that frees people of God from the dark captivity of ignorance



The explanation on '**Father's Business'** is wonderful and also an eye opener. I testify that this book will spread a new ray of light to everyone who genuinely desires a victorious Christian life. [Pr. Babu Cherian]

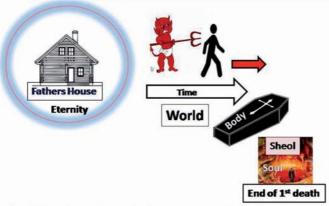
SHAJI JOSEPH

KINGDOM SERIES BOOK NO. 3

of this message "Father's Business"

Journey of Condemnation

Devil who got entry into the world through Adam's sin, is taking man through the world to execute the punishment of death.

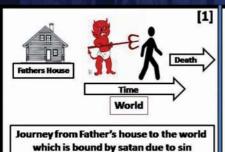


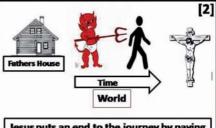
Second Death

Lake of Fire

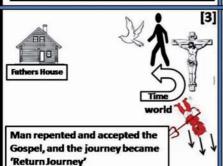
or Eternal death

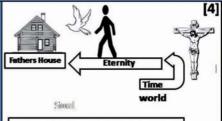
Devil has bound people for condemnation by death





Jesus puts an end to the journey by paying the price for our sins on the cross





Man led by the Holy Spirit takes the 'return journey' in heart to the Father's house.

Father's Business Vol-1

FATHER'S BUSINESS

Volume 1

SHAJI JOSEPH



FATHER'S BUSINESS Vol-1

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> Mob: 0091-9567590469 Email: shajijoseph@live.com prarthanalayam@gmail.com www.thevoiceofgod.org

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FATHER'S BUSINESS

Volume-1



Presented	To

This book (Gift) is the reflection of my God's love towards you. Let it help you to **Understand and do God's Will** in your life.

By

"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the Kingdom of Heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in Heaven." (Mathew 7:21)

Other Messages by the author

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- 2. Kingly ministry
- 3. My Bible and my finance
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- Book of Life
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Dear Readers, 'Return Journey' which is a message in the heart of God has been given to me because it is 'the food in due season' that the Church of Christ requires now. I thank God from the bottom of my heart for choosing me for this great work of His and am surrendering this book at the feet of the Almighty Heavenly Father and dedicate this book to the Church of Christ to understand this Godly message and inherit the Kingdom of God. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the Churches.

And the Lord said, "Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his master will make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of food in due season?"

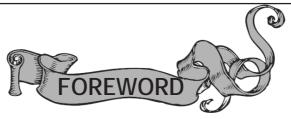
(Luke 12:42 NKJV)

It is only the grace of the Almighty God that enabled me to release this message as a book and the cooperation and prayers of many brothers and sisters and several men of God who have made this work of God a reality. May God remember everyone of you and His abundant blessings follow you and may He help you inherit the Kingdom of God.....in prayers.....

THE VOICE OF GOD FOR CHRIST

Evg. Shaji Joseph

"So likewise you, when you have done all those things which you are commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants. We have done what was our duty to do." (Luke 17:10 NKJV)



While reading through the book 'Father's Business', my main aim was to check if there were any false doctrines stated as we are presently in a time where cults

are creeping in a very subtle manner which cannot be identified and controlled. But one thing I can conclude.... "I failed in my attempt."

Not only did I fail in my attempt, but this book has helped me discover many valuable truths. It is based on the words of Jesus "Shouldn't I be about my Father's Business?" (Luke 2:49).



The explanation on Father's Business from that verse is surprising and beautiful.

Furthermore, I was very happy to read about the son's 'Return Journey' to the Father's house which is explained using the parable 'The prodigal son.' The aspect about the two legs needed to follow JESUS was new and beautiful.

- 1. Deny self
- 2. Take up our cross daily

My happiness increased when I learned about the three medicines needed for the 'Return Journey'

- 1. Daily Bread
- 2. Daily Cross
- 3. Daily Death

I testify that this book will shed light to everyone who genuinely desires a victorious Christian life. But it may disappoint the readers who only strive to gain money, name and fame in this world.

I suggest not to read this book if your intention is just to prepare another message or speech. Though this book may improvise your messages, above all it will definitely renew your life.

In Christ,
Pastor Babu Cherian
India Pentecostal church
Pirayam Center minister

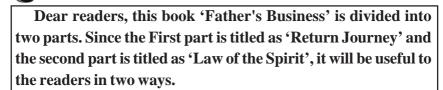


Dear Readers, when I sat to write the introduction of this book, the first thing that came to my mind was an incident that happened in my childhood. It was a Saturday, a weekend holiday for the kids. The next day Sunday, was my aunt's wedding. Every body in the house were getting ready to go to my father's house for the wedding preparation. But I, with my new white cricket bat, went to the cricket ground to play with my friends. My father had gone to the shop asking us to get dressed in the meantime. Not finding me home upon his return, he came to the ground looking for me. When I saw him coming, I knew there was something wrong as he had a stick in his hand. He then snatched the new cricket bat from my friend's hand and hitting hard on the concrete electric post which was nearby, he yelled at me saying **"GO HOME"**. I can still here his voice ringing in my ears.

Dear readers, my father rebuked and sent me home as I was not in my 'Right Sense' because of which I did not give due importance for the wedding that was to happen in my father's house and opted for the pleasures of the world.

Similarly there is a wedding going to happen in our Heavenly Father's house. But most of us are so engrossed in pursuing our desires in the world and rushing to gain something from the world. Just like how my earthly father scolded me, our loving Heavenly Father is telling most of us who are not in our right senses, "son go home.", "daughter go home", there is a wedding going to happen and you should be there.

This book is a loving correction of our loving Heavenly Father.



The first part tells us what the 'Father's Business' is. In other words, it gives us an insight into the purpose of God the Father concerning man and how man can victoriously move into that purpose.

The second part 'The Law of the Spirit', reveals the law under which the Church falls in connection to the Father's Business. It also teaches - what the 'Law of the Spirit' is , how the Church should be under 'The Law of the Spirit', and how the sons of God which the creation are eagerly expecting are revealed through 'The Law of the Spirit'. With a prayer to God who enlightens the mind, let's start reading..

God bless you.



Important things to be noted while reading this book.

Rules:-

1. Be fair minded readers like the people of Berea.

"These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so." (Acts. 17:11)

2. Let God be true but every man a liar. Which means <u>Word of God</u> is the only truth.

"Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar." (Romans 3:4)

"Sanctify them by Your truth. Your Word is truth." (John 17:17)

3. Do not establish anything with an isolated word from the Bible which contradicts other verses.

"By the mouth of two or three witnesses every word shall be established." (2 corinthians 13:1)

"Search from the book of the LORD, and read: Not one of these shall fail; Not one shall lack her mate. For My mouth has commanded it, and His Spirit has gathered them. (Isaiah 34:16)

4. Though we can imitate all the deeds of the apostles and other characters in the Bible based on the Word, it is vital to look unto Jesus.

"let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith." (Hebrews 12: 1-2)

"leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:"

(1 Peter 2:21)

5. While reading this book, if you find anything wrong according to your foreknowledge, tradition and what you have learned from the world immediately <u>start reading from rule 1</u>.

Start reading prayerfully....

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- d. The inner realms of the 'Journey of Condemnation' and 'Journey of Salvation'
- e. How is man, who cannot sin, be revealed?
- f. Freedom from the 'Law of sin and death' (Salvation)
- g. After the first death is the second birth
- h. You cannot die without being born. Similarly you cannot be a 'Born Again' without dying
- i. Why should the old man die?
- j. Who is the new creation?

Chapter 20 - DO NOT SWALLOW THE CAMEL-'IT IS DANGEROUS...!' (225-240)

- a. The second main ministry of 'The Law of the Spirit'

 'The people who anoint Jesus'
- b. The core of the Gospel (Camel)
- c. Why this unnecessary expense?
- d. The frequently used principle..!
- e. Jesus forgives and saves
- f. When do we receive forgiveness from Jesus?
- g. If it dies, it produces much fruit
- h. The secret of Paul's spiritual growth
- Do first, the things that have to be done first (First things first)
 - To grow, you need to die first
- j. Put off before you put on
- k. Growth in Spiritual anointing



Part-1

RETURN JOURNEY





Chapter

WHAT IS THIS MESSAGE FOR?

"And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free." (John 8:32 NKJV)

Shough earth is **God's** creation, it has been deceived by satan.

deceived by satan.

People think they are smart but actually they are The Earth is deceived by the devil. They are ignorant to the fact that they are being led to their second death like goats being taken for slaughter. This can be

understood only if we look through the eyes of God.

"For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God." (1 Corinthians 3:19 NKJV)

True perception is the perception aligned to the thoughts of God. All other perceptions are in some way or the other deceiving. Man will be set free only once he receives this godly perspective. That is why the Word of God says only the truth can set you free.

"And you shall know the truth, and the <u>truth</u> shall make you free." (John 8:32 NKJV)

True perception is the perception aligned to the thoughts of God. All other perceptions are in one way or the other deceiving.

This means that man is under the bondage of false information or messages. He will be set free only if these bondages are untied with the Word of God.

We live in a world that *goes against* the systems set by God. Though it may seem to man who is under the deception of the devil, that the world is governed

by him, actually it is the devil who is ruling the world. This is because

What is this message for?

the thoughts of man are manipulated by the devil. That is why the Word of God says, the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one.

God's perception is the 'Truth'. 'Word' is the revelation of it.

"The whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one." (1 John 5:19 NKJV)

The three realms and it's operations Because of Adam's sin, devil's 'world system' locked man in 'Time' by giving him a 'wrong vision' to 'Gain the world.'

The Kingdom of God originally designed for man to abide and operate		
	[Father's House]	
1. [Spirit Realm]	Timeless Truth Realm	
Devil's Kingdom which is hiding the Kingdom of God from man by giving him a wrong vision to 'Gain the world' 2. [Soul Realm]		
1978	[Man blinded to the Kingdom of God by the world system]	
3. [Body Realm] Earth [Slave Realm]		
	(in Earth, man strives to 'Gain the world') Earth-(Time realm living by Sight)	
-	Time ->	

Man's thoughts are bound to time by the perverted vision of the world and the devil rules the world through these perverted thoughts of man. (Image-1)

Devil is leading the people of the world in the wrong direction. Every

second, man is being led farther from God, because world system has given man a wrong vision, that going against the purpose of God. is 'gain the world'. Man who claims

We live in a world which is

to be smart is unaware of this and has fallen prey to the devil. Majority of people in the world are studying and working hard to make a name of their own. Little do they know that this hard work is futile and that they will one day die and go into oblivion. They die helpless unable to

Devil is ruling the world by taking man's thoughts into captivity and drawing it away from God's thoughts.

take whatever they have gained and accumulated beyond the grave.

Seeing this, the wicked devil, mocks the people and is happy to have won another man to his side.

The main purpose of this book is to warn the people who are walking in the opposite direction of God's plans, to be vigilant and heedful about what God has to say to them.

"Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is." (Ephesians 5:17 NKJV)

Man strives to become 'somebody' on earth, but he is forced to leave the earth as 'nobody'.

How did the book originate? Who will benefit from this Book?

God has revealed this message to me, to bring the lost world into its right conscience, and to help them reach their Heavenly abode. Hope this message will be useful to the world and the Church.

Today man is bound by many false informations.



(Image - 2)

What is this message for?

Prayer



Heavenly Father, help us to receive the Heavenly knowledge that you have prepared for us through this book by counting others more worthy than us Amen.

Important principles and points to remember

- 1. The earth is deceived by satan.
- 2. True perception is the perception aligned to the thoughts of God. All other perceptions are in some way or the other deceiving.
- 3. We live in a world which is going against the purpose of God.
- 4. God's perspective is the 'Truth'. 'Word of God' is the revelation of it.
- 5. Man's thoughts are bound to time by the perverted vision of the world and the devil rules the world through these perverted thoughts of man.
- 6. Today man is bound by many false informations.
- 7. Devil is ruling the world by taking man's thoughts into captivity and drawing it away from God's thoughts.



Chapter 2 'FATHER'S BUSINESS'

And He said to them, "Why did you seek me? Did you not know that I must be about **My Father's Business?**" (Luke 2:49 NKJV)

We live in a world full of businessmen. In fact, most of us who are reading this book might be involved in some business or the other. Once a child was asked, "What does your father do?"

He replied, "Business". He was further asked, "What would you like to be in the future?" He replied, "I want to help my father in his business." The purpose of Jesus Christ is no different.

If you ask people about Jesus' first message, different people will

Jesus' first message to mankind was 'Father's Business'

answer differently. Jesus' first message that we see in the Word of God was not given at the age of thirty but at the age of twelve. That message was not to the world or to his disciples, but to his parents. The title

of that message was **'The Purpose and Plan of the Father'**. In other words, the title was **'Father's Business'** as mentioned in 'King James Version' (KJV).

Mary and Joseph did not understand the message of Jesus. Today this is not understood by the world and surprisingly the Church as well. Below was the circumstance in which Jesus said this.

"And when He was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem according to the custom of the feast. When they had finished the days, as they

returned, the Boy Jesus lingered behind in Jerusalem. And Joseph and His mother did not know it; but supposing Him to have been in the company, they went a day's journey, and

sought Him among their relatives and acquaintances. So when they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking Him. Now so it was that after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers." (Luke 2:42-47 NKJV)

When Jesus' mother saw him with the teachers, she asked Him, "Why have you done this to us?"

His mother said to Him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Look, your father and I have sought you anxiously."
(Luke 2:48 NKJV)

Jesus' first message to mankind was in response to the above question. "Father's business."

"And He said to them, "Why did you seek me? <u>Did you not know</u> that I must be about <u>My Father's business</u>?"

(Luke 2:49 NKJV)

Surprisingly Jesus' first message to mankind was not understood

even by His own parents who had the privilege to give birth to him, nurture him and was the closest to Him.

"But they did not understand the statement which He spoke to them."
(Luke 2:50 NKJV)

The Father's business that Jesus carried out is the same business that we are also expected to carry out.

Mary and Joseph did not understand this message. Today this is not understood by the world and surprisingly the Church as well. Jesus desires that we understand it. The Father's business that Jesus carried out is the same business that we are also expected to carry out. Jesus says "As the Father has sent Me, I also send you."

"As the Father has sent Me, I also send you."
(John 20:21 NKJV)

From Jesus' response it is quite evident that we should know the Father's Purpose and Plan.

"Did you not know that I must be about **My Father's business?**" This means that, it is <u>mandatory</u> that we should know the Father's business and be involved in it like Jesus.

Jesus gave a very valuable message to mankind at the age of twelve. Let us receive this message with a humble and obedient heart.

Prayer



Heavenly Father, in the name of Jesus, teach us to know and practice your works according to the example set by Jesus Amen.

Important principles and points to remember

- 1. Jesus' first message to mankind was 'Father's Business'.
- 2. Mary and Joseph did not understand this message. Today this is not understood by the world and surprisingly the Church as well.
- 3. The 'Father's Business' that Jesus carried out is the same business that we are also expected to carry out.



Chapter 5 WHAT IS THE 'FATHER'S BUSINESS'?

And He said to them, "Why did you seek me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's Business?" (Luke 2:49 NKJV)

The three partners in the 'Father's Business'

W see in the book of Genesis that after God re-created the earth in six days, He rested on the seventh day from all His work.

"And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done." (Genesis 2:2 NKJV)

The work of the Father is 'Father's Business'.

Most people think that God is still resting after those six days of work. But when Jesus Christ came to the earth, He corrected this misunderstanding of the people. Jesus said, "My Father has been working until now, and I have been working."

"But Jesus answered them, "My Father has been working until now, and I have been working." (John 5:17 NKJV)

Most people think that God is still resting, after those six days of work. But when Jesus Christ came to the earth, He corrected this misunderstanding of the people.

This work of the Father is 'Father's Business.'

Jesus - A partner in the 'Father's Business'

It is quite evident from Jesus' words that He too is involved in this business.

".....and I have been working." (John 5:17 NKJV)

"I must work the works of Him who sent me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work."

(John 9:4 NKJV)

"Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent me, and to finish His work." (John 4:34 NKJV)

Holy Spirit - Also a partner in the 'Father's Business'

The Father's Business on earth is still continuing through the Holy Spirit. The business of the Father involves mankind. Before Jesus left the earth, He said to his disciples, "It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I go away, the Helper will come to you."

After finishing the works which He was supposed to do in His first coming, He ascended into Heaven sending the Holy Spirit to the earth instead of Him, to continue the 'Father's Business'

"And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever."

(John 14:16 NKJV)

"Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you."

(John 16:7 NKJV)

"And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:" (John 16:8 NKJV)

"And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth;

The Father, Son and the Holy Spirit are partners in this business.

for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify me, for He will take of what is mine and declare it to you. All things that the Father has are mine. Therefore I said that

He will take of mine and declare it to you."

(John 16:8, 13-15 NKJV)

What is the Father's Business?

This is like a relay race where the baton is passed on from one person to another. Jesus has passed His baton (works) to the Holy Spirit, thus continuing the 'Father's Business' on earth. Today Jesus is seated on the right side of the Father in Heaven and the Holy Spirit is actively working on earth for the Father, on behalf of Jesus. That is why Jesus said, "I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Jesus has handed over his position on earth to the Holy Spirit.

"I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you."
(John 14:18 NKJV)

"Teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, <u>I am with you always</u>, even to the end of the age." Amen." (Matthew 28:20 NKJV)

It is clearly understood from the above words that the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit are partners in this business.

What is the 'Father's Business'?

It is spiritually difficult for a natural man to understand the Father's Business. For this purpose, Jesus spoke in parables so we could understand these Heavenly secrets. Parable is an 'Earthly story, with a Heavenly meaning'. That means, If we understand an incident or a story of the earth, which is otherwise blinded to our natural mind, the spiritual meaning becomes clear to us.

Parable is an <u>'Earthly story, with a Heavenly meaning'</u>. That means, if we understand an incident or a story of the earth, which is otherwise blinded to our natural mind, the spiritual meaning becomes clear to us.

If we spiritually understand the three parables mentioned in Luke chapter 15, we can easily understand the Father's Business about which Jesus preached while on earth.

The parable of the <u>dead</u> and <u>lost</u> son

Then He said: "A certain man had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.' So he divided to them his

livelihood. And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything. "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against Heaven and before

In short, the Father's Business is to *give life* to the dead son and to *bring him back* to his Father's House in his right conscience.

you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants." "And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on

his neck and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against Heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.' "But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry. "Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf." "But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him. So he answered and said to his father, 'Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat that I might make merry with

What is the Father's Business?

my friends. But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.' "And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.'"

(Luke 15:11-32 NKJV)

In short, Father's Business is to *give life* to the dead son and to *bring him back* to his father's house in his right conscience.

To understand this clearly, we must understand the other two parables that Jesus mentioned.

The parable of the lost sheep

So He spoke this parable to them, saying: "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he loses one of them, does

not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying

There is only one thing that happened to the sheep and the coin. But there are two things that happened to the son.

to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!' I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in Heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance. (Luke 15:3-7 NKJV)

The parable of the lost coin

"Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls her friends and neighbors together, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the piece which I lost!' Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents." (Luke 15:8-10 NKJV)

The son, sheep and the coin were lost. But only the son was dead and only he needed life.

In the above three parables that Jesus said, the son, the sheep and

the coin are lost. Jesus talked about the other two parables first so we could understand the parable of the lost son. 'Father's Business' is in the parable of lost

1. The son was dead

2. The son was lost

son. In other words this parable has been used to shed light on the Father's Business. Here God is revealing through Jesus what has happened and is happening in His Heavenly family. God's words about the two things that happened to the lost son who came back is of much relevance.

Notice what the father told his servant.

"For this my son was <u>dead</u> and is alive again; he was <u>lost</u> and is found.' And they began to be merry."

(Luke 15: 24 NKJV)

Notice what the father told his older son.

"It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was \underline{dead} and is alive again, and was \underline{lost} and is found." (Luke 15:32 NKJV)

The difference between the parable of the lost son and the other two parables is that the son was both **lost** and **dead** but the sheep and the coin were only **lost**. Only the son had to be given life. The sheep and the coin were only lost but not dead. So they just had to be sought and found but didn't have to be given life. From the father's words here, we understand that not one, but two things happened to the son. In addition to being lost, he was also dead. Again there are two things that should happen to him. Only then can He return to the Father's house which is the Kingdom of God.

The Father's Business consists of these two works. All the three partners in the Kingdom of God or God head are actively involved in this business.

What is the Father's Business?

The partners in the 'Father's Business' and their working environment

Father

- The Father controls the business.

Son

- It is the work of the Son to give life to the dead son

Holy Spirit - It is the work of the Holy Spirit to find the lost son by helping him return to his Father's House

The dead son <u>receives</u> life when he believes in Jesus Christ. After receiving life, he is <u>found</u> when he obeys the Holy Spirit and takes his 'Return Journey' to the 'Father's House'.

Prayer



Heavenly Father, thank you for revealing the valuable spiritual secrets to us. Teach us to partner with You, Jesus and the Holy Spirit in Your work to do God's will. In the name of Jesus, I pray. Amen.



Important principles and points to remember

- 1. The work of the father is 'Father's Business'
- 2. Most people think that God is still resting, after those six days of work. But when Jesus came to the earth, He corrected this misunderstanding of the people.
- 3. 'Father's Business' is still continuing on earth. Today Jesus is seated on the right side of the Father in Heaven and the Holy Spirit is actively working on earth for the Father, on behalf of Jesus.
- 4. The Father, Son and the Holy Spirit are the three partners in the 'Father's business'.
- 5. Parable is an 'Earthly story, with a Heavenly meaning'. That means, if we understand an incident or a story of the earth, which is otherwise blinded to our natural mind, the spiritual meaning becomes clear to us.
- 6. In short, the Father's Business is to *give life* to the dead son and to *bring him back* to his Father's House in his right conscience.
- 7. The son, sheep and the coin were lost. But only the son was dead and only he needed life.



Chapter 4 'JOURNEY' and

the 'RETURN JOURNEY'

"and he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him... It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found"

(Luke 15:20,32 NKJV)

What is the connection between the 'Father's Business' and man?

In the parable mentioned by Jesus, the prodigal son represents Adam. God created Adam and placed him in the Garden of Eden which is the shadow of the Kingdom of God and made all provisions for him in the garden. Adam had fellowship with God similar to a **father - son** relationship in a family. God had instructed Adam not to eat the fruit of a particular tree, and if he eats it he would die. But Adam gave ear to the devil and disobeyed God by eating the fruit. Because of his disobedience, God cast Adam out of the Garden of Eden into the world. Adam's disobedience to the Father initiated his <u>'Journey' from His Father's House to the far away world</u>. It is this journey that has been depicted in the parable of the prodigal son. This journey earned him the name **'prodigal son'**. The parable of the prodigal son shows us the consequences of Adam's journey after being trapped by the devil. With prodigal living he wasted the possessions of his father.

"And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living." (Luke 15:13 NKJV)

Adam lost his innocence and became a slave to the worldly and fleshly nature. Today in God's eyes, men who are the children of this Adam are considered cunning.

"Truly, this only I have found: That God made man upright, but they have sought out <u>many schemes</u>."

(Ecclesiastes 7:29 NKJV)

Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that <u>every intent of the thoughts of his heart</u> was only evil continually. (Genesis 6:5 NKJV)

God's true perception of mankind can be found in His word.

1. Dead	(In the Kingdom of God)
2. Lost	(In the world: Men are ignorent of the loving Father and His abode which is the Kingdom of God)
	(Those who lost the God given nature and accepted the worldly nature given by the devil)

Responsibilities of the three invisible partners in the 'Father's Business'

The above are the things that happened to man after he left God and chose to travel into the far off world. The 'Father's Business' is to reinstate His lost children in the Kingdom of God. In connection to this purpose, the Father sent Jesus to the earth and the Word became flesh

Adam closed the way between Heaven and earth through his *disobedience*, but Jesus opened a new way through His *obedience*.

and dwelt on earth. In other words, the invisible God became visible and came to the earth.

The purpose of Jesus, Who came seeking after the lost sheep, is to give life to the people who are spiritually dead due to sin or to help them be Born

Again in the Kingdom of God. Jesus finished the work for this on the Cross of Calvary. He died on the Cross for mankind's sins and for mankind to be 'Born Again' into the Kingdom of God. Through Adam's disobedience if he closed the way between Heaven and earth, then through Jesus' obedience, He opened a new way. This way is of great

Journey and the Return Journey

significance because it is the way through which the children of the prodigal Adam can return to their original residence which is the Kingdom of God.

Jesus opened the way on the Cross of Calvary for the children of the prodigal Adam to return to their original residence which is the Kingdom of God.

"Therefore, brethren, having the Kingdom of God. boldness to enter the Holiest by

the blood of Jesus, by a <u>new and living way</u> which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh,"
(Hebrews 10:19, 20 NKJV)

Jesus ascended into Heaven, having completed the purpose which His Father had entrusted Him in His first coming. After sending the Holy Spirit on earth, He is now sitting at the right hand of His Father and partnering in His 'Father's Business'. Through His work, the Holy Spirit brings conviction to mankind of their **sin**, **righteousness and judgment** and also guides them into all truth.

The purpose of Jesus who came seeking after the lost sheep is to give life to the people who are spiritually dead due to sin or to help them be 'Born Again' in the Kingdom of God.

The main work of the Holy Spirit is to bring conviction to mankind of their sin, righteousness and judgment and also to guide them into all truth.

"And when He has come, He will bring conviction to the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:"
(John 16:8 NKJV)

"When the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come." (John 16:13 NKJV)

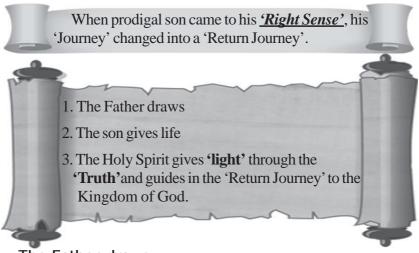
The Journey ends

The journey of the prodigal son who had to endure poverty, hunger

The prodigal son came to his 'Right Sense' as a result of the reflection of the things that happened in the spiritual realm.

and misery ended when he came to his 'Right Sense'. The Word does not mention how the prodigal son came to his 'Right Sense'. The reason is this; he came to His 'Right Sense' as a result of the reflection of the things that happened in the spiritual realm.

It is this conviction that turned the prodigal son's journey into a 'Return Journey'. The work of the three partners in the Father's Business brought conviction to the prodigal son or brings conviction to the sons of Adam today.



The Father draws

And He said, "Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to me unless it has been granted to him by My Father."

(John 6:65 NKJV)

The Son gives life

"I have come that they may <u>have</u> <u>life</u>, and that they may have it more abundantly." (John 10:10 NKJV)

Our 'self', supported by the 'flesh' is not our friend but our enemy.

Journey and the Return Journey

Holy Spirit gives 'Light' through the 'Truth' and guides in the Return Journey to the Kingdom of God.

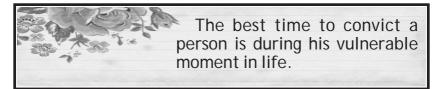
'Right Sense' helps us take the 'Return Journey'.

"And when He has come, He will bring conviction to the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:" (John 16:8 NKJV)

"When the Spirit of truth, has come, <u>He will guide you into all truth</u>; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come." (John 16:13 NKJV)

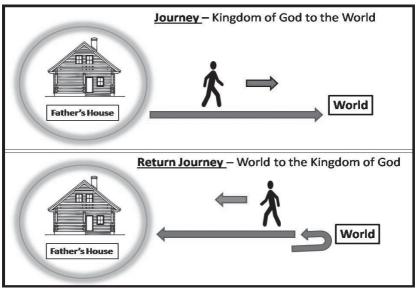
The prodigal son came to his 'Right Sense' when he surrendered his heart to the works of the three invisible partners in the eternal realm, during his times of trouble. The best time to bring conviction to a person is during his vulnerable moment in life. This is called his teachable moment. It is during that time that his **self** and **flesh** are at its lowest. From this we understand that our **self** when strong in the **flesh** is not our friend but our enemy.

Today when we are sharing the 'Gospel of the Kingdom of God', we become a visible instrument in the hand of the invisible Holy Spirit who helps to convict the people about their loving Heavenly Father, the **sin** which separated them from their Heavenly Home (Kingdom of God), and the **way** which Jesus opened for them at the cross of Calvary, thereby leading them to the 'second birth' in the Kingdom of God by turning them away from their old sinful ways (Repentance). Thus under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, these convicted people reach their own residence which is the Kingdom of God in the same way the prodigal son reached his father's house. When the individual returns, the Father happily and lovingly receives him. This individual is said to be **found** once he reaches his father's house. This is the summary of the Father's Business.



'Journey' and the 'Return Journey'

Relationship between the Old Testament and the New Testament:



(**Image - 3**)



We can see two journeys happening in the life of the prodigal son. One is the 'Journey' and the other is the 'Return Journey' after <u>he</u> <u>came to his 'Right Sense'</u>. The 'Journey' and the 'Return Journey' are in opposite directions. The 'Journey' takes place when the sinful man travels from the Kingdom of God to the world. This depicts the

Journey and the Return Journey

Old Testament. The 'Return journey' happens when man comes to his 'Right Sense' by the work of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit and leaves the world which is controlled by the enemy and goes to his own family which is the Kingdom of God. This 'Return Journey' depicts the *New Testament*.

The shadow Journey in the Old Testament

'Old Testament' is the shadow and 'New Testament' is the reality. If the 'Return Journey' which is the reality in the New Testament, is from the world which is controlled by the devil to the Father's house which is the Kingdom of God, then, the 'Journey' which is a shadow in the Old Testament is from Egypt which is controlled by pharaoh to God's promised land, Canaan. If, in the 'Return Journey' to the Kingdom of God, the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit, who are one, worked as three partners, then in the 'Journey' to Canaan, the three partners were the invisible God. Moses and Joshua.

Comparison of the works of the partners in the shadow 'Journey' of the Old Testament and the 'Return Journey' of the New Testament

Canan Journey (Shadow)	Kingdom of God (Real Journey)
1. GOD	1. FATHER
Masterminded the 'Journey' of the people who were slaves in Egypt to Canaan by sending Moses and Joshua.	Masterminded the 'Return Journey' of his children who were under the bondage of devil to the Kingdom of God, by sending Jesus and Holy Spirit.
2.MOSES	2. JESUS
According to God's commandments, and by God's power, he rescued the Israelites from the Pharoah. (Salvation)	He delivered the people who were bound in the world by the devil due to sin through his sacrifice on the cross. (<i>People are being saved</i>)

3. JOSHUA

He fought along with the Israelites and defeated the seven nations that inhabited Canaan and led the Israelites into the promised land. (shadow of killing the fleshly thoughts by the Spirit, in other words, manifesting the sons of God and thereby inheriting the Kingdom of God.)

3. HOLY SPIRIT

Holy Spirit helps the 'Born Again' believers with their cooperation to fight and defeat their fleshly thoughts and inherit the Kingdom of God. (people take the 'Return Journey' to attain the Kingdom of God)

Comparison of the 'Canaan Journey' in the Old Testament and the 'Kingdom Journey' in the New Testament helps in understanding the

the shadow and 'New Testament' is the reality.

status of the saved and the unsaved person. 'Old Testament' is We who are saved are not in the journey to Canaan which is the shadow; instead we are in the 'Return Journey' to the Kingdom of God which is the reality. Let us depend on

God to receive what God has prepared for us.

We have been <u>saved</u> from the punishment of sins as a result of Jesus' works on earth. We can be subject to the work of the Holy Spirit and be conformed to the image of Christ to inherit the Kingdom of God, the same way, how the Israelites fought alongside Joshua and possessed the land of Canaan.

Prayer



Our Heavenly Father, thank you for revealing the valuable works you are doing in our life. Help us to partner with Jesus and the Holy Spirit to inherit the Kingdom of God, in the name of Jesus.... Amen



Journey and the Return Journey

Important principles and points to remember

- 1. The purpose of Jesus who came seeking after the lost sheep is to give life to the people who are spiritually dead due to sin or help them be 'Born Again' into the Kingdom of God.
- Adam closed the way between Heaven and earth through his disobedience, but Jesus opened a new way through His obedience.
- 3. Holy Spirit through His work brings conviction to mankind of their sin, righteousness and judgment and also guides them into all truth.
- 4. The prodigal son had conviction as a result of the reflection of the things that happened in the spiritual realm.
- 5. It is the conviction that turned the prodigal son's 'Journey' to a 'Return Journey'.
- 6. The best time to bring conviction to a person is during his vulnerable moment in life.
- 7. Today when we are sharing the 'Gospel of the Kingdom of God', we become a visible instrument in the hand of the invisible Holy Spirit who helps to bring conviction to the people about their loving Heavenly Father, the **sin** which separated them from their Heavenly Home (Kingdom of God), and the **way** which Jesus opened for them at the cross of Calvary, thereby leading them to the 'second birth' in the kingdom of God by turning them away from their old sinful ways (Repentance).
- 8. JOURNEY → From the Kingdom of God to the world.
 (Discussed in 'Old Testament')
 RETURN JOURNEY → From the world to the Kingdom of God.
 (Discussed in 'New Testament')



Chapter 5 THE INSIGHT INTO JESUS' FIRST MESSAGE

And He said to them, "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?" (Luke 2:49)

From the previous chapters we understand that Jesus' first sermon was at the age of twelve. The title of the first message was 'Father's Business' and the message was to His parents. However, the Bible says that the message of Jesus was not understood by His parents.

"But they did not understand the statement which He spoke to them." (Luke 2:50)

Just like Jesus' parents, this message is still not understood by the world. It is doubtful that even the church has understood it! Reason

being that God is Spirit and He abides in 'eternity'. People, who live in this world in flesh, live in 'time' and not in 'eternity'. The business of the Father who is Spirit, takes place both in 'time' and 'eternity', which is beyond time. In other words, Father's Business is going on in this world

'Father's Business' is going on in this world which operates in 'time' and also in the Kingdom of God, which is in 'eternity'.

which operates in 'time' and also in the Kingdom of God, which is in 'eternity'. To reiterate, God works both in the world which is known to man and in the Kingdom of God unknown to man.

Though it is difficult for people to understand the works of the Father which happens both in 'time' and 'eternity', it is easily understood by a 'Born Again' person who is dependent on the Holy Spirit.

At the age of twelve, Jesus mentioned just the title of the message. Then approximately after eighteen years, at the age of thirty, He revealed Himself to the world through the 'Word' by revealing the 'Father's

The insight into Jesus' first message

Business'. The words of Jesus were not easily understood by the people then.

The first words Jesus spoke were "the time is fulfilled" and secondly He told "Kingdom of God is at hand". Thirdly, Jesus told man, what man should do when the above two things happen,

"Repent and believe in the Gospel".

The first two sentences of Jesus, implies how God views the current state of the world in light of 'Father's Business' and in His third sentence, He says what man should do in this state.

Viewing the situation through the eyes of God

God who is Spirit sees both the spiritual and the earthly circumstances together.

God's view of the earthly situation is "<u>The time is fulfilled</u>" and God's view of the spiritual situation is the "Kingdom of God is at hand"

"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." (Mark 1:15)

World operates in time, hence, most of us say, we are short of time. So God advices us, who are time bound, to redeem time wisely.

"Redeeming the time, because the days are evil." (Ephesians 5:16)

The first words of Jesus are "*The time is fulfilled*". These words are related to the earthly kingdom we live in and the punishment that fell on mankind, due to sin.

Jesus says further that "the Kingdom of God is at hand". Kingdom of God is not in 'time' but in 'eternity'. These words are related to the spiritual kingdom where God dwells.

In other words, what Jesus said is "<u>Time is fulfilled and eternity</u> is at hand".

Since it is difficult for my brothers to understand about time and eternity,let us analyze it further.

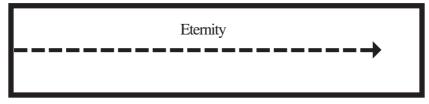
Eternity and Time

God dwells in eternity and man lives in time. Eternity has no beginning and end, but time has a beginning and an end.

Eternity: - Is the realm which is beyond time, where God dwells.

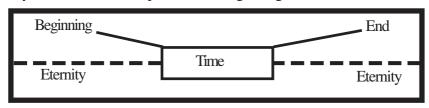
Time: - Is a period in eternity.

The below box with dotted lines that does not have a beginning and an end represents eternity.



(Image - 4)

But in the next picture, eternity is split into two and a rectangular box is seen in between, which represents a period. This period in eternity is called time. This period has a beginning and an end.



(Image - 5)

Time which has started will end one day. The 'time' which is a period in eternity started when God in Genesis chapter 1, re-created the earth

God dwells in 'eternity' and man lives in 'time'.

Even today time is running out. In the last chapters of Revelation, when the 'Father's Business' comes to an end, 'time' will also come

to an end. But eternity will continue. Likewise 'time' divides eternity in

The insight into Jesus' first message

to two, 'first eternity and last eternity'.

We don't normally say "from Mumbai to Mumbai". It is understood that there is a mistake in this statement. But if we divide Mumbai into two, then we can say "from South Mumbai to North Mumbai". Similarly from the verses given below, we

The 'time' which is a period in eternity started when God in Genesis chapter 1, re-created the earth and declared that it is 'evening and morning'.

know that 'time' has divided 'eternity' into two. Let's see what Moses says in Psalms 90.

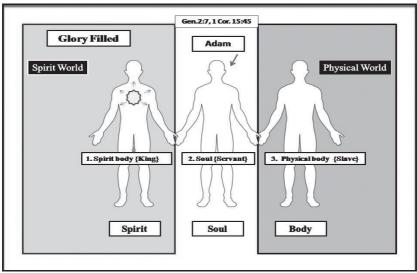
Eternity has no beginning and end, but 'time' has a beginning and an end.

"Before the mountains were brought forth, Or ever You had formed the earth and the world, Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God." (Psalms 90:2)

Everlasting = OWLAM (Hebrew) = Eternity

Everlasting means forever, "Eternity".

From the above verse, we see that eternity is divided into two. This is why; it is said "From everlasting to everlasting or eternity to eternity." Time is the reason for this division in eternity.



Adam who operated in two realms before the fall. (Image - 6)

God has created man to live in both 'eternity' and 'time' at the same time. It is easier to understand these facts if you read the books of Kingdom series volume 1 & 2 'Spirit world and Spiritual Growth' and 'Born again to be victorious'.

Now we have understood that, 'time' is a period in 'eternity' and man lives in 'time'. God lives in a realm beyond time which is called 'eternity'. 'Time' has an end but 'eternity' has no beginning and end.

When God created Adam, he could operate both in the kingdom of

God has created man to live in both 'eternity' and 'time' at the same time. God which is in eternity and the physical world which is in 'time'. The working principle that God the creator, intended for Adam was to **receive** from the kingdom of God in eternity and **operate** in the physical world, which is 'time'. But God the Judge had given a

command to Adam that 'you shall not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for in the day you eat, you shall die'.

The working principle that God the creator, intended for Adam was to **receive** from the kingdom of God in 'eternity' and **operate** in the physical world which is in 'time'.

"But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die." (Genesis 2:17)

But Adam who fell into the snare of the devil ate the fruit from the tree which God restricted. Thus by disobeying God, he fell under God's judgment. Death got its hold on Adam and he died in the spiritual realm in 'eternity'. Thus Adam died spiritually and lost his connection with God and got trapped in 'time'. Death spread to the earth also, which is in the 'time' realm. Death started eating into his body and his body started dilapidating. So Adam died not only in spirit but also in body, in the world and his soul was cast into Hades. Word of God says, 'in Adam every one dies'. (1 Cor.15:22)

The insight into Jesus' first message

Adam, who died in spirit in the kingdom of God (eternity) lived in the world (time) for 930 years. Hence Adam died both in the spirit in 'eternity' and in the body which is in 'time'. His soul was cast int

Due to Adam's disobedience, his generations died in the Kingdom of God (eternity) and lives only in time.

is in 'time'. His soul was cast into hades. Only one more death is remaining for Adam, which is the second death or eternal death. This will happen at the great white throne judgment in the end. This is the second death which is mentioned in the book of revelations.

"Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small

and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. Then Death and Hades were cast into the

Adam died in the spirit, in 'eternity' and also died in the body, in 'time'. His soul was cast into hades. Only one more death is remaining for Adam, which is the second death or eternal death.

lake of fire. <u>This is the second death</u>. And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire."

(Revelations 20: 11-15)

Dear readers, do not be overwhelmed by the second death which casts people into the lake of fire because Jesus has come to save us from this death. Because of the disobedience of Adam, his generations died in the Kingdom of God (eternity) and lives

only in time. Jesus came to save them and to tell them.

'Time' divides eternity into two.

"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand or in other words time is fulfilled and eternity is at hand."

Prayer



Our Heavenly Father, thank you for revealing to us the eternity in which you dwell and the time in which we live. Thank you Jesus, for coming to save us, who died in 'eternity' and got trapped in 'time' because of our obedience to the words of

the devil. In the name of Jesus.....Amen.

Important principles and points to remember

- 1. 'Father's Business' is going on in this world which operates in 'time' and also in the Kingdom of God, which is in 'eternity'.
- 2. Eternity is the realm which is beyond time and where God dwells. Time is a period in eternity
- 3. God dwells in eternity and man dwells in time.
- 4. Eternity has no beginning and end but time has a beginning and an end.
- 5. The 'time' which is a period in eternity started when God in Genesis chapter 1, re-created the earth and declared that it is 'evening and morning'.
- 6. God has created man to live in both 'eternity' and 'time' at the same time.
- 7. The working principle that God the creator, intended for Adam was to **receive** from the kingdom of God in 'eternity' and **operate** in the physical world which is in 'time'.
- 8. Adam died in the spirit, in eternity and also died in the body, in time. His soul was cast into hades. Only one more death is remaining for Adam, which is the second death or eternal death.
- 9. Because of the disobedience of Adam, every person who is a descendant of Adam died in the Kingdom of God (i.e. eternity) and lives only in 'time'.



Chapter 6 TIME IS FULFILLED, ETERNITY IS AT HAND

And saying, "The <u>time</u> is fulfilled, and the kingdom of <u>God</u> is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." (Mark 1:15 NKJV)

What Jesus means when he says, "**time** is fulfilled and eternity is at hand" is that, in God's heart the time of something that is related to mankind is finished.

The 'TIME' related to what, is fulfilled?

The first judgment related to mankind is not the judgment of Christ seen in the epistle of Corinthians.

"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad."

(II Corinthians 5:10 NKJV)

God's first judgment on mankind was declared on Adam in Genesis 2:17.

"But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die." (Genesis $2:17\ NKJV$)

This death is the punishment due to disobedience to God. Adam disobeyed God and the punishment fell upon him. Adam was caught by the angel of death or in other words, Adam died. In the world, Adam became captive to 'time'. The angel of death got access to the 'world' which was the territory under Adam's authority. Adam's descendants became subjected to death and became bound by 'time' in the world. Note what the Word of God says,

"Therefore, just as through one man sin <u>entered the</u> <u>world, and death</u> through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned" (Romans 5:12 NKJV)

We know that even before the judge pronounces a sentence, depending on the seriousness of the crime, he would have already decided the time period of the sentence in his heart.

If we think in the natural, a pickpocket gets one year of imprisonment or according to its seriousness, a maximum of two years as decided by the judge. Before a judge pronounces the verdict, he would have taken the decision in his heart. Even if a person is convicted for life, the sentence has a time period. Similarly, there is a time period for punishment in the spiritual realm as well. Just like Adam and his generation died in the spiritual realm and became captive to 'time' in the world, the Old Testament Israelites were taken captives by the king of Babylon, when they disobeyed the commandments of God and followed other gods. But God revealed to His beloved man Daniel, that there was a time period for this punishment.

"I, Daniel, understood by the books the number of the years specified by the word of the Lord through Jeremiah the prophet, that He would accomplish <u>seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem</u>." (Daniel 9:2 NKJV)

Daniel understood that this captivity was for seventy years and after that, the desolations of Jerusalem would be over.

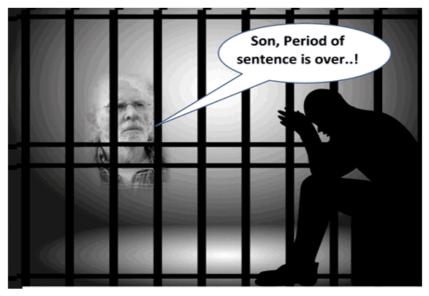
Notice what Jesus says in the New Testament.

"Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. Agree with your adversary quickly, while you are on the way with him, lest your adversary deliver you to the judge, the judge hand you over to the officer and you be thrown into prison. Assuredly, I say to you, you will by no

Time is fulfilled, eternity is at hand

means get out of there <u>till you have paid the last penny</u>."
(Matthew 5:23-26 NKJV)

Here God is the judge. The adversaries are of two types, the visible man, in the physical world and the invisible devil of the spiritual world. The adversary mentioned here, is the visible man of the physical world and officer is an angel of the devil. The above incident shows that if we fail in our dealings with other people and fall into sin by disobeying the Word of God, then there is an opportunity for us to ask for forgiveness and correct our mistakes. But if we ignore the opportunity, then we will be judged and punished. This punishment can be any of the trials we face in life. Concerning man, this is captivity in time and according to the intensity of the sin, the judge will decide the period of sentence. This period is referred as "till you have paid the last penny". That means, man has freedom after that period of captivity. Likewise, the judge has a time period for every punishment.



(Image - 7)

Similarly God the judge, in His heart, had a time period for the first warning and punishment that Adam received (in the day that you eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, you shall die). When the time period for this punishment was over, God sent Jesus into the

world to free the man who had died in 'eternity' and was held captive by the devil, in 'time'. The Bible says, Jesus was sent to the world when the 'time was fulfilled' or 'when the fullness of time had come.'

"But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law," (Galatians 4:4 NKJV)

What would be the first word that a loving father tells his son (who is serving a life sentence but is unaware of the period of his sentence), when he sees him after twelve years which is the period of his sentence? "Son, the time is over."

"The period of sentence is over. I have come to take you home."

This is exactly what our father, who came in the form of a man named Jesus, told human beings who lost their right conscience and were held captive by the devil in the world. "The time is fulfilled."

"The time is fulfilled" means: "Your period of sentence is over."

"The Kingdom of God is at hand" means: "I (Jesus) came to take you home which is your lost residence, the Kingdom of God."

"Repent and believe in the Gospel" means: "Change the disobedient mind like Adam, believe and follow me (Jesus) and I will take you to my house which is your lost residence, the Kingdom of God."

In other words, I will shift you from being a captive of 'time' in the world to the 'Kingdom of God', by breaking the chains of time and giving you eternal life in the Kingdom of God.

Another meaning of Jesus' message "the time is fulfilled; the Kingdom of God is at hand" is this.

This world is like a sinking ship. However, majority of the people in the ship is unaware of the fact that their ship is sinking. Then another

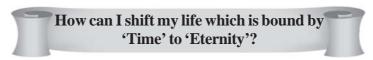
Time is fulfilled, eternity is at hand

ship comes near the sinking ship and shouts, "the ship you all are in, is sinking. Get into this ship and escape."

"And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever."

(1 John 2:17 NKJV)

That is, the time is fulfilled; the Kingdom of God is at hand. So if you want to escape, move your life which is bound by 'time' to 'eternity', similar to a man who escapes from a sinking ship to a rescue ship.



Prayer



Heavenly Father, thank you for bringing to attention that my period of sentence is over. Teach me and help me to shift my life which is bound by 'time', to eternity. In the name of Jesus.... Amen.



Important principles and points to remember

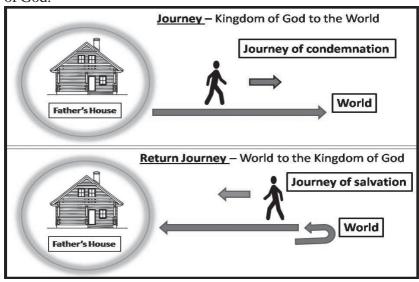
- 1. "The time is fulfilled" means "Your period of sentence in 'time' is over."
- 2. "The Kingdom of God is at hand" means: "I (Jesus) came to take you home which is your lost residence, the Kingdom of God."
- 3. "Repent and believe in the Gospel" means: "Change the disobedient mind like Adam, believe and follow Me (Jesus) and I will take you to My house which is your lost residence, the Kingdom of God."
- 4. When a person comes to 'himself' or to his 'Right senses', then he shifts his life from 'time' to 'eternity' by obeying the Gospel of the 'Kingdom of God'.

Chapter 'JOURNEY OF CONDEMNATION' AND 'JOURNEY OF SALVATION'

"For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive."
(1Corinthians 15:22,NKJV)

Stope you remember that we ended the last chapter with a question of "How can I shift my life which is bound by 'time' to 'eternity'?

This is possible only through a 'Return Journey'. To understand this, let us go back to the story of the prodigal son. In this story we understood about the prodigal son's 'Journey' from the Father's House, 'Kingdom of God' to the 'world' and after he came to his 'Right Sense', his 'Return Journey' from the world to the Father's House, the Kingdom of God.



(Image - 8)

When we relate this with the 'time' and 'eternity' that we studied in the previous chapter, we understand that the 'Journey' happens in 'time'

Journey of condemnation......

and 'Return Journey' happens from 'time' to 'eternity'. When we compare the Father's punishment in Genesis (Genesis 2:17) and the Salvation for the believers in Jesus,

In other words, 'Journey' is the 'Journey of Condemnation' and 'Return Journey' is the Journey of Salvation.

in the New Testament, we understand that 'Journey' is the 'Journey of Condemnation' and 'Return Journey' is the 'Journey of Salvation'. In other words, 'Journey' is the 'Journey of Condemnation' and 'Return Journey' is the 'Journey of Salvation'.

'Journey of Condemnation' happens in time and 'Return Journey' of Salvation happens from 'time'

to 'eternity'. The 'Journey of Condemnation' has a beginning and an end. The 'Journey of condemnation' started due to Adam's violation of the Lord's command. To understand this better, you need to understand

Adam, whom God created, has three parts. They are spirit, soul and body.

about spirit, soul and body. (To understand it further, read the books of Kingdom series vol-1 & 2, 'Spirit World and Spiritual Growth' and 'Born Again to be Victorious'.)

"Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole <u>spirit</u>, <u>soul</u>, <u>and body</u> be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

(1 Thessalonians 5:23 NKJV)

Adam, whom God created, has three parts. They are spirit, soul and body.

When Adam sinned, he died in spirit and became bound to 'time' in the world.

His Soul got corrupted by the fleshly thoughts which was deposited

'Return journey' is not of condemnation but it is a Journey of Salvation. It is a 'Journey of Justification, Purification and Glorification'.

by the devil and death spread to his body. His body started perishing slowly and eventually he died in the body. The Bible does not state that Adam repented but it states that all who are in Adam dies (1 Corinthians 15:22). So we can conclude that Adam's soul, which got separated

from the body after death, was given up for torment in Hades. After the spiritual death, physical death and death of the soul, Adam has only one more death remaining. This is the second death or the eternal death mentioned in Revelation, Chapter 20. The beginning of the 'Journey of condemnation' in Genesis 2:17 happened due to the spiritual death followed by the death of the soul and body. Similarly 'Return Journey' is not of condemnation but it is a Journey of Salvation. It is a 'Journey of Justification, Purification and Glorification'.

'Return Journey' of Salvation begins when you believe in Jesus Christ and His Salvation plan. When a person believes in Jesus Christ, i.e. in the 'Journey of Salvation', the spirit which died in the beginning of the 'Journey of condemnation' in Eden is being 'Born Again' into the Kingdom of God and at the end of this journey of faith, the soul which takes the 'Return Journey' gets saved from 'time' to 'eternity' or the Kingdom of God.

"Receiving the end of your faith the salvation of your souls." (I Peter 1:9,NKJV)

When a person believes in Jesus Christ, his spirit gets saved. When his belief in Jesus is proved to be true through tests of faith, the soul of that person gets saved.

In other words, human life in the soul (psuche) enters from 'time' to 'eternity'. Your life is moved from a sinking ship to a life saving ship or a rescue ship. Glorification, which is the redemption of the body, happens eventually in such people's life.

"Not only that, but we also who have the <u>first fruits</u> of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body."

(Romans 8:23, NKJV)

If the 'Journey of Condemnation' begins first with the spiritual death followed by death of the soul and body, and finally the second death, then the 'Return Journey of Salvation' begins first with the salvation of the spirit

Journey of condemnation......

(justification), followed by the salvation of the soul (purification) and finally salvation of the body (glorification).

First death and Second death

The Scripture mentions second death in four places.

"He, who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the <u>second death</u>." (Revelation 2:11, NKJV)

"Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the <u>second death</u> has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years." (Revelation 20:6, NKJV)

"Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the <u>second death</u>." (Revelation 20:14, NKJV)

"But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the <u>second death</u>." (Revelation 21:8, NKJV)

Dear readers, for a second death to happen, there should be a first death. Now a question may arise in the mind of the readers about what the first death is.

A man without conviction or who has not come to his 'Right Senses' never takes the 'Return Journey'.

The death about which God told Adam in Genesis 2:17 is the first death. First death is a slow death. First death is completed in man when his spirit, soul and body dies. But second death happens when you are thrown into the lake of fire, which is the eternal death. This happens in a moment.

The first death started in the Garden of Eden due to the disobedience of Adam. This is the spiritual death. But man is not of spirit alone but spirit, soul and body (1 Thessalonians 5:23, NKJV). The death which happens in the spirit eventually spreads to the soul and to the body. In

the life of a sinner, this ends with the death of the body following which the soul enters into Hades, which is a place of torment.

But at the final judgment (At the great white throne judgment... Revelation 20:11-15), this soul and body unites again to be judged and cast into the lake of fire. This is second death.

The creation of Adam as described in Genesis is the 'first birth' of mankind. Mankind, who died due to sin in the first birth, is 'Born Again' in Christ. This is called the second birth or 'Born Again'.

Meaningless life in the world

The important thing that happened between the 'Journey' and 'Return

The important thing that took place between the 'Journey' and the 'Return Journey' of the prodigal son is that 'he came to his 'Right Sense'.

Journey' of the prodigal son is mentioned in the Bible as, 'conviction of the prodigal son' or his coming to his 'Right Sense'. The prodigal son represents Adam and his descendants. This means that before the 'Return Journey' of Salvation, people are not in their 'Right Sense'.

"For the wisdom of this world is <u>foolishness</u> with God." (1 Corinthians 3:19, NKJV)

A man born in this world, comes empty handed. But from the day he is born, he starts earning things of the world like job,

In the eyes of God, people of this world who do not follow Christ are not in their 'Right Sense'.

education, business, fame, wealth, house etc. Unfortunately he cannot take anything what he earns on this earth, beyond the grave. Ultimately he perishes by being deceived by the vain

promises of the world.

World steals man's time by offering him vain promises of making him a 'somebody' in the world. Ignorant to

the fact that the devil is stealing his time, he invests all his time to gain the world. But in the midst of his endeavor, man is overtaken by death and removed from this world with

Man can gain only his 'life' (psuche) from this world.

Journey of condemnation......

nothing to his credit. Seeing this, the devil has a good laugh.

"I gained you too".

Friend, you cannot take anything that you have earned on this earth, with you!

Then why did you live in this world?

What did you gain from this world?

What can you gain from here?

How can you gain it?

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Here we realize the importance of the valuable words spoken by

Jesus Christ. Once Jesus said to Peter, His disciple "the only thing man can gain in this world is his 'life'

(psuche)". Today, man's life is bound by time, in the world. We have to gain our life from this 'time' to 'eternity' which is the Kingdom of God.

World steals man's time by offering him vain promises of making him a 'somebody' in the world, however man is forced to depart the world as 'nobody'.

The condition for gaining our life from this world to the Kingdom of God:- instead of living for ourselves, follow Jesus and live for Him.

"For whoever desires to save his <u>life</u> will lose it, but whoever loses his <u>life</u> for My sake will find it." (Matthew16:25, NKJV)

"For what <u>profit</u> is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own <u>soul</u>? Or what will a man give in exchange for his <u>soul</u>?" (Matthew 16:26, NKJV)

Prayer



Our Heavenly Father, in ignorance we were trapped by the first death. Thank you for bringing us into our 'Right sense' and giving us a second life (Born Again) in the Kingdom of God. Help us to depend on you and gain our life. In Jesus name... Amen.

Important principles and points to remember

- 1. Journey is a 'Journey of condemnation' and 'Return Journey' is a 'Journey of Salvation'.
- 2. 'Journey of condemnation' happens in time and 'Return Journey' of Salvation happens from 'time' to 'eternity'.
- 3. The 'Journey of condemnation' started due to Adam's violation of the Lord's command.
- 4. Adam, whom God created, has three parts. They are spirit, soul and body.
- 5. 'Return journey' is not of condemnation but it is a 'Journey of Salvation'. It is a 'Journey of Justification, Purification and Glorification'.
- 6. 'Return Journey of Salvation' begins when you believe in Jesus Christ and his Salvation plan.
- 7. When a person believes in Jesus Christ, his spirit gets saved. When his belief in Jesus is proved to be true through tests of faith, the soul of that person gets saved.
- 8. 'Journey of condemnation' begins first with the <u>spiritual death</u> followed by <u>death of the soul and body</u>, and finally the <u>second death</u>. The 'Return Journey' of Salvation begins first with the <u>salvation of the spirit</u> (justification), followed by the <u>salvation of the soul</u> (purification) and finally <u>salvation of the body</u> (glorification).
- 9. The important thing that happened between the journey and 'Return Journey' of the prodigal son is mentioned in the bible as, 'conviction' of the prodigal son or his coming to his 'Right Sense'
- 10. In the eyes of God, people of this world who do not **follow** Christ are not in their 'Right Sense'.
- 11. World steals man's time by offering him vain promises of making him a 'somebody' in the world, however man is forced to depart the world as a 'nobody'.
- 12. The only thing man can gain in this world is his '*life*' (*psuche*) in to the Kingdom of God.

Chapter 8 'RIGHT SENSE' - THE FOUNDATION OF 'RFTURN JOURNEY'

"But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, (Luke 15:17, 18 NKJV)

We have understood that the main purpose of the 'Father's **Business'** is to bring the prodigal son to his 'Right Sense' and to help him make the 'Return Journey' to the Father's house which is the Kingdom of God.

Only a person who follows Christ can be in the 'Return Journey'.

Since the aim of the Father's plan for us is to inherit the Kingdom of God, it is vital that we follow Jesus. However, since people are ignorant of the fact that the Father's plan for us is to follow Jesus and to take the 'Return Journey' to the Kingdom of God, today most of the Christian communities forget about the 'Return Journey' and consider Chritianity just like any other religion and

continue their 'Journey' in the world. This ignorance is a very dangerous situation caused by the devil among Christian communities. Majority of the Christians today are not in the 'Return Journey' that will save them but are enjoying Christ's temporary blessings

Since the main aim of the Father's plan is for us to reach the Kingdom of God, it is vital that we follow Jesus.

of the world and continuing the 'Journey of Condemnation'.

We see a majority of these people in the Christian community today. Notice what the word of God says:

"If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable." (I Corinthians 15:19, NKJV)

People who continue their 'Journey' without 'Following Jesus'

The devil manipulates the ignorance of the men of God and believers who operate in flesh. Today majority of the people who accept Jesus as their savior do not make the 'Return Journey'. This is because in most of the meetings today where the Gospel is preached, the people do not get the conviction that happened in the life of the prodigal son. A person, who gets this conviction immediately, thinks of the Father and the Father's house. This 'conviction' is what brought the prodigal son back to his house, the Heavenly Father's abode.

Today majority of the people who accept Jesus as their savior do not make the '*Return Journey*'. This is because in most of the meetings today where the Gospel is preached, people do not get the *conviction* that happened in the life of the prodigal son.

In this world, a person in his 'Right Sense' returns to his house at the end of the day and a person otherwise, wanders in the streets. Similarly in the spiritual life, a person who 'come to *himself*' by the truth returns to the Kingdom of God and a person otherwise works to gain the world.

"But when he <u>came to himself</u>, he said, 'How many of <u>my</u> <u>father's</u> hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will <u>arise and go to my father</u>, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against <u>heaven and before you</u>, and <u>I am no longer worthy to be called your son</u>. Make me like one of your hired servants." (Luke 15:17-19, NKJV)

The gospel of Jesus is all about the Father and His house.

Right sense - The foundation.....

"Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the Kingdom of God,"

(Mark 1:14 NKJV)

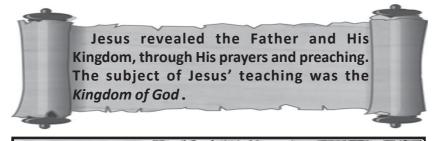
"Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one <u>comes to the Father</u> except through Me."

(John 14:6 NKJV)

"I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word." (John 17:6)

"O righteous Father! The world has not known you, but I have known you; and these have known that you sent me. And I have declared to them your name, and will declare it, that the love with which you loved me may be in them, and I in them." (John 17:25, 26 NKJV)

"In this manner, therefore, pray: <u>Our Father in heaven</u>, Hallowed be your name. <u>Your Kingdom come</u>, <u>your will be done</u> on earth as it is in Heaven." (Matthew 6:9, 10 NKJV)



Jesus is just introduced in majority of the Gospel meetings today. Kingdom of God which was the only major subject that Jesus preached, is not even mentioned today. So the people are not coming to their 'Right Sense' or getting convicted of the truth in these meetings and hence not making the 'Return Journey'. Neither, the man of God nor those who attend these meetings are aware of the 'Return Journey'.

Most of the Gospel meetings in the world introduce Jesus as a deliverer and a savior. This is good, but this message alone will not bring conviction to a person. However, if the 'Kingdom of God' preached by Jesus is taught, then the people will be convicted of the truth and turn to their Heavenly Father. They will not only accept Jesus but also make the 'Return Journey' to the Father's house, by following Him.

Otherwise they who served numerous gods, goddesses and saints, will consider Jesus as just another powerful God when compared to their Gods. They will worship and serve Jesus only to meet their current needs because most of the Gospel preachers introduce Jesus only as a provider. Today very few men of God preach that Jesus is the 'way' and *if we walk in this 'way' we would reach the Father* (Kingdom of God) and that this journey is about testing our faith and God's desire is for us to inherit the Kingdom of God which He has prepared for us. So majority of them people who accept Jesus today, stand at the Salvation gate and *very few people 'follow' Him to the Father's house*.

Jesus said to him, "I am the <u>way</u>, the truth, and the life. No one <u>comes to the Father</u> except through Me."

(John 14:6, NKJV)

"Do not fear, little flock, for it is your <u>Father's good</u> <u>pleasure to give you the kingdom."</u> (Luke 12:32, NKJV)

Comparitive study between the 'Modern Evangelization' and the story of the 'Prodigal Son'

Where is the foundation of 'Right Sense' in the 'modern evangelization'?

This story that Jesus narrated clearly states what should happen in true evangelization and how it should end. Coming to his 'Right Sense', followed by 'repentance' that happened in the prodigal son during his journey away from the Father's house is the foundation of the 'Return Journey'. The work built on this foundation is the 'Return Journey'. It is at the end of this work,

Gospel of the Kingdom of God:

Brings a person to 'Himself' or to his 'Right Sense or to his own identity.'

Right Sense:

Brings 'Repentance' in a person.

Repentance:

Is the foundation of the 'Return Journey.'

Return Journey:

Makes a person to 'inherit the Kingdom of God.'

- 'Right order' for a person to 'inherit the Kingdom of God'
- 1. Gospel of the Kingdom of God

 ⇒ 2. Right Sense

 ⇒
- 3. Repentance

 ⇒ 4. Return Journey (Following Jesus)

How did the prodigal son come to his 'Right Sense'?

The prodigal son came to his 'Right Sense or to his own identity' as a result of the reflection of the things that happened in the spiritual realm according to the Father's plan. <u>This happens</u> when we preach the Kingdom of

'Right Sense' mentioned in this book means 'to make a person understood about, his own identity or who he is?'

<u>God</u>. It is not explained how the prodigal son came to 'himself' because it happened in the spiritual realm and it was difficult for Jesus to explain it to the generation of that time.

Changes in thoughts, beginning of the 'Return Journey'

In this story which is related to Adam, the reason for the 'Journey' and the 'Return Journey' is the change that happened in the thoughts of man.

In Eden, which is the shadow of the Kingdom of God, the interference

The prodigal son came to his 'Right Sense' as a result of the reflection of the things that happened in the spiritual realm according to the Father's plan.

of the Kingdom of devil made Adam change his thoughts and do what God commanded him not to do which led to the start of his 'Journey' into the world. Similarly, during an individual's difficult times, when he hears about the Kingdom of God, through the servants of God, his

thoughts are changed and he comes to his 'Right Sense' which thereby leads to 'repentance'.

The serpent who was faithful to the devil became the reason for 'Adam's Journey of Condemnation'

We know that, devil is a spirit and does not have a body. The serpent became willing to give his body to the devil, and in Genesis chapter 3,

also be deceived.

we see the serpent preaching the devil's If we yoke with the counsel. The message which the serpent deceived people, we will preached was "You will not die if you eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. but you will be like God."

The serpent was faithful to the devil, so he beautifully preached the message that was given to him without altering it and thus cheated Eve and also Adam, who loved Eve. This marked their fall and the beginning of their Journey of condemnation. The Word of God says, Eve was deceived because she was unaware that the devil was the spirit behind the serpent.

"As the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness." (II Corinthians 11:3, NKJV)

The serpent was faithful to the devil, so he beautifully preached the message that was given to him without altering it and thus cheated Eve and also Adam, who loved Eve. This marked their fall and the beginning of their 'Journey of condemnation'.

But Adam also got cheated because he joined with Eve who was already cheated. The lesson we need to learn is that, 'be careful when yoking with the deceived people because we might also be deceived'.

Right sense - The Foundation.....

The serpent faithfully preached devil's message without altering it, and became the reason for Adam's 'Journey of condemnation'. The same way, if we preach the message that Christ entrusted us, without altering it, it will bring man to his 'Right sense' and become the reason for his 'Return Journey' to Salvation.

Surprising contradiction!

The subject which Jesus preached was the Kingdom of God and it is the same subject which He entrusted us to preach.

The reader may have a question as to what was the message Christ entrusted us with. It is none other than the subject which Christ preached which is the '*Kingdom of God*'.

"Then He called His twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases. He sent them to <u>preach the kingdom of God</u> and to heal the sick." (Luke 9:1, 2 NKJV)

He asked us to preach: One thing

He asked us to do: Two things

The one thing that He asked us to preach:-

1. The Kingdom of God

Two things that He asked us to do:

- 1. Heal the sick
- 2. Cast out demons

However, the surprising <u>contradiction</u> we see **in majority of** Christian communities is that,

they are preaching what Jesus asked them to <u>do</u> and they are not preaching what He asked them to <u>preach</u>. We should preach the Kingdom of God that

When a person remembers about His loving Heavenly Father and His Heavenly Home, he comes to his 'Right Sense'.

He asked us to preach and simultaneously do the two things that Jesus asked us to do.

The serpent remained faithful to the devil and preached his message without altering it, thus paving the way for mankind's <u>Journey of condemnation</u>. So let us not again fall prey to the devil's tricks but instead preach the message of the '<u>Kingdom of God</u>' which Jesus entrusted us without altering it and bring the people to their 'Right Senses' or convict them of the truth, thereby leading them to repentance, and thus paving the way for their '<u>Return Journey' for Salvation</u>.

The Kingdom of God that is feared by the devil

The devil fears the revelation of the Kingdom of God. He is very

When we preach Jesus without Jesus' message, 'The Kingdom of God', it is a sign that satan has taken advantage over us!

particular about not bringing to open, the subject, 'Kingdom of God'. The central subject of the Bible which is the 'Kingdom of God' was not included in the syllabus of the Bible Colleges in the past, which taught and prepared the men of God. Even today majority of

the Bible colleges do not include this main subject of the Bible 'The Kingdom of God' in their syllabus. This proves how successful the devil has been in preventing man from knowing about the 'Kingdom of God'.

In our journey forward, let us depend on God to attain a 'Right Sense' to teach the men of God, the central subject in the Bible, which is the Kingdom of God and be the instruments that change and prepare man. The result of this is that men will follow Jesus and reach the Father's house. On the contrary, if the current situation continues, majority of the people will be worshippers of Christ just to gain the world. This is a very dangerous situation. The people of different religions in the world worship and serve their gods only to meet their needs in the world.

"Do you want the temporary world which is ruled by the devil or the eternal kingdom ruled by God?"

Holy Spirit convicts a man according to the words spoken by the preachers. If we are preaching only about Jesus the deliverer, then we are limiting the Holy Spirit. However, if we are preaching about the

Right sense - The Foundation.....

Kingdom of God and our Father who is patiently waiting for us and about Jesus who is our only way, then we are paving the way for the Holy Spirit to bring conviction to men. If we preach about following Jesus and reaching the Kingdom of God, then we are not only bringing people to their 'Right Sense' but also paving the way for the Holy

Spirit to lead them in the 'Return Journey'.

In other words, Holy Spirit can work only through the word preached by the spoken by the preachers. preachers. This is because Holy Spirit's

Holy Spirit brings conviction to a man according to the words

work is limited to the words of the preachers. If we preach about healing and deliverance, Holy Spirit will manifest only in that area.

Christian works that do not lay the foundation of 'conviction'

In the story of the prodigal son, we understood that, the prodigal son came to his 'Right sense, or to his own identity' which later became the reason for his 'Return Journey'. However, in most of the gospel meetings today, the reason that people accept Jesus without actually repenting and still continue their 'Journey of condemnation' is because of the evangelist who is ignorant of the prodigal son's actual problem.

We see the prodigal son facing different problems in his 'Journey'.

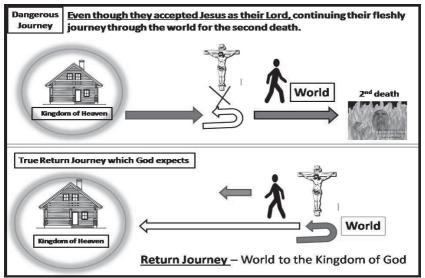
PROBLEMS	SOLUTIONS
He gets trapped in bad friendships.	It is necessary to have a good character
He loses his wealth.	It is necessary to have a monetary blessing
A severe famine arises in the land where he lives.	It is necessary for the land to be blessed
He applies for a job.	It is necessary to obtain a job.
He is hungry.	It is necessary to meet his hunger

He did not get an advance payment of his salary.	It is necessary for his boss to have a change of mind.
His dreams got shattered and all he desired was the food of the pig.	It is necessary for him to get his desired food which is the swine's feed.
He had competition in his job and nobody gave him the swine's feed to eat. He had many adversaries in his job.	It is necessary to prepare a feast before his enemies.
He obtains a lowly job to feed the swine.	It is necessary to get a high profile job

There are a lot of problems in this individual's life. One of the major concerns is that he is not even getting the food of the swine. The other is that he has enemies at his work place.

"And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything." (Luke 15:16, NKJV)

When he has many issues in his life, I being a Gospel preacher can approach him in two ways.



(Image - 9)

Right sense - The Foundation.....

The first - I can say that "my Jesus is a solution to all your problems i.e., Jesus will give you the swine's feed which is your desire, He will

prepare a feast before your enemies, He is a solution to all your problems etc."

The Holy Spirit may intervene and according to God's will provide solutions to all the subjects that I

A believer will unfortunately continue in the journey of condemnation if he continues to live his old life by obeying the flesh after accepting Jesus.

mentioned as a preacher. The individual will accept Jesus, escape from the clutches of the devil and his spirit will be 'Born Again' in the Kingdom of God. However, he will never take a 'Return Journey'. This is because he is not convicted of the truth through my evangelization. I did not pave the way through my words for the Holy Spirit to open his mind to the truth. In the future if he is still not convicted of the truth, he will continue praising, worshiping and praying to Jesus, like individuals do in other religions to meet the needs of this world, and <u>continue the</u> 'Journey of Condemnation' into the world instead of taking the 'Return Journey' of Salvation. (Image - 9)

In other words, he will obey his fleshly thoughts and continue with his old life. Though he is saved, due to lack of repentance he will continue his journey of condemnation in the world and his soul will be given up for eternal death. Paul says to the believers in Rome, that if they live according to the flesh (continue in the journey of condemnation), they will die.

"For if you live according to the flesh (journey) you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body (Return Journey), you will live." (Romans 8:13, NKJV)

The reason for this is that I ministered to him based on the visible problems that he is facing in the world without pointing him to the actual problem, which is in the invisible spiritual realm.

The other way I can share the Gospel to him is by saying that, the problem he is facing or seeing is not his real problem and that his real problem is in the invisible realm. The result of this problem in the invisible realm is his evil character, his lowly desire to have the swine's feed,

unemployment, adversaries at work etc. "My success as a preacher is to help the individual understand that the reason for all the problems that he is facing in the visible realm is his <u>alienation</u> <u>from the Father's house</u> in the invisible realm, which is the Kingdom of God".

I did not pave the way through my words for the Holy Spirit to open his mind to the truth. Furthermore, when we preach to him about the Kingdom of God, which Jesus preached and asked us to preach and about His Heavenly Father and His house and also tells him about Jesus who is the only way to reach there, he receives conviction of the truth. Once he comes to his 'Right Sense',

he will receive Christ as his Savior and will take the 'Return Journey' to his house, the Kingdom of God. Then the Kingdom of God intervenes and provides a solution to his temporary problems as well.

My success as a preacher is to help the individual understand that, the reason for all the problems that he is facing in the visible realm is his *alienation from the Father's house* in the invisible realm, which is the Kingdom of God.

"But <u>seek first</u> the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."

(Matthew 6:33 NKJV)

"How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him." (Acts 10:38, NKJV)

"What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him?"
(James 2:14, NKJV)

Right sense - The Foundation.....

"Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world." (James, 1:27 NKJV)

The world's method of evangelization and Christ's method of evangelization

Which one should we choose?

As a preacher, the decision is mine. I can choose the first one which is the world's method of evangelization and create religious people for Jesus who follow their flesh and lead them to eternal death.

Otherwise, I can choose Christ's method of evangelization, preaching the Kingdom of God, bringing many into their 'Right Senses' or their own identities and helping them to reach the Kingdom of God through the 'Return Journey'. I choose Christ's method. If you find this method to be good, you can also choose this.

Prayer



Heavenly Father, we should not be the people who just introduce Jesus to the world, but help us to preach what Christ preached, about the Father and His Kingdom, and use us as instruments to save people from the clutches of the devil by

convicting them and by helping them follow Jesus and reach the Kingdom of God...in the name of Jesus, Amen.



Important principles and points to remember

- 1. Only a person who follows Christ can be in the 'Return Journey'.
- 2. Today majority of the people who accept Jesus as their savior do not make the 'Return Journey'. This is because, the conviction that happened in the prodigal son, is not taking place in most of the meetings where the Gospel is being preached.
- 3. A person in his 'Right Sense' returns to his house at the end of the day and a person otherwise, wanders in the streets. Similarly in the spiritual life, a person who is convicted of the truth returns to the Kingdom of God and a person otherwise works to gain the world.
- 4. If the Kingdom of God preached by Jesus is proclaimed, then the people will come to their 'Right Senses'.
- 5. The 'conviction' that happened in the prodigal son during his Journey' away from the Father's house is the foundation of his 'Return Journey'. The work that happens on this foundation is the 'Return Journey'. It is at the end of this work, that the prodigal son reaches the Father's house or inherits the Kingdom of God.
- 6. The prodigal son came to his 'Right Sense' as a result of the reflection of the things that happened in the spiritual realm according to the Father's plan.
- 7. The reason for the 'Journey' and the 'Return journey' are the changes in man's thoughts.
- 8. If we yoke with the deceived people, we might also be deceived.
- 9. If the serpent faithfully preached devil's message without altering it, thus becoming the reason for 'Adam's Journey of Condemnation', then if we preach the message that Christ entrusted us, without altering it, it will lead to man's conviction and become a reason for his 'Return Journey' of Salvation.
- 10. The central subject of the Bible which is the 'Kingdom of God' was not included in the syllabus of the Bible Colleges in the past, which taught and prepared the men of God. This proves how successful the devil has been in preventing man from knowing about the 'Kingdom of God', which is the 'Gospel of Jesus Christ'.

Right sense - The Foundation.....

- 11. **'Conviction**' happens to an individual when His loving father and His house, the Kingdom of God is brought to his remembrance.
- 12. Holy Spirit brings conviction to a man depending on the words spoken by the preachers.
- 13. Holy Spirit can work only through the Word preached by the preachers. This is because Holy Spirit's work is limited to the words of the preachers.
- 14. A believer will unfortunately continue in the 'Journey of Condemnation' if he accepts Jesus without repenting and continue to live his old life by obeying the flesh.
- 15. Through our words, we should pave the way for the Holy Spirit to plant the seed and bring the person to his 'Right Sense', which is the foundation for the 'Return Journey'.
- 16. My success as a preacher is to help the individual understand that, the reason for all the problems that he is facing in the visible realm is his alienation from the Father's house in the invisible realm, which is the Kingdom of God.
- 17. 'Right Sense' mentioned in this book means 'to make a person understood about, his own identity or who he is?'



Chapter 9

"Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me." (Luke 9:23, NKJV)

The first Adam destroyed the relation between Heaven and earth through his disobedience. But the last Adam, Jesus, through His obedience, tore the veil which is His body and opened a new and living way from the earth to Heaven.

"Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and <u>living way</u> which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh." (Hebrews 10:19-20, NKJV)

Jesus was the first to ascend to Heaven through that way. And He is now **calling His disciples to "follow Him".**

If we follow Jesus we will reach the Kingdom of God.

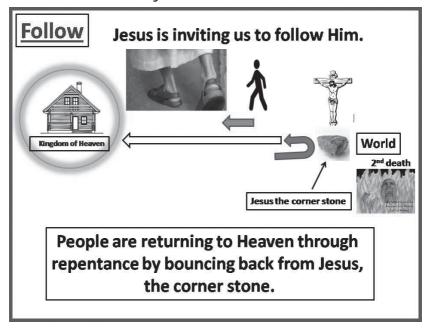
Jesus is our Leader and Master. In this section, 'Follow', Jesus is revealed as the leader because the role of a leader is to lead his people. The leader goes ahead and asks the people to follow. This is similar to the bogies trailing behind the engine of a train. But masters are different. They just issue commands.

"And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice."

(John 10:4, NKJV)

'Return Journey' is about following Jesus. If we follow Jesus we will reach our Father's house which is the Kingdom Of God.

Why should we follow?



(Image - 10)

The question, 'why should we follow Jesus?' has much significance.

Answer: If we follow Jesus we will reach the Kingdom of God.

Follow or not follow - the choice is ours.

Whether to follow Jesus and make the 'Return Journey' or not is an individual's choice. He has the freedom to choose. This is the reason why the scripture says "if anyone **desires** to follow me..."

Adam chose death. Let us be wise and choose to follow Jesus and live eternally (inherit the Kingdom of God).

"Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me." (Luke 9:23, NKJV)

This is similar to what God told Adam in Genesis. If you eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall die. This means Adam has the freedom to eat or not to eat. In Genesis, God warned Adam that

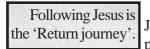
if he ate from the tree of knowledge of good and evil, he would die. Similarly, if people who are 'Born Again' in the spirit, obey the flesh they will die. Instead, if they follow Christ, they (souls) will inherit the Kingdom of God.

"For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live." (Romans 8:13, NKJV)

How should we follow?

Follow by making the 'Return Journey'

'Return journey' is the act of following Jesus. Jesus mentions few conditions for this.



Following Jesus is the 'Return journey'.

Journey' is just about worship, songs, prayers, preaching the word of God and evangelization. There are people who believe that 'Return

Let's see what Jesus says about following Him.

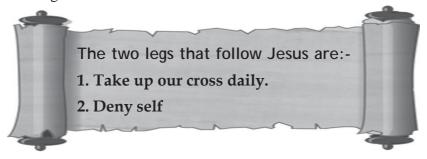
Two legs we need to follow Jesus

"Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me. let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me." (Luke 9:23, NKJV)

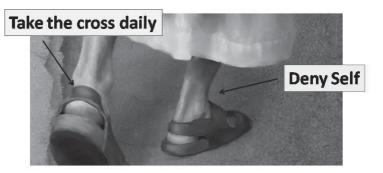
We need to do two things, to follow Jesus. They are:-

- 1. Take up our cross daily.
- 2. Deny self.

These two things are like the two legs of a man. We need to use these legs to follow Jesus.



Two Legs of 'Law of the Spirit'



Grace will empower us to obey the 'truth' and truth will release us from the bondage of lies and flesh

(Image - 11)

Gospel is the invitation to follow Jesus and inherit the Kingdom of God. "Take up the Cross daily and follow Jesus" are the two legs, without which we cannot follow Jesus.

How do we carry the Cross? How do we deny self? These thoughts might occur in the mind of the readers.

Dear readers, we who operate in 'time' in this world, require three things for this ministry. This is just like a doctor who prescribes three medicines for a patient three times a day.

- 1. Daily Bread
- 2. Daily Cross
- 3. Daily Death

The relation between 'Daily Bread' and 'Daily Cross'

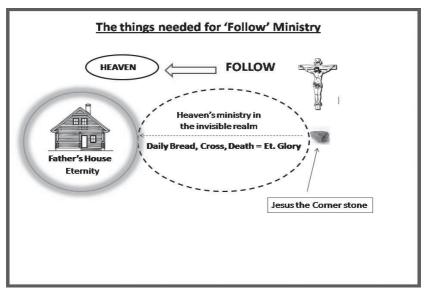
Only if we receive our Daily Bread, will the Daily Cross be formed. When Jesus taught His disciples to pray, he said; "when you pray, pray like this".

Only if we receive our Daily Bread, will the Daily Cross be formed. Our Father in Heaven.....Give us this day our 'Daily Bread'.....In this manner, therefore, pray:

"Our Father in Heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your

will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. <u>Give us this day our daily bread</u>. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen." (Matthew 6:9-13, NKJV)

DAILY BREAD



(Image - 12)

Most of us think the daily food we require is rice, chapatti and other earthly foods. But dear readers, let me tell you, besides the temporary earthly food, our Heavenly Father who is Spirit has prepared for us the spiritual food which we require daily.

This spiritual food is the counsel of God or the Word of God.

'Daily Bread' is the counsel of God or the Word of God which the Father prepares for us daily.

This can be compared to the food a loving mother prepares for her children daily.

DAILY CROSS

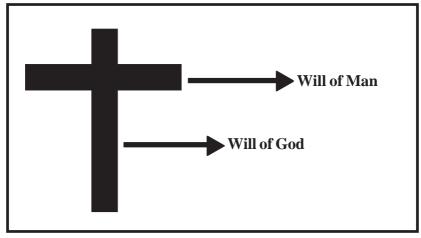
The daily cross will be formed when we receive our Daily Bread which is the counsel of God or the Word of God. Only then, can we follow Jesus. So it is important that we receive our daily spiritual food.

This is similar to a carpenter making a cross. A carpenter requires two pieces of wood to make a Cross. One which is long and vertical, the other which is short and horizontal. When both these pieces of wood are joined together in a special way, a Cross is formed. A carpenter cannot make a cross with only the short piece of wood. When we compare this spiritually, the short piece of wood or the horizontal piece of wood represents man's desires. The long piece of wood or the one which is placed vertically represents the Godly counsel from above or God's will. So when God's will and man's will are joined in the opposite direction, a cross is formed. (Picture-13). This is the relation between the 'Daily Bread' and the 'Cross'.

The experience of the cross does not happen to most of the people or most of them do not know about the cross because they are like the carpenter who has only the horizontal piece of wood and not the vertical

Daily Cross is a critical situation developed in man's heart when Godly counsel from the daily bread contradicts man's thoughts.

piece. This means, their life is filled with their own desires. They worship, pray and seek God to fulfill their fleshly desires. God's will does not have any place in their life and they have not learnt about it. The preachers whom God has ordained to teach them are man pleasers more than God pleasers and hence teach and preach what is pleasing to man.



(Image - 13)

"For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers;

and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables."

(2 Timothy 4:3-4, NKJV)

'Cross' means God's will against man's will.

"For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ." (Galatians 1:10, NKJV)

Hence people are not aware of the occurrences of the cross in their lives. For them, God is a God who fulfills all their desires. When problems arise, they go to God and He delivers them. But Christians like Paul who we see in the scriptures, killed their own 'will' to live according to the will of God.

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the

The real 'Cross' is invisible. It is formed in man's heart. Man's will should die on that Cross.

flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." (Galatians 2:20, NKJV)

Since they don't have the experience of a Cross, they can never follow Jesus. This is

Follow

a very dangerous situation to be in. Only if we follow Jesus, can we reach the Kingdom of God. In brief, we can say 'Daily Cross' is a critical situation developed in a man's heart when Godly counsel from the daily bread contradicts man's thoughts.

Notice the Cross which was formed in the life of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let's notice the prayer that the son of man, Jesus, prayed to the Father, in the garden of Gethsemane before His crucifixion. "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me."

"He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will."

(Matthew 26:39, NKJV)

"O My Father, <u>if it is possible</u>, <u>let this</u> <u>cup pass from me</u>". This depicts the small horizontal piece of wood of the 'Cross' which is man's will. However, "Jesus has to drinking from the cup, which God had given" is the long vertical piece of wood of

'Cross' is the Godly thought revealed in our hearts, which is against our will.

the 'Cross' which is God's will. These two thoughts combined together formed the 'Cross' in Jesus' life. The cross at the Calvary is just a physical and visible 'Cross'. But the real cross was formed in the garden of Gethsemane. It was formed in the heart of Jesus and hence was an invisible 'Cross'. It was His will that died on the cross.

Now you must have understood how the Daily Cross is formed with the daily Bread. 'Cross' is formed in man's heart when Godly revelation comes against man's will. In conclusion, we can say 'Daily Cross' is a critical situation developed in man's heart when Godly counsel from the daily bread contradicts man's thoughts.

DAILY DEATH

Paul the Apostle reveals that one of the secrets of his divine health is daily death.

"I affirm, by the boasting in you which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, *I die daily*." (1 Corinthians 15:31)

What is 'Daily Death?'

The second leg to follow Jesus is to "deny yourself", which means

God's will and man's will meet together to form the 'Cross'. 'Daily Death' happens on that 'Cross', when man's will is denied and God's will takes precedence.

to kill one's desires. Man is not the external body we see but he is formed by the thoughts in his soul. (Proverbs 23:7) Body is just used to fulfill the desires of the soul in the world. Man is actually a soul. Man's mind, will and emotions exist in the soul.

"And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and

breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a <u>living soul</u>." (Genesis 2:7 KJV)

"...... The first man Adam was made a <u>living soul</u>....." (1 Corinthians 15:45 KJV)

A man labors hard to fulfill his own desires. "Man is made up of his own desires. To kill man's desire is to kill himself". This is

visibly seen happening to Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane. Jesus prayed to the Father that if it was possible, to take away the cup which he had to drink from. That was Jesus' will which he prayed. But the Father revealed in Jesus' heart, that He has to go through it. God's thought which was contrary to Jesus' thoughts formed the

Using the two legs daily, i.e. "taking up the cross" and "denying self" will help you follow Jesus and inherit the Kingdom of God.

'Cross' in Jesus' life. *Jesus rejected His Own desire which was*, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me", on the 'Cross'. Then He said "nevertheless, not as *I will*, but as *You will*."

"He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will."

(Matthew 26:39, NKJV)

Jesus killed 'His self' on the invisible 'Cross' (Formed in His heart) in the garden of Gethsemane.

'Daily Death' is surrendering us daily like Jesus, and Paul (Who followed Jesus), to fulfill the will of God which is against our will.

"Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ." (1 Corinthians 11:1, NKJV)

Accepting Jesus (To be saved) happens in a 'moment', but 'Following Jesus' takes a 'lifetime'. That means, 'Following Jesus' does not happen in a moment but it happens in a 'lifetime'.

You might think if it is really necessary to **take the Cross** and **deny** 'self' to follow Jesus. "Is it not enough just to worship, attend conventions, pray and spread the gospel like how majority of the people in the world do?"

Dear readers, it is important to do everything that is mentioned above. However, in spite of doing everything and if you still do not follow Jesus in your heart, then all your works will be in vain.

Saved - deliverance from the clutches of the devil

Follow - Inheriting the Kingdom of God by following Jesus

'Accepting Christ (Salvation)' is a **one moment process** but 'following' Christ is a **life time process**.

Listen to the words of Jesus, which is rarely preached today.

"Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it."

(Matthew 7:13-14, NKJV)

"Then one said to Him, "Lord, are there few who are saved?"And He said to them,"Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able." (Luke 13:23-24, NKJV)

"Now If the <u>righteous one is scarcely saved, where will the ungodly and the sinner appear?</u>" Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls to Him in doing good, as to a faithful Creator."

(1Peter 4:18-19, NKJV)

Jesus is telling us to enter through the narrow gate and narrow way to the Kingdom of God. This narrow way is the 'Return Journey'. Listen to what Jesus says about those who lead by the broad way.

"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves"

(**Matthew 7:15, NKJV**)

Dear readers, do not be fooled, but accept Jesus as your savior and *follow His paths* to inherit the Kingdom of God.

"For this is commendable, if because of conscience toward God one endures grief, suffering wrongfully. For what credit is it if, when you are beaten for your faults, you take it patiently? But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God. For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps"

(1 Peter 2:19-21, NKJV)

Prayer



Our Heavenly Father, help us to follow Jesus and His model of evangelization and not please the world or people. Help us to lead people associated with us into the 'Kingdom of God' with our life exambles by obeying the Holy Spirit In Jesus name. Amen



Important principles and points to remember

- 1. The first Adam destroyed the relation between Heaven and earth through his disobedience. But the last Adam, Jesus, through His obedience, tore open the veil which is His body and opened a new and living way from the earth to Heaven.
- 2. 'Return Journey' is about following Jesus. If we follow Jesus we will reach our Father's house which is the Kingdom of God.
- 3. Adam chose death. Let us be wise and choose to follow Jesus to live eternally (Inherit the Kingdom of God).
- 4. The two legs that follow Jesus are:-
 - 1. Take up our cross daily.

2. Deny self.

- 5. 'Daily Cross' is a critical situation developed in man's heart when Godly counsel from the daily bread contradicts man's thoughts.
- 6. 'Cross' means God's will against man's will.
- 7. 'Cross' is the Godly thoughts revealed in our hearts, which is against our will.
- 8. God's **will** and man's will meet together to form the 'Cross'. Daily death happens on that 'Cross', when *man's will is denied* and God's will takes precedence.
- 9. Man is made up of his own desires. To kill man's desire is to kill himself.
- 10. Using the two legs daily, i.e. "taking up the cross" and "denying self" will help you follow Jesus and inherit the Kingdom of God.
- 11. 'Saved' means deliverance from the clutches of the devil and 'Follow' means inheriting the Kingdom of God by following Jesus.
- 12. 'Accepting Christ (Salvation)' is a *one moment process* but 'Following Christ' is a *life time process*.



Chapter 10

And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. (Mark 16:15, NKJV)

In the **previous** chapters we have understood what Jesus meant

Jesus not only asked us to 'Follow' Him, but He also asked us to 'Go' for Him.

when he said to 'Follow him'. An individual who follows Christ reaches the Kingdom of Heaven. Jesus is revealed as a 'Leader' when he asks us to follow Him. However, Jesus not

only asked us to **'Follow'** Him, but He also asked us to **'Go'** for Him. 'Go' is in the opposite direction of 'Follow'.

If 'Follow' is to the Kingdom of God, then 'Go' is to the world.

Jesus is revealed to us as 'Leader' when he asks us to 'follow' Him and as a 'Master' when he asks us to 'Go'. A leader leads his followers to a position or destination, whereas a master trains and send his people for work. So Jesus is both our Leader and Master.

A Leader leads his followers to a position or destination, whereas a Master prepares or sends his people for work.

Which destination is Jesus leading us to? Which position is he preparing us for?

Jesus is leading us to inherit the Kingdom of God by preparing us to be sons of God in the 'Return Journey'. This is the ultimate purpose that God the Father has through Jesus for mankind. The word says:

Those who believe and follow Jesus Christ ultimately reach the position of 'Sons of God'. This happens when we follow Jesus.

"But as many as received him, to them gave he <u>power</u> to become the <u>sons of God</u>, even to them that believe on his name:" (John 1:12 KJV)

Look what the Word says about those who victoriously finish their 'Return Journey'.

"He who <u>overcomes</u> shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be my <u>son</u>." (Revelation 21:7, NKJV)

'Sonship Journey' and 'Servant Journey'

Since the 'sons of God' are ultimately revealed at the end of the 'Return Journey', this journey of following Jesus can be called the 'Journey of sonship'.

'Follow' is the 'Sonship journey' and 'Go' is the 'Servant Journey'. The son goes to the father's house which is Heaven whereas the servant goes into the world.

At least a few of the readers might have a question. How can an individual be part of both the journeys at the same time?

Dear friends, do not forget the foundational truth that, we have been called to function in the Spiritual and in the physical realm at the same time. We have the inward man in us, who is able to function in the Spiritual realm and the outer man who is able to function in the physical realm. The body of the outer man is perishing day by day as it is in the journey of condemnation in the world.

"And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin...."
(Romans 8:10 NKJV)



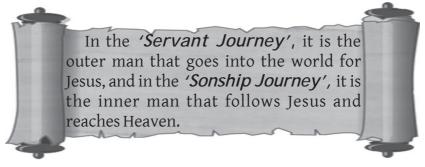
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However, if the inner man is following Jesus and is in the

'Sonship journey', then he is being renewed in strength day by day, or in other words, the son of God will be revealed through him day by day.

"Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our <u>outward man</u> is perishing, yet the <u>inward man</u> is being renewed day by day." (II Cor We have been called to 'operate' in the Spiritual and in the physical realm at the same time.

being renewed day by day." (II Corinthians 4:16, NKJV)



Follow & Go

'Servant Journey' is temporary. Our life in this world can be compared to a burning candle . As we work for Jesus by spreading the Gospel, our outer man eventually burns out from the world like a candle.

'Servant Journey' is done with the body and 'Sonship Journey' is done in the heart. 'Servant Journey' is visible to the eyes but the 'Sonship Journey' is invisible to the eyes.

In the 'Servant Journey', we might be able to gain many things in the world, whereas in the 'Sonship Journey', we might lose many things in the world. But we will receive eternal glory in Heaven.

If the 'Servant Journey' is to the visible world, then the 'Sonship Journey' is to the invisible Heaven.

Purpose of the 'Servant Journey'

Why did Jesus who asked His disciples to follow Him, also ask them to go into world like servants?

This was to make new disciples. Disciple means 'one who follows'.

Go therefore and <u>make disciples of all the nations</u>, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen. (Matthew 28:19-20, NKJV)

Relation between 'Go' and 'Follow' or The 'Servant Journey' and the 'Sonship Journey'

We do the 'Servant Journey' into the world to gain followers for Christ in the 'Sonship Journey'.

Very few people have the understanding that they are going into the world as servants of Christ to invite people for the 'Sonship Journey'. Perhaps most of the people are even ignorant of this. Today most of the people go into the world as servants of Jesus with an attitude to convert people's religion.

If we are not doing the 'Sonship Journey' by following Jesus which transforms people into sons of God, but going only as servants of Christ into the world, then all our efforts are in vain.

Since the conformity to the world has crept into Christian community, most of the people go as servants of Jesus to please individuals or institutions, for self reputation or the organization they work, monetary

benefits and for numerous other gains. All these purposes are hidden in the heart of man. Though all these works receive glory that should be done in the from man, during the judgment time, they heart of man whereas will be burned off in the presence of God 'Go' is a ministry that and everything that is hidden in darkness should be done in the will be brought to light.

One of the works in the Old Testament that brings reputation for man....

'Follow' is a ministry world with the body.

"Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth." (Genesis 11:4, NKJV)

"For all <u>seek their own</u>, not the things which are of Christ Jesus." (Philippians 2:21, NKJV)

"For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame who set their mind on earthly things." (Philippians 3:18-19, NKJV)

The judgment of Christ.z

"Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both <u>bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts.</u> Then each one's praise will come from God." (I Corinthians 4:5, NKJV)

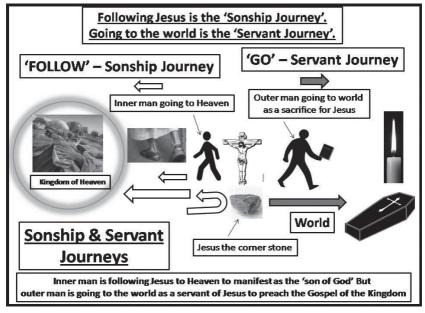
Things needed for the 'GO' ministry

If daily bread, daily cross and daily death are the requirements for the 'Follow' ministry, then 'time' is the most essential thing required for the 'Go' ministry which is done on earth. We also require a healthy body, food and clothes needed for the body etc. In addition to these, we need the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

We 'Follow' Jesus to the Kingdom of God which is ruled by God. However, we 'Go' with the Gospel of Christ into the world ruled by the devil. So it is important that we receive the anointing of the Holy Spirit before we go into the world. That is why Jesus told his disciples to tarry in Jerusalem till they receive power from above.

"Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high." (Luke 24:49, NKJV)

"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." (Acts 1:8, NKJV)



(Image - 15)

Why should we spread the Gospel? Isn't the 'Return Journey' to Father's House enough?

Which ministry deserves more importance - "Follow" or "Go"? Since Jesus commanded them, both are important. We should give importance to both, just as the Bible gives.

Once a person had a question - In the story of the prodigal son, we

see only the 'Return Journey'to the Father's house. From the two commands of Jesus, "Follow" and "Go", we see only "Follow" happening in the life of the prodigal son. The question is - why is only "Follow" mentioned and not "Go"?

Answer-Through the story of the prodigal

The only purpose of God was to bring the lost Adam back into the Father's house which is the Kingdom of God.

son, God presented His own story which happened in the Heavenly family. The prodigal son who left the father's house represents Adam who disobeyed God and was sent out from the Garden of Eden. *The purpose of God at that time was to bring Adam who lost his right conscience and became dead in the spiritual realm, back into the*

<u>'Father's House' which is the Kingdom of God</u>. The first family consisted only of Adam and Eve at that time. For this, only Adam the prodigal son had to receive conviction **of the truth** and take the 'Return Journey' (**Follow**) to his Father's house. That is why in the story of the prodigal son, we don't see "**Go**" happening.

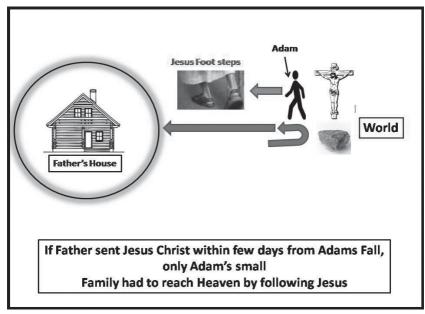
Now a question can arise in the mind of the readers. Since we don't see the servant's work of "Go", happening in the story of the prodigal son, then why did Jesus tell His disciples to "preach the Gospel of the Kingdom to the ends of the earth and to add to Church the people being saved."

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen." (Matthew 28:19-20, NKJV)

"And the Lord added to the Church daily those who were being saved." (Acts 2:47, NKJV)

Answer- Imagine, if God had sent Jesus Christ into the world for the purpose of salvation, within days after Adam left Eden, then only the small family consisting of Adam and Eve (Church) would have to repent and had to follow Jesus to reach Heaven.

However, it is only after 4000 years, after Adam left Eden that God said "The time is fulfilled, the Kingdom of God is at hand" and sent Jesus. By this time, Adam's descendants had filled the earth. Now to bring back Adam's descendants to the Father's house, the good news (Gospel of the Kingdom) that 'the Father wants to bring them back to His Heavenly House' has to be preached to all his descendants who are spiritually dead and scattered around the world. The people who believe this Gospel of the Kingdom should be added to the Church first (Act.2:47), before they can take their 'Return Journey' (Follow) which is their starting point to 'Follow' Jesus. This is why Jesus had asked us to 'Go' the world. In short, the purpose behind 'GO' (Evangelization) is to gather together all of Adam's descendants into the Church for 'Return Journey' or 'Follow' ministry.



(Image - 16)

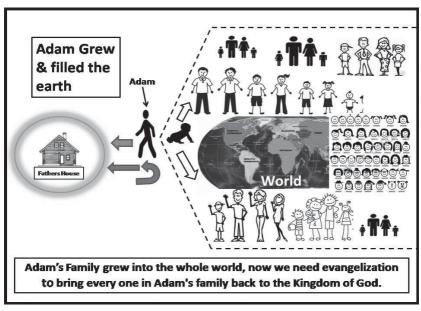
If God had sent Jesus Christ into the world for the purpose of salvation, within days after Adam left Eden, then only the small family consisting of Adam and Eve ('Church') would have to repent and had to follow Jesus to reach Heaven.

A plan has to be made before a house is built. Similarly 'Go' is a work that should be done before 'Follow'. In other words, 'Go' is done so people can 'Follow'.

'Go' precedes 'Follow'

We are going as servants of Christ to make followers for Christ.

In God's original plan, we just had to follow Christ and become sons in the Kingdom of God. But it is imperative that we become servants of Christ and go into the world because we, the children of Adam are scattered around the world. It is our responsibility to gather all our brothers and sisters for the 'Return Journey'.



Take the 'Return Journey' and inherit the Kingdom of God (Image - 17)

We are obeying the commandment of God when we 'Follow' and 'Go':-

Once a lawyer asked Jesus, "Which is the greatest commandment in the law?". Jesus consolidated the commandments into two and said,

Jesus said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.'

This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.'

(Matthew 22:37-39, NKJV)

When we do the 'Follow' ministry in us and the 'Go' ministry in the world, we are proving that we love both God and men.

Above all we should love God

Dear readers, when we follow Jesus into the Kingdom of God, we are proving to God that we are obeying His first commandment. Following JESUS is difficult because the way is narrow and we need to carry our cross and deny 'self'. But this journey becomes effortless when we see our loving father readily waiting for us on the other side to receive us.

Instead if we are not taking the 'Return Journey', but are only worshipping and praying to God to receive the blessings of this world, then we are proving that 'we love the world above God'.

Love your neighbour as yourself

Dear readers, if we go into the world and spread the Gospel of the Kingdom among our brothers and prepare them for the 'ReturnJjourney', then unknowingly we are proving that we are obeying the second commandment of God and that we love our brothers. If we are reluctant to spread the Gospel of the Kingdom, then we are proving that 'we don't love our brothers'.



Prayer



Our Heavenly Father, thank you for helping us discern between - the 'Follow' ministry where we follow Jesus and reach the Father's house and the 'Go' ministry where we go into the world and spread the 'Gospel of the **Kingdom**' to our brothers. Help us to give the

due importance to each ministry and be an example to the world and the Church by following Jesus and reaching the Kingdom of God. In Jesus name.. Amen.

Important principles and points to remember

- 1. Jesus not only asked us to 'Follow' Him, but He also asked us to 'Go'. 'Go' is in the opposite direction of 'Follow'.
- 2. 'Follow' is to the Kingdom of God and 'Go' is to the world.
- 3. A Leader leads his followers to a position or destination, whereas a master trains and sends his people for work.
- 4. Those who believe in Jesus Christ ultimately reach the position of 'sons of God'. This happens when we follow Jesus.
- 5. 'Follow' is the Sonship Journey and 'Go' is the Servant Journey.
- 6. We have been called to operate both in the Spiritual and in the physical realm at the same time.
- 7. In the Servant Journey, it is the outer man that goes into the world for Jesus, and in the Sonship Journey, it is the inner man that follows Jesus and reaches Heaven.
- 8. Servant Journey is done with the body and Sonship Journey is in the heart.
- 9. Servant Journey is visible to the eyes but the Sonship Journey is invisible to the eyes. If the Servant Journey is into the visible world, then the Sonship Journey is to the invisible Heaven.
- 10. In the Servant Journey, we might be able to gain many things in the world, whereas in the Sonship Journey, we might lose many things.



Chapter MISUNDERSTOOD SPIRITUAL GROWTH

"Blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel!"

(Mathew 23:24 NKJV)

Genus Christ looked at the Pharisees (Men of God) and rebuked them saying, 'you who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel'.

"Blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel!" (Matthew 23:24 NKJV)

This means that these men of God neglect weightier matters of the law and give undue importance to least significant things.

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cumin, and have <u>neglected</u> <u>the weightier matters of the law</u>: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone." (Matthew 23:23 NKJV)

Jesus implies that, men of God should convey the message to the people without altering the significance, the scripture has given to that message. God calls those people who do not follow this as wicked and blind leaders.

Men of God should convey the message to the people without altering the significance, the scripture has given to that message.

We understand from the story of the prodigal son, that the Old Testament deals with matters in the 'Journey' and the New Testament deals

with matters in the 'Return journey'. <u>The main focus in the New Testament is a person's 'Return Journey' to the Father's House by following Jesus</u>. Jesus died on the cross for this reason. All the remaining things in the New Testament are related to this and point to this.

The purpose of every Christian work is to help individuals inherit the Kingdom of God through the 'Return Journey'.

This is compared to a bottle and funnel shown in the picture. This comparison is easily understood by those who have gone to the ration shop to buy kerosene. A funnel is used to transfer the kerosene from a big jar into a smaller one. Though the funnel is big, it is placed in the mouth of the bottle in such a way that, however the kerosene is poured into the funnel, it reaches the narrow part of the funnel and fills the bottle. Similarly the purpose of every Christian work should be to help people reach the Kingdom of God through the narrow way ('Return Journey') and narrow gate (Judgemnet seat of Christ - 2 Cor . 5:10) showed by Jesus Christ. This is mentioned in Matthew 7:13.

"Enter by the narrow gate". (Matthew 7:13 NKJV)

The picture shown here can be divided into three parts.

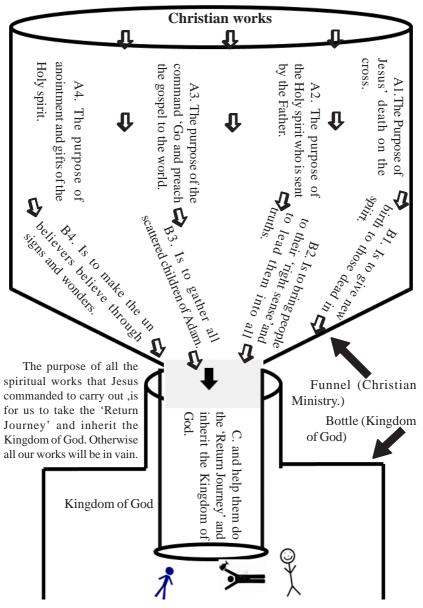
- 1) Works (A)
- 2) Works (B)
- 3) Works (C)



(Image - 18)

1. The purpose of the spirit. (b1) 2. The purpose of the sent by the Father. (A2) 3. The purpose of the command 'Go' and preach the Gospel to the Sorattered. (b3) 4. The purpose of anointment and gifts of the Holy spirit. (A4) 1. Is to give new birth to spirit to spirit. (b1) 2. Is to bring people to (C) And help them into all truths. (D) And help them into all	Work (A)	Work (B)	Work (C)
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	he purpose of nent and gifts of v spirit. (A4)	4. Is to make the un believers believe through signs and wonders. (b4)	2

NOTE: Sentences in Table A, B, C to be read together



The purpose of every christian ministry is to help people inherit the Kingdom of Heaven through the Return Journey. (Image - 19)

The work of inheriting the Kingdom of God is compared to a funnel and a bottle.

This 'Return Journey' is the 'Sonship Journey'. It is in this 'Return Journey' that an individual attains purity, which is God's will, thus revealing the son of God in him. Such an individual will be a wonder in majority of the Christian communities today. These sons of God are revealed only by following Jesus (Return Journey).

Sons of God are revealed only by following Jesus (Return Journey).

"Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God."(1John 3:9 NKJV)

The altar calls which are given at the end of most of the Christian meetings are

- 1. Who is interested in accepting Jesus as their savior?
- 2. Who is interested in being baptized?
- 3. Who desires to be delivered from their problems?
- 4. Who wants the anointing and the gifts of the Holy Spirit?
- 5. Who is willing to go and preach the Gospel for Jesus?

But the most important question which Jesus desires that people should be asked is:-

- "Who is interested in following Jesus?" Or
- "Who is interested in entering the Kingdom of God through the narrow way and narrow gate"?

It is good to accept Jesus as our Lord, be baptized, be anointed by the Holy Spirit, receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit and go and preach the Gospel for Jesus. These commands should be definitely obeyed by us. However, the purpose behind all this is to follow Jesus and to enter the Kingdom of God as this is the will of God. Anything we do ignoring this main purpose, will be in vain. Probably, this is not understood by most of the Christian brothers today. It is unfortunate that they have to wait until the 'day of judgement' to understand this.

In Matthew chapter 7, Jesus has given us a sample judgement for our understanding, which is similar to a mock exam before the grade

10 final examination. Before Jesus mentioned about this judgement in Matthew 7:21-23, He asked us to, 'enter the Kingdom of God by the narrow gate'. 'Narrow gate' is the 'judgment' of Jesus. There we find people who accepted Jesus as their Savior and anointed servants of God who did healings, deliverances, prophecies and other mighty works in the name of Jesus being rejected. 1 Peter 4:17-18 and 2 Cor.5:10 further explains about this 'narrow gate' or 'judgment'. Jesus said there is a 'narrow way' which we have to take through which you enter the 'narrow gate' which is the judgement of Christ (Mat.7:14). He further warned us to be mindful of the false prophets, who changes this 'narrow way', which was clearly mentioned by Him, into a 'broad way'.

<u>Broad way</u>: Allow people to pursue their own desires and worldly life style even after accepting Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

Narrow way: Requires people to hate the world, to deny their self (will) and allows God's will in their life. This means to carry their cross and kill their 'fleshly nature' with the help of the Holy Spirit and manifest as sons of God. (1 John 2:15-16, James 4:4, Luke 9:23, Rom.8:13)

Biblical order of 'Inheriting the Kingdom of God'

- 1. Accepts Jesus Christ as the Lord (Salvation) Roman 10:9-10.
- 2. Walk through the 'Narrow Way' (Following Jesus) Luke 9:23, Mathew 7:14.
- 3. Inherit the Kingdom of God through the **Narrow gate** (Judgement seat of Christ) 2 Cori 5:10, 1 Peter 4:17,18, James 2:12, Mathew 7:13, 21-23.

Beware of the false prophets, who show you the wide gate and the broad way. (Matthew 7:15 NKJV)

Sample judgment (Matthew 7: 21-23)

"Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it."

(Matthew 7:13-14 NKJV)

"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves."

(Matthew 7:15NKJV)

Sample judgement

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall <u>enter</u> the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?'

(Matthew 7:21-22 NKJV)

The anointed ones who are deceived

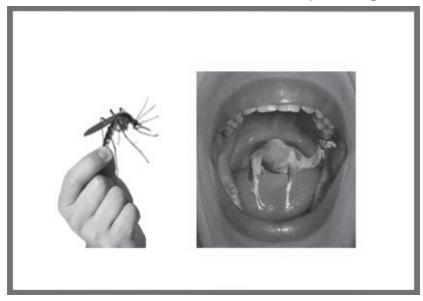
In Matthew 7:22-23, it is the anointed ones who are standing before the Lord for judgement. They have attended many Christian meetings and accepted Jesus in one of these meetings when the altar call was made and desired the anointing and gifts of the HOLYSPIRIT to preach the 'Gospel' for Jesus.

They must have also reached out to the world and gained many souls through signs and wonders.

All their work is commendable and they would be the ideal people to emulate, according to us. However knowingly or unknowingly they gave importance only to the 'visible' ministry of the 'servant' and ignored the invisible 'Sonship' ministry. In other words, they took up the work of the 'servant' but not of the 'son'. According to the words of Jesus they are people "Who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel!" In other words they took the 'Servant Journey' and ignored the 'Sonship Journey'. They boast to Jesus about the works they did in the 'Servant Journey' and not in the 'Sonship Journey'.

WORK REPORT

- 1. Lord, Lord we have prophesied in Your name.
- 2. We have cast out demons in Your name.
- 3. We have done many wonders in Your name.



(Image - 20)

These servants of God consider the above work as 'spirituality'.

Whatever they have done is good. They submitted the report of their Christian works to their master expecting to be rewarded immediately. Out of the abundance of the heart, their mouth spoke. But the response they received

In the New Testament, God is not making servants but 'sons of God' through the servants.

from their master Jesus was least expected and heart breaking. Actually they were deceived by today's Christian ministries which are corrupted by the devil.

"And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!"

(Matthew 7:23 NKJV)

Notice what the Lord said,

"You who practice lawlessness I never knew you as sons who followed me." According to Jesus, servants are prone to unrighteousness because in the 'Sonship journey', individuals attain freedom from sin and finally sons of God who cannot sin, are revealed through them.

"Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and <u>he cannot sin</u>, because he has been born

of God." (1 John 3:9 NKJV)

God sent Jesus to make sons of God and not servants of God. Then why were servants made? Servants were made to gain people for the 'Sonship Journey'.

If we pay heed to what Jesus said in the below verses, we will understand the difference between sons and servants.

"And the <u>servant</u> abideth not in the house for ever: but the <u>Son</u> <u>abideth ever.</u>" (John 8:35 KJV)

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the <u>sons of God</u>, even to them that

believe on his name:" (John 1:12 KJV)

"He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be <u>My son</u>." (Revelation 21:7 NKJV)

He who overcomes shall be made sons and not servants.

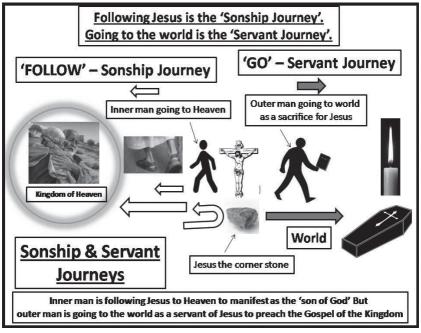
In the 'Journey', (Old Testament) if servants made servants, then in the New Testament, Son (Jesus) does not make servants but ultimately 'sons of God'. In the New Testament, servants

are made temporarily to go to the ends of the world and gather the scattered children of Adam for the

'Sonship Journey'. <u>Servants, who go physically into the world</u>, should also ensure to follow Christ in their hearts and enter the Kingdom of God through the invisible 'Sonship Journey'. 'Sonship Journey' is the camel or the 'core', do not swallow it.

Sonship is the camel or the 'core', do not swallow it. Most Churches replaced 'Return Journey' with a 'happy clapping doctrine'.

In the New Testament, servants are made temporarily to go to the ends of the world and gather the scattered children of Adam for the 'Sonship Journey'.



(Image - 21)

A servent does not abide in the house forever. A servant can associate with his boss only during his working hours after which he has to leave from his presence. Similarly a servant's journey into the world is temporary. But the case of a son is different. He might help his father at work, but after work he does not have to leave like a servant but he can go with the father to their house.

Anointed people who were ignorant that they were doing the 'servant journey' and not the 'Sonship Journey' gave the report of their work to the master. Though the scripture had warned them many times, not to get deceived, they ignored it.

"Let no one <u>deceive</u> you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience." (Ephesians $5:6~\mathrm{NKJV}$)

"But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a *foolish man* who built his house on the sand." (Matthew 7:26 NKJV)

All that they ran after and labored for, became in vain.

DO NOT MISUNDERSTAND ANOINTING AND SPIRITUAL GIFTS AS SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Anointed people and spiritual people

Those who are led by the Holy Spirit are called spiritual people and those who operate in the gifts of the Holy Spirit are called anointed people. Anointed people should also be spiritual. A big group of people misunderstand spiritual gifts and anointing as 'Spiritual Growth'. Anointing is the Heavenly power that God gives through His Spirit to servants of God to function in this evil world. Jesus has warned us not to step into the ministry without receiving God's anointing.

"Behold, I send the Promise of

My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high."

(Luke 24:49 NKJV)

When we receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit and operate in them, we are called 'the anointed'. Whereas, we are spiritual when we are led by the Holy Spirit and draw closer to God by following Jesus.

It is essential for us to receive both anointing and the gifts of the

"Spiritual growth is about getting closer to our Heavenly Father by following Jesus." Holy Spirit. Unfortunately when these gifts manifest in a person's life and ministry, people misunderstand it for their spiritual growth and desire these gifts because they are ignorant about what 'real' spiritual growth is about.

Spiritual growth is about getting closer to our Heavenly Father by following Jesus. We attain spiritual growth only through the 'Return Journey'.

When we receive the anointing, gifts of the Holy Spirit starts manifesting through us and we are called 'anointed'. However, we are

spiritual, when we follow Jesus.

We should carry out the work of the servant with the anointing on us and at the same time follow Christ and be revealed as 'sons of God'. Otherwise, whatever we labor for and achieve would be in vain.

"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God." (Romans 8:14 NKJV)

The deceived believers

In Jesus' sample judgment in Matthew 7:21, He is answering to believers who were gained by these deceived men of God. These believers who stand before the throne claim "We have received Jesus as our Lord." This is because the only message they had heard in the Christian meetings they attended was "Who is willing to accept Jesus as their Lord?". With enthusiasm, they immediately ran to the front, said the sinner's prayer and handed over the filled form. They had not bothered to understand anything beyond that. Even if they had understood, they got deceived by the Christian community around them. They did not understand the significance of *following Jesus* because they hardly found anyone living by the Word! They were not aware of the fact that, they were 'Born Again' in the Kingdom of God and had accepted Jesus as their Lord to do the will of God, that is to manifest as 'sons of God' by following Jesus (Sonship **Journey**). As the word says, most of them became pitiable because they followed Jesus only to attain temporary deliverance in the world.

"If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable." (1 Corinthians 15:19 NKJV)

The main aim of majority of the Christian meetings today is only to preach about Jesus and to make the people accept Jesus as their Lord.

Jesus responded to those believers who claimed to have only accepted Jesus as their Lord, as below

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the <u>will of My Father</u> in heaven." (Matthew7:21 NKJV)

After knowing the response of Jesus, Christian meetings should not limit their messages to only introducing Jesus but also preach about following Him and reaching the Kingdom of God.

Did these people who confessed Jesus as their Lord reach the Kingdom of God?

No, they were also rejected like their teachers. Listen to what Jesus says, "when blind leads the blind, both will fall into the pit".

"And He spoke a parable to them: "Can the blind lead the blind? Will they not both fall into the ditch?"

(Luke 6:39 NKJV)

Jesus looked at the men of God during His time and said the same thing.

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel land and sea to win one proselyte, and when he is won, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves." (Matthew 23:14-15 NKJV)

In Matthew 23:17, Jesus calls the Pharisees and scribes 'blind guides'.

According to the above words of Jesus, both the preacher who preached the Gospel and the listeners who accepted Jesus will enter hell. What is the reason?

'MISUNDERSTOOD SPIRITUALITY'

Man's idea of spirituality

In a meeting, if ten people accept Jesus as their Lord, then the meeting, is of my Father will enter considered to be a blessing and a success. into the Kingdom of In a meeting, if people accepted Jesus as Heaven. their Savior, and if deliverances and

He who does the will

healings took place and if prophesies were told, then it is considered a great blessing and a break through. All these miracles happened in Matthew 7:22 as well. However, Jesus rejected all who performed these miracles and if Jesus rejects, the only alternative is 'Hell'.

You may probably think why Jesus rejected them after all their labor.

Dear friend,

One day all of us will have to stand before this throne of judgment.

Before that let us try standing today and examine ourselves and check whether we will enter the Kingdom of God or not. If you are convinced that you will not enter, don't worry, let us pay heed to Jesus and make necessary changes in our lives. Readers might have a doubt, "Why didn't these people who did good deeds not enter the Kingdom of God?"

Jesus says, "He who does the will of my Father will enter into the Kingdom of Heaven".

They got rejected not because they did not do good deeds instead they got rejected at the time of judgment because they swallowed the camel which was "to do the will of the Father".

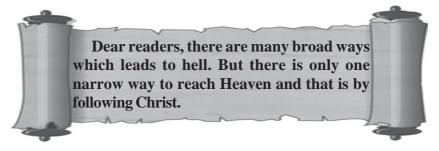
What is the will of the Father?

The will of the Father is to <u>follow Jesus</u>, by taking the 'Sonship journey', and reaching the Father's house and be revealed as 'sons of God'.

The Father is patiently waiting for this. Friends, there are many broad ways which leads to hell. But there is only one narrow way to reach Heaven and that is by following Christ.

Jesus taught us to enter the Kingdom of God through the narrow way and narrow gate. Currently, we are in the midst of wrong teachings that show us easy and broad ways to Heaven which are contrary to Jesus' teachings. So do not be deceived.

Let us leave all the spiritual misunderstandings and do the 'Sonship Journey' by following Jesus and live eternally with the Father in the Kingdom of God. ..!



PRAYER



Heavenly Father, remove all my spiritual misunderstandings and help me do the will of My Father and inherit the Kingdom of God. Lord help me to give the same importance, the Word of God gives, to

Salvation, anointing, gifts of the Holy Spirit, and the 'Return Journey' without ignoring anything. Lead me by the Holy Spirit. In the name of Jesus, amen.

Important principles and points to remember

- 1. Men of God should convey the message to the people without altering the significance, the scripture gives to that message
- 2. Sons of God are revealed only by following Jesus ('Return Journey').
- 3. Servants were made temporarily to go to the ends of the world and gather the scattered children of Adam for the 'Sonship Journey'.
- 4. Sonship is the camel or the 'core', do not swallow it. Most Churches replaced 'Return Journey' with a 'happy clapping doctrine'.
- 5. Spiritual growth is about getting closer to our Heavenly Father by following Jesus.
- 6. When we receive the gifts of the Holyspirit and operate in them, we are called 'the anointed'. Whereas, we are spiritual when we obey the Holyspirit and draw closer to God by following Jesus.
- 7. We should carry out the work of the servant with the anointing on us and at the same time *follow* Christ and be revealed as spiritual

sons. Otherwise, whatever we labor for and achieve would be in vain.

- 8. We should understand that the will of the Father is to follow Christ in the 'Sonship Journey' and it is for this reason that we are 'Born Again' in the Kingdom of God.
- 9. Jesus taught us to enter the Kingdom of God through the narrow way. Currently, we are in the midst of wrong teachings that show us easy and broad ways to Heaven which are contrary to Jesus' teachings. So do not be deceived.
- 10. There are many broad ways which leads to hell. But there is only one narrow way to reach Heaven and that is by *following Christ*.



Chapter 12 WHAT DOES GOD DESIRE OF MEN?

"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." (Mark 1:15 NKJV)

What is God expecting of us, when he says "The **time** is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand "?" "Repent, and believe in the Gospel."

Here the Word of God talks about two things that man has to do.

- (1) Repent
- (2) Believe in the Gospel

Let us first understand what repentance means because it is the first instruction given to us by Jesus.

The two things man has to do

(1)Repent

(2)Believe in the Gospel

Repentance

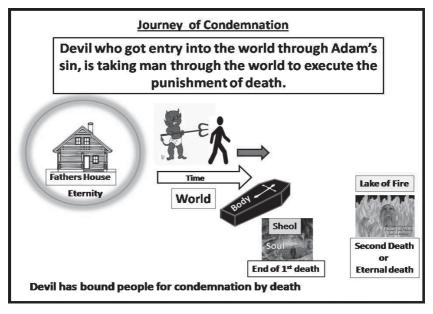
There are people who think that repentance means awareness of sin, crying, regretting, confessing etc. But the true meaning of repentance is to 'think differently' and move forward by changing the direction of thinking or turning around 180 degree in our heart. In other words, "change from man's way of thinking to God's way of thinking."

Repentance [Metanoeo (Greek)] = To think differently

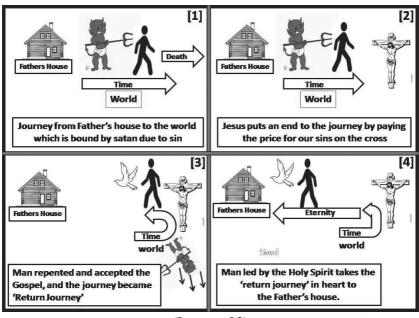
How can we change the direction of our thinking?

To change the direction of our thinking, we have to first forego our old thoughts or concepts and align our mind with the Word of God and live according to this new thinking.

What does God desire of men?



(Image - 22)



(Image - 23)

The 'Journey' to the world is in 'time'. When Jesus says 'time is fulfilled', He means that the father's period of sentence for mankind in 'time' is over. He says this to men who are bound by the devil due to sin and is traveling through the world for eternal judgment (Second death). The Father sent Jesus to the world so that

Who would like to continue in captivity once the period of sentence is over? Only those who are not in their 'Right Sense'.

through His death, Adam's generation could be redeemed from condemnation

Who would like to continue in captivity once the period of sentence is over? Only those who are not in their right sense.

A person turning from

Imagine, a son who rebelled and sinned against his father was sentenced. After serving his sentence, he is freed but

A person turning from the world to the Kingdom of God, in his heart is called repentance.

doesn't have a place to go. He then receives an invitation letter from his father's house which reads.

"Son, return home. Your father is waiting for you." The son after receiving the letter happily returns home. This is similar to Jesus' next words "The Kingdom of God is at hand."

"The time is fulfilled" - The period of sentence is over

"Kingdom of God is at hand" - Father is inviting you to return to His house.

True repentance in Christian life is paying heed to the above words of Jesus and turning our heart from the world which is a 'prison', to the Kingdom of God which is the 'Father's house'.

This is the first thing that God desires of man. The second thing is to 'believe in the Gospel.'

What does God desire of men? Believe in the Gospel

A person who turns his heart from the world to the Kingdom of God, but does not know the way that Jesus made on the 'Cross', can be compared to a person not having a way to take him back to the Father's house. Many of the Old Testament believers were men of repentance (People who changed their direction of thinking to God). But they did not have the <u>Gospel</u> and the <u>way</u> which Jesus made on the 'Cross', which is the only way (John 14:6) that could take them to the Kingdom of Heaven.

Gospel is the Salvation plan that the Father has prepared through Jesus for inheriting the *Kingdom of God*. During the three and half years on earth, Jesus preached about the Kingdom of God and after that He gained *salvation* for mankind from satan through His crucifixion on the 'Cross'.

If a person turns his heart from the world to the Kingdom of God but does not believe in the Gospel, he can be compared to a person not boarding the vehicle which is waiting to take him back to his father's house.

If a person does not believe in the death of Jesus on the 'Cross', then he will continue in punishment. In the heart of the Father, who is the judge, even if the Journey of condemnation for mankind is over, that individual continues in punishment because, in the Father's plan of judgment, He did not state the period of sentence, instead He said,

"But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die." (Genesis $2:17\ NKJV$)

Since man is made of spirit, soul and body, punishment of death starts with the death of the spirit, followed by the death of the soul and finally the death in the body. So for mankind to have freedom from the devil, who has authority over death, somebody should take the punishment on behalf of mankind. This is what the Father accomplished through Jesus' death on the Calvary. All the sins of mankind were laid on Jesus, thus saving man from the clutches of the devil.

<u>Repent</u> = Shows the change in direction of the journey. ('Journey' changes into 'Return Journey'. In other words, the person has a change of heart, from the 'Journey' into the world to the 'Journey' into Heaven. Similar to a U turn)

 $\underline{\text{Gospel}}$ = Shows the way to Heaven through Jesus, purposed by the Father. (A new way is paved for the vehicle which has taken a U turn)

<u>Believe</u> = <u>Shows the 'Return Journey'</u> to Heaven through the way prepared by Jesus. (*The vehicle starts moving towards its destination on the newly paved way*)

"All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; <u>And the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.</u>" (Isaiah 53:6 NKJV)

Only a person who has repented and believed in the Gospel can make the 'Return Journey' to Heaven.

That is the reason Jesus told us to repent first and then believe in the Gospel.

In other words, first understand the destination, then turn the direction of the vehicle to that destination.

Probably you will have a question, "Most of the Christian meetings do not talk about repentance, but preaches only about accepting Jesus as our Lord. What will happen to such people who accept Jesus without genuine repentance?"

There is an old saying that "half doctor kills a patient". Likewise people who only accept Jesus as their Lord, and do not repent during their life on earth, will perish. In the Bible, such people who accept Jesus but do not repent are called wretched men. They will surely perish.

"If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable." (I Corinthians 15:19 NKJV)

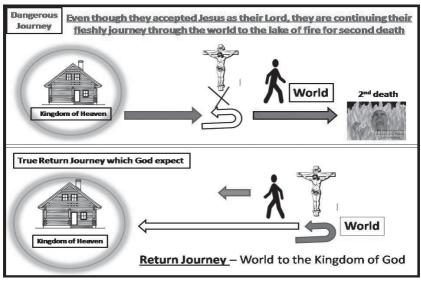
"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven." (Matthew 7:21 NKJV)

What does God desire of men?

A person without repentance travels through the world into the 'Lake of fire' and not to 'Heaven'. His 'Journey' after accepting Jesus continues as a 'Journey' and does not transform into a 'Return Journey'. Though he is saved by Jesus from the hands of the devil, according to the Word of God, he will still perish because he continues his old lifestyle by obeying the flesh.

A person without repentance travels through the world into the 'Lake of fire' and not into 'Heaven'. His 'Journey' after accepting Jesus continues as a 'Journey' and does not transform into a 'Return Journey.'

"For if you live according to the flesh <u>you will die; but if by the Spirit</u> you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live." (Romans 8:13 NKJV)



(Image - 24)

The repentance (Change in direction) of the thief on the cross of Calvary and his 'Return Journey' to Heaven believing in the Gospel.

We see in the Bible that there were two thieves who were crucified alongside Jesus on either side of Him, on the Calvary. Both of them

journeyed into the world. Initially both of them reviled Jesus on the cross just like the scribes and the people.

"Then two robbers were crucified with Him, one on the right and another on the left. And those who passed by blasphemed Him, wagging their heads and saying, "You who destroy the temple and build it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross." Likewise the chief priests also, mocking with the scribes and

elders, said, "He saved others; Himself He cannot save. If He is the King of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe Him. He trusted in God; let Him deliver Him now if He will have Him; for He said, 'I am the Son of God.' "Even the robbers who were

When the thief looked at Jesus on the Cross for some time, he was led to repent which in turn changed his 'Journey' into a 'Return Journey'.

crucified with Him reviled Him with the same thing."
(Matthew 27:38-44 NKJV)

They said, "If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross and save us, then we will believe in you." From their words, we understand that "they desired to escape into the world" i.e. even though they seemed like praying to Jesus, they were still in the 'Journey' to the world.

However when these two thieves who were journeying into the world spent some time with Jesus on the Cross who is the leader of the 'Return Journey', **one thief** *observing Jesus on the cross*, saw the love and forgiveness He had for those people who blasphemed against Him, beat Him, pulled His beard and made Him naked, which led to his *repentance* i.e. his 'Journey' was changed into a 'Return Journey'.

However, the **second thief** *looking at the world* and seeing the people revile Jesus said, "If you are Christ, save us..." His 'Journey' continued as a 'Journey' into the world as before.

"Then one of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed Him, saying, "If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us."
(Luke 23:39 NKJV)

What does God desire of men?

Probably the readers may have a question on the evidence of the first thief's repentance. Dear readers, we notice a huge change in that thief's request to Jesus. At first, he prayed to be saved so he could live in the world, but later his request was changed for a life in Heaven.

"Then he said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when you come into your kingdom." (Luke 23:39, 42 NKJV)

The direction of his life which was in the world changed to the direction of Heaven. His 'Journey' changed into a 'Return Journey'. His short time on the Cross with Jesus, the leader of faith, brought him to a point of repentance.

His confession is clear from his words below:-

- 1. I am a sinner
- 2. Jesus is righteous

"And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong."

(Luke 23:41 NKJV)

3. Here he is depending on Jesus and accepting Him as his savior.

"Then he said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when you come into Your Kingdom." (Luke 23:42 NKJV)

Of the two thieves, one

Repented (To be done first)

And believed in the Gospel (To be done second)

Jesus received him in paradise.

And Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise." (Luke 23:43 NKJV)

Friends, in the first part of Jesus' Gospel, Jesus sees how the present spiritual and physical situation is and the second part deals with what man has to do in this situation.

"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the Gospel." (Mark 1:15 NKJV)

"The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand." is the spiritual and physical situation that God sees.

"Repent, and believe in the Gospel." These are the two things that man has to do in this situation. So let us do both these things in love and unity, without argument and continue our 'Return Journey' to the Father's house.

Prayer



Our Heavenly Father, thank you for revealing your expectation of us. Help us to repent and believe in the Gospel to reach our Heavenly House. In Jesus name.. Amen

Important principles and points to remember

- 1. Two things man has to do, "Repent" and "believe in the Gospel."
- 2. Repentance happen when a person hears the 'Gospel of the Kingdom of God' and decides to take the 'Return Journey' from the world to the Kingdom of God.
- 3. A person who turns his heart from the world to the Kingdom of God but does not believe in the Gospel, can be compared to a person not boarding the vehicle which is waiting to take him back to the Father's house.
- 4. A person without repentance travels through the world into the lake of fire and not into Heaven. His 'Journey' after accepting Jesus continues as a 'Journey' and does not transform into a 'Return Journey.'
- 5. In the first part of Jesus' Gospel, Jesus sees how the present spiritual and physical situation is and the second part deals with what man has to do in this situation.



Chapter 13 THE COMPLETE BIBLE IN ONE AND A QUARTER SENTENCE

"Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets. Enter by the narrow gate;" (Matthew 7:12-13 NKJV)

Not of the Christians find it difficult to understand the Bible which

consists of books of the Old Testament and the New Testament. But the greatest teacher, the world has ever seen, has summarized the messages of the Bible into one and quarter sentence thereby making it easier for people to understand. Probably the readers must be eager to know who the greatest teacher in the world is and how he has summarized the whole Bible in one and quarter sentence.

The greatest teacher, the world has ever seen has summarized the message of the Bible into one and quarter sentence thereby making it easier for people to understand.

The greatest teacher, the world has ever seen is none other than our **beloved Jesus Christ**.

Old testament in one sentence

Jesus summarized the Old Testament into one sentence in Matthew chapter seven, verse twelve.

"Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets."

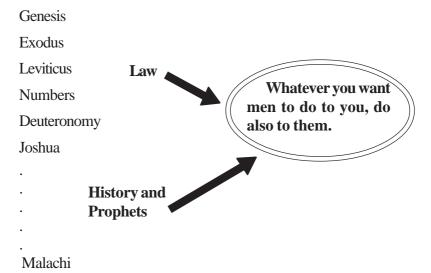
(Matthew 7:12 NKJV)

This is what God required of man in the Old Testament or in other words the summary of all the books in the Old Testament. "Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them".

Before I got the revelation of these words of Jesus, I had thought that this message pertained to the New Testament. Now I understand that this message is the summary of all the books in the Old Testament.

This is what God required of man in the Old Testament or in other words the summary of all the books in the Old Testament. "Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them".

Old Testament Books



The five Books of Moses, from Genesis to Deuteronomy is normally known as the 'Law'. Then the remaining books including the history, songs and all the prophets are together called 'Prophets'. The core message of all these books is "Whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them". This means, if you want a person to love you, you should also love him. If you want a person to do good to you, you should also do good to him. It is the same concerning evil, "eye for an eye, and tooth for a tooth".

"But if any harm follows, then you shall give life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot" (Exodus 21:23-24 NKJV)

The complete Bible.....

In short, Jesus summarized the Old Testament into, "Whatever you

want men to do to you, do also to them". In other words, whatever we sow, we will reap.

The message of the Old Testament is "Whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them".

Dear readers, if we receive this message and apply it in our practical life;

we are living according to the Old Testament message. But today we are living in the New Testament period and Jesus is the mediator of the New Testament.

The New Testament in quarter of a statement

In the Gospel of Matthew, chapter Seven, verse twelve, Jesus summarized the Old Testament in one sentence. In the following verse in the same chapter, He summarised the New Testament. It took Jesus not even a full sentence to summarize the New Testament; instead He did it in quarter of a sentence. In the following verse 13 of the same chapter, Jesus summarized the New

Testament in quarter of a sentence.

"Enter by the narrow gate". Here Jesus is talking about entering into the Kingdom of God. **The aim of man who lives in the New**

The message of the New Testament is the 'Return Journey'.

Testament period should be to "Enter by the narrow gate". This is what Jesus expected when He summarized the New Testament.

Dear readers, if we understand these two messages from the Old Testament and the New Testament, then we have understood the core of the Bible.

In other words, we have understood the whole Bible. Having understood this, when we read the Bible we will be able to go into the depths of these messages.

What a good teacher we have in Jesus. The teacher who can teach us the depth of things so easily is with us today. You might probably think how can Jesus be with us when He is in Heaven today. But Jesus, Who promised to be with us forever, though He is in Heaven today, has sent His Spirit on earth and is with us today through His Spirit.

Today, Jesus is teaching us through His Spirit and the anointing of the Spirit. The Word says that the anointing teaches us all things.

"But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him." (1 John 2:27)

NEW TESTAMENT BOOKS



Let us surrender ourselves to the work of the Holy Spirit, who is our best Teacher.

Jesus, Who promised to be with us forever, though He is in Heaven today, has sent His Spirit on earth and is with us today through His Spirit.

'Return Journey' or 'follow' Jesus is the message of the New Testament. Majority of the Christian communities that exists today have swallowed this message of the New Testament, which is quite alarming. Do not forget the words of Jesus "strain out a gnat and swallow a came!".

"Blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel!" (Matthew 23:24, NKJV)



The complete Bible.....

Prayer



Thank you Heavenly Father for teaching us the Bible in one and a quarter sentence. Thank you HOLY SPIRIT for being with us and helping us to take the 'Return Journey' an inherit the Kingdom of God. Teach us

more in Jesus name we pray Amen.

Important principles and points to remember

- 1. The Greatest Teacher, the world has ever seen has summarized the message of the Bible into one and quarter sentence thereby making it easier for people to understand.
- 2. From the Old Testament, we should learn that "Whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them".
- 3. From the New Testament, we should learn and aim to "Enter by the narrow gate".
- 4. Jesus, Who promised to be with us forever, though He is in Heaven today, has sent His Spirit on earth and is with us today through His Spirit.



Chapter 14 HYPOCRITES ARE THOSE WHO DOESN'T DISCERN TIME

"The law and the prophets were until John. Since that time the kingdom of God has been preached, and everyone is pressing into it." (Luke 16:16 NKJV)

Once Jesus looked at the Jews and rebuked them thus, "Those who cannot discern time are hypocrites."

When Jesus came around 2000 years ago, there was a change that happened in 'time' and all spiritual ministries are expected to reflect that change.

"Hypocrites! You can discern the face of the sky and of the earth, but how is it you do not <u>discern this time</u>? "Yes, and why, even of yourselves, do you not judge what is right?

(Luke 12:56, 57 NKJV)

Jesus called the Jews of His time 'hypocrites', because they could not 'discern the time' and hence were ignorantly falling for false teachings. The question that Jesus asked them was, "How is it you that do not discern this time?"

Discern this time

Like a day, which has different time like morning, afternoon, evening and night, all the purposes of the Father in the spiritual realm has a time. If we, who claim to be spiritual do not discern this change in time, we may fall into many traps.

When Jesus came around 2000 years ago, a change happened in 'time'. All spiritual ministries are expected to reflect that change. In the natural system as the day progresses, we eat different meals at different times. Eg. Tea time snacks are not eaten for lunch. Similarly, according to the change in 'time' that happened in the spiritual realm, spiritual food and spiritual ministries underwent changes. JESUS called those

Hypocrities are those who.....

people who were ignorant of these changes in time 'hypocrites' though they claimed to be men of God.

The instructions given to Adam in the Garden of Eden were different from the instructions given to the people who were under the law (Old Testament) after the fall.

If we do not learn to discern this time, we can inadvertently fall victim to wrong doctrines and remain lost.

Similarly the commandments in the Old Testament differ from the commandments in the New Testament. If we don't discern this change in time, we might inadvertently fall victim to wrong doctrines and remain lost.

Like a day, which has different time like morning, afternoon, evening and night, all the purposes of the Father in the spiritual realm has a time.

THE THREE SPIRITUAL SITUATIONS

- 1. The spiritual situation before Jesus' time (Old Testament period)
- 2. The spiritual situation during Jesus' time ('Time' shifting period)
- 3. The spiritual situation after Jesus' time (New Testament period)

To understand the change that happened in time upon Jesus' arrival on earth, let us go back to the story of the prodigal son. The two important parts in this story are the 'Journey' and the 'Return Journey'. The 'Journey' is from the Father's house (Kingdom of God) to the world and 'Return Journey' is from the world to the Kingdom of God. We see a time in the story where the prodigal son ends the 'Journey' and starts the 'Return Journey'. This particular point of time can be compared to the time when Jesus came to earth 2000 years ago and He changed the 'Journey' into the 'Return Journey'. The prodigal son repesents Adam or in other words, the complete descendants of Adam.

Let us discuss each situation in brief

 The spiritual situation before Jesus' time (Old testament period)

<u>Devil was the invisible power</u> who bound Adam with chains of death and brought him out from the Father's House, due to his <u>disobedience</u>. When Jesus came to the earth 2000 years ago, the devil was in the process of taking Adam (Mankind), bound by chains of death, through the world into the lake of fire for the second death. <u>This was the spiritual situation in the Old Testament</u>. (Picture 22, Chapter-12)

2. The spiritual situation during Jesus' time ('Time' shifting period)

2000 years ago, the purpose of Jesus was to put an end to Adam's (Mankind) 'Journey' which was leading him to the second death and to bring him back to the Father's House by redeeming him from the clutches of the devil. This is what Jesus accomplished on the cross of Calvary and this was the spiritual situation during Jesus' time. (Picture 23, Chapter-12)

When Jesus came to the earth 2000 years ago, the devil was **in the process of taking** Adam's descendants (Mankind), bound by chains of death, through the world into the lake of fire for the second death. This was the spiritual situation in the Old Testament.

3. The spiritual situation after Jesus' time (New Testament period)

Jesus came to bring back the spiritually dead people (Adam's descendants) to the Father's House. He wanted to make them aware that they were trapped by the devil in 'time' due to their sins and that He had already paid the price through His death to redeem them. These deceived people did not have the knowledge about the Father or His house, which is the Kingdom of

Hypocrities are those who.....

God. Those who are convicted of the truth, repents, believes in the Gospel and take the 'Return Journey' under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and reach the Father's House which is the Kingdom of God. This is the spiritual situation in the New Testament (Picture 23, Chapter 12).

The way God deals with people in the 'Journey' (Old Testament)

Since the spiritual situations in the Old Testament and the New Testament are different, God deals with the people differently in these two time periods.

'Journey' is the <u>Old Testament</u> and 'Return Journey' is the <u>New Testament</u>. In the 'Journey', mankind who are the children of God is bound by the devil with chains of

Since the spiritual situations in the Old Testament and the New Testament are different, God deals with the people in these two time periods differently.

death and is being taken through the world into the lake of fire because their spiritual death happened in the garden of Eden through Adam. The physical death of the body is happening in the world, following which the soul will be thrown into Hades. In the end, the second death will happen at the white throne judgment. Adam's descendants are living in the world, unaware of their pitiable situation that was caused due to Adam's sin. God desired to save them from the lake of fire, but in the Old Testament, the period of sentence was not over. So in the Old Testament, God dealt with them as with people who were bound by chains of death and under the clutches of the devil by temporarily reinstating and blessing them. God did not promise them spiritual blessings but only the physical blessings of the world which are temporary, to those who obeyed Him. We understand this further when we read Deuteronomy chapter 28.

"Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, and that the Lord your God will <u>set you high above all nations of the earth</u>. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake

you, because you obey the voice of the Lord your God: Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the country. Blessed shall be the fruit of your body, the produce of your ground and the increase of your herds, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flocks. Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl." Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out. The Lord will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before your face; they shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways. The Lord will command the blessing on you in your storehouses and in all to which you set your hand, and He will bless you in the land which the Lord your God is giving you. The Lord will establish you as a holy people to Himself. just as He has sworn to you, if you keep the commandments of the Lord your God and walk in His ways. Then all peoples of the earth shall see that you are called by the name of the Lord, and they shall be afraid of you. And the Lord will grant you plenty of goods, in the fruit of your body, in the increase of your livestock, and in the produce of your ground, in the land of which the Lord swore to your fathers to give you. The Lord will open to you His good treasure, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season, and to bless all the work of your hand. You shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow. And the Lord will make you the head and not the tail; you shall be above only, and not be beneath, if you heed the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you today, and are careful to observe them.

(Deuteronomy 28:1-13 NKJV)

In other words, in the 'Journey', God temporarily reinstated people in the world. However, only in Christ do the blessings become eternal.

The way God deals with people in the 'Return Journey' (New Testament)

God deals with people differently in the 'Journey' and the 'Return Journey'.

Hypocrities are those who.....

In the 'Return Journey', the period of sentence is over, and people are redeemed through the death of Jesus on the Calvary and are brought out from the world which is under the captivity of the enemy, into the Kingdom of God. In the 'Journey', if God prepared His people to live in the world, then in the 'Return Journey'

In the 'Journey', if God prepared people to live in the world, then in the 'Return Journey' God is preparing them to live in the Kingdom of Heaven.

to live in the world, then in the 'Return Journey' God is preparing them to live in the Kingdom of Heaven.

In the 'Journey', God is preparing His people for the temporary life in the world, and in the 'Return Journey', He is preparing them for eternal life in the Kingdom of God.

In the 'Journey', God deals with people who are under the bondage of the devil and have not come to their 'Right sense'. In the 'Return Journey', God brings conviction to His people and prepares them to live in the Kingdom of God.

The direction of 'Return Journey' is entirely opposite to the direction of 'Journey'. This is the reason, God asked us to view the 'Journey' and the 'Return Journey' separately without confusing them. Those who are confused do not know to 'discern the time' and remain lost.

The commandments for the 'Journey' was to keep and prepare the people in the world and the instruction for the 'Return Journey' is to release them from the captivity of the world and prepare them for the Kingdom of God. This is the reason Jesus instructed us not to confuse the commandments as they both are used for different purposes and point to the opposite directions.

The direction of 'Return Journey' is entirely opposite to the direction of 'Journey'. This is the reason, God asked us to view the 'Journey' and the 'Return Journey' separately without confusing them. Those who are confused do not know to 'discern the time' and remain lost.

"And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; or else the new wine bursts the wineskins, the wine is spilled, and the wineskins are ruined. But new wine must be put into new wineskins." (Mark 2:22 NKJV)

Old wineskin = Old Testament mind (Worldly mind)

New wineskin = Repented mind (Heavenly mind)

New wine = Christ's message on the Kingdom of God

The danger of filling the new wine into the old wineskin is that it will

ruin the wineskin, and the wine will be spilled, which means, the message heard will be in vain and it will do no good or in other words, the person will remain lost. The new wine should be filled in the new wineskin. The message about the

The message about the Kingdom of God should not be preached to the unrepentant (Old wineskin) hearts but to the repented (New wineskin) hearts.

Kingdom of God should not be preached to the unrepentant (Old wineskin) hearts but to the repented (New wineskin) hearts.

"No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; or else the new piece pulls away from the old, and the tear is made worse." (Mark 2:21 NKJV)

Old garment:

Old Testament mind (Worldly mind set)

Unshrunk cloth:

Jesus says there is no point in preaching the message of the Kingdom of God to a worldly mind. For e.g. to a person who wants to grow in the world according to the promises mentioned in the Old Testament.

"Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the country. "Blessed shall be the fruit of your body, the produce of your ground and the increase of your herds, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flocks. Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl.

Hypocrities are those who.....

"Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out." (Deuteronomy, 28, :3-6, NKJV)

The message of the 'Return Journey', to the Kingdom of God cannot be comprehended by a person who follows the Old Testament (Journey) and desires to grow in the world.

Notice the words spoken by Jesus.

"If anyone wants to sue you and take away your tunic, let him have your cloak also." (Matthew $5:40\ NKJV$)

These words of Jesus cannot be comprehended by a worldly person living according to the Old Testament promises which God used to bless them in the world.

This is because in the Old Testament, God prepared the people for the world. How then, can a person who has such a mind comprehend the New Testament message?

OLD TESTAMENT (JOURNEY)

"You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' " (Matthew $5:38\ NKJV$)

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' " (Matthew 5:43 NKJV)

"You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not commit adultery.'" (Matthew 5:27 NKJV)

NEW TESTAMENT (RETURN JOURNEY)

"But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, <u>turn the other to him also.</u>"
(Matthew 5:39 NKJV)

"But I say to you, <u>love your enemies</u>, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,"

(Matthew 5:44 NKJV)

"But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has <u>already committed adultery with her in his heart."</u> (Matthew 5:28 NKJV)

It is difficult for people who have not repented, or who have not turned their vision from the world to the Kingdom of God, to understand the message of the Kingdom of God (Return Journey). First the person

We should convince ourselves that today we are not in the 'Journey' but in the 'Return Journey'. needs to come to his 'Right sense' by listening to the Gospel of the Kingdom and then repent. Following which he needs to be filled daily with the message of the Kingdom of God. So it is imperative that he understands the 'Father's Business

and discern the time of the 'Journey' and the 'Return Journey'.

We should convince ourselves that today we are not in the 'Journey' but in the 'Return Journey'. God is preparing us with the messages of the Kingdom to make our eternal abode in the Kingdom of God. The syllabus we need to follow now is the New Testament (Return Journey) and not the Old Testament (Journey). So let us work together with the Holy Spirit and make possible our 'Return Journey' to the Father's House which is the Kingdom of Heaven. Let us not forsake the Old Testament but establish the New Testament with the Old Testament like Jesus said in Luke 24:25-27. Our syllabus is the New Testament, or in other words 'Return Journey'. By now, you must have learned to discern time.

Prayer



Heavenly Father, thank you for teaching us to 'discern time in the Spiritual realm'. Lord, help us to discern the commandments of the 'Journey' and the 'Return Journey' and guide us in reaching the Kingdom of God. In Jesus name. Amen



Hypocrities are those who.....

Important principles and points to remember

- 1. Like a day, which has different time like morning, afternoon, evening and night, all the purposes of the Father in the spiritual realm has a time.
- 2. When Jesus came around 2000 years ago, a change happened in 'time'. All spiritual ministries are expected to reflect that change.
- 3. If we do not learn to discern this time, we can inadvertently fall victim to wrong doctrines and remain lost.
- 4. Devil was the invisible power who bound Adam with chains of death and brought him out from the Father's house, due to disobedience.
- 5. When Jesus came to the earth 2000 years ago, the devil was in the process of taking Adam (Mankind), bound by chains of death, through the world into the lake of fire for the second death. This is the spiritual situation in the Old Testament.
- 6. Since the spiritual situations in the Old Testament and the New Testament are different, God deals with the people in these two time periods differently.
- 7. In the 'Journey', God temporarily reinstated people in the world. However, only in Christ do the blessings become eternal.
- 8. In the 'Journey', if God blessed and established people to live in the world, then in the 'Return Journey' God is preparing them to live eternally in the Kingdom of God.
- 9. The direction of 'Return Journey' is entirely opposite to the direction of 'Journey'. This is the reason, God asked us to view the 'Journey' and the 'Return Journey' separately without confusing them. Those who are confused do not know to 'discern the time' and remain lost
- 10. The message about the Kingdom of God is useless for a person who is reluctant to repent or change his heart (Old wineskin) from the world to the Kingdom of God, but it is useful for the repented heart (New wineskin).
- 11. We should convince ourselves that today we are not in the 'Journey' but in the 'Return Journey'.



Chapter 15 AID TO WARD OFF CONFUSIONS

"The law and the prophets were until John. Since that time the kingdom of God has been preached, and everyone is pressing into it." (Luke 16:16)a

If we look at the present world, we can see many divisions among the **Christian** communities due to minor variations in their understandings and teachings. This is absolutely the work of the enemy to destroy the unity and power of the Church. Friends, most of us are ignorant and under the bondage of the flesh. Therefore our Lord said,

"And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:32)

Though there are differences in opinions among the various Christian communities, all of them stand together in believing in the sacrificial crucifixion of Jesus Christ. Standing on this common belief, let us unite in prayer with our all-knowing and all powerful Father to remove our minor misunderstandings and misconceptions. Similarly let us stand on the foundation of Jesus Christ's death and resurrection and esteem others better than ourselves and not give the devil an opportunity to work against the unity and power of the Church.

Let me narrate a story which my father once told me. A father who was on his death bed summoned his five children who were at loggerheads with each other and said.

"Go and bring five sticks from the guava tree". To fulfill their father's strange last wish, each of them brought five sticks. The father asked each of them to break their sticks which they obeyed. He further asked them to bring five more sticks and instructed each of his sons to bundle the five sticks together and break them. They tried but they could not

break the bundle of five sticks. The father shared with them a valuable lesson from this, "if you stand divided in small matters of life, the enemy will easily break you but if you stay united, you will be unbeatable".

Our Heavenly Father also has the same message for today's divided Christian Communities. Instead of being disunited in small misunderstandings, stand united on the firm foundation of the sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross and understand God's will.

We should understand 'Journey' and 'Return Journey' as two different time periods in God's mind. In the 'Journey', God keeps us with 'Law and Prophets', in the enemy's territory ie, the world. In the 'Return Journey', God gives us life through Jesus Christ, the redeemer and brings us back into the Kingdom of God through the Holy Spirit.

"See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, <u>redeeming the time, because the days are evil.</u> Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the <u>will of the Lord</u> is." (Ephesians 5:15-17 NKJV)

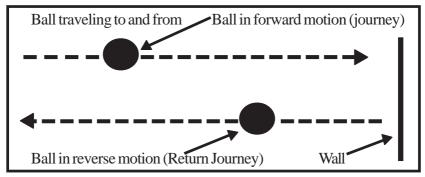
Discernment of 'time' helps to ward off confusions. In the early days of my spiritual life, learning the Word without discerning the time caused many <u>misunderstandings from the Bible itself</u>. <u>But when I learned to discern time</u>, <u>these misunderstandings got expelled from my life</u>. So I pray these revelations help you as well.

We should understand 'Journey' and 'Return Journey' as two different time periods in God's mind. In the journey, God keeps us with 'Law and Prophets', in the enemy's territory ie, the world. In the 'Return Journey', God gives us life through Jesus Christ, the redeemer and brings us back into the Kingdom of God through the Holy Spirit.

We should not confuse the two together which may otherwise lead to misconceptions. Compare this to a child throwing a ball against a wall. The ball hits the wall and returns back.

- 1. The ball goes from the child's hand to the wall forward motion
- 2. The ball hits the wall and bounces back into the child's hand-backward motion

Do not mix these as the rules and directions of the ball are different in both these directions. 'Journey' can be compared to the forward motion of the ball and 'Return Journey' can be compared to the backward motion of the ball.



(Image -25)

THE IMPORTANT STATEMENTS IN THE WORD OF GOD

'The Statement of Condemnation' and 'The Statement of Salvation'

The two important statements seen in the Bible are the Father's condemnation which brings death and the Son's salvation which gives life to mankind.

Father warned Adam about the death, "do not eat from the tree of knowledge, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely <u>die</u>."

STATEMENT OF CONDEMNATION

"but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in <u>the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."</u> (Genesis 2:17 NKJV)

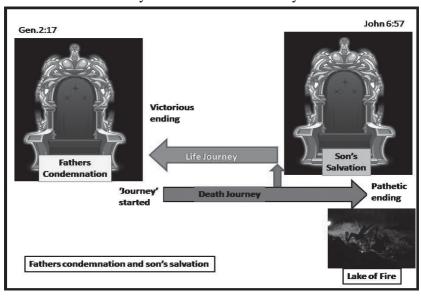
Similarly, Jesus promised life to the world, which was dead because they were disobedient to the Father's warning (Genesis2:17)," Whoever accepts Jesus *will live* because of Him".

STATEMENT OF SALVATION

"..... so <u>he who feeds on Me will live</u> because of Me."
(John 6:57 NKJV)

The Father's 'Statement of condemnation' brings 'death' to man as a result of Adam's disobedience to the Father's warning in Genesis 2:17. The Son's 'Statement of Salvation' promises life to the dead and makes him 'Born Again' in the Kingdom of God, due to the obedience of Jesus (John 6:57).

These two statements made by the Father and the Son were the reasons for the 'Journey' and the 'Return Journey'.



(Image - 26)

Here 'Journey' is the journey of 'death' and 'Return Journey' is the journey of 'life'. In the 'Journey' of 'death', death manifests first in the spirit followed by the soul and then the body. In the journey of 'life', life manifests first in the spirit followed by the soul and then the body. We call this justification, purification and glorification.

- 'Journey' is visible but 'Return Journey' is invisible.
- 'Journey' is in the physical realm and 'Return Journey' is in the spiritual realm.

'Journey' is done in the body and 'Return Journey' is done in the heart. In the 'Journey', man is subdued by the devil and in the 'Return Journey' man is led by the HOLY SPIRIT.

The 'Journey' is through the world into the lake of fire and the 'Return Journey' is following Jesus into the Kingdom of God.

'Journey' is along the direction of the world and 'Return Journey' is in the opposite direction of the world, which is against the flow of the world.

In the 'Journey', people who are dead in the spirit travel through the world into the lake of fire but in the 'Return Journey', a man who is 'Born Again' in spirit, enter the Kingdom of God by following Jesus.

'Journey' is from 'eternity' to 'time' and 'Return Journey' is from 'time' to 'eternity'.

In the 'Journey', man gets defiled and in the 'Return Journey', man is made holy.

In the 'Journey', the increase of anything makes a man proud but in the 'Return Journey', the increase makes him humble.

In the 'Journey', man gets separated from God but in the 'Return Journey', man grows closer to God.

In the 'Journey', a man who accepts Jesus is saved from the Father's judgment (Law of sin and death) and from the clutches of the devil. In the 'Return Journey' a man who faithfully obeys the HOLY SPIRIT becomes victorious and inherits the Kingdom of God.

In the 'Journey', a man lives by sight in the flesh but in the 'Return Journey', man obeys the Holy Spirit and lives by faith.

In the 'Journey', man is under the 'law ' and in the 'Return Journey', man is under the 'Law of the Spirit'.

'Journey' is in the 'law' and 'Return Journey' is in 'grace and truth'.

'Journey' is with the devil but the 'Return Journey' is with the **HOLY SPIRIT.**

In the 'Journey', man is deceived by the devil but in the 'Return Journey', man is led by the Holy Spirit.

'Journey' started with Adam and 'Return Journey' started with Christ.

'Journey' is named as 'Journey of disobedience', and the 'Return Journey' is named as 'Journey of obedience'.

If 'Journey' started with disobedience then 'Return Journey' starts with obedience.

In the 'Journey' world becomes our friend and in the 'Return Journey' world becomes our enemy.

In the 'Journey', we are our king but in the 'Return Journey', God is our king.

In the 'Journey', devil rules the world through man. But in the 'Return Journey', God rules the world through man.

In the 'Journey', devil becomes the king of the world through man. In 'Return Journey', God becomes the king of the world through man.

In the 'Journey', we live to please men but in the 'Return Journey', we live to please God.

In the 'Journey', we are in the kingdom of the devil but in the 'Return Journey', we are in the Kingdom of God.

In the 'Journey', man's aim is to gain the world but in the 'Return Journey', man's aim is to inherit Heaven

'Journey' is the 'Journey of Condemnation'; 'Return Journey' is the 'Journey of Salvation'.

In the 'Journey', we walk in darkness but in the 'Return Journey', we walk in the light.

If the end of a person's 'Journey of Condemnation' in the world is <u>Salvation</u> and doing the '<u>Return Journey</u>', then the end of a person's 'Return Journey' is inheriting the Kingdom of God.

In the 'Journey', man is taught by 'letters' and in the 'Return Journey', man is taught by the Holy Spirit.

In the 'Journey', man meditates on what is taught by the letters but in the 'Return Journey', man receives what is revealed by the Holy Spirit.

In the 'Journey', we die eternally, but in the 'Return Journey', we live eternally.

'Journey' is a journey of weaknesses and 'Return Journey' is a journey of power.

'Journey' is a journey of foolishness and 'Return Journey' is the journey of wisdom.

In the 'Journey', man wrestles against fellow men but in the 'Return Journey', man wrestles against the devil.

In the 'Journey', we fight against our human enemies but in the 'Return Journey', we love human enemies.

'Journey' is done in the physical realm and 'Return Journey' is done in the spiritual realm.

The promise in the 'Journey' is the physical land of Canaan but the promise in the 'Return Journey' is the eternal Ki ngdom of God.

In the 'Journey', we regard people according to the flesh, but in the 'Return Journey', we regard people according to the spirit. (2 Corinthians 5: 16)

In the 'Journey', we worship God in the flesh and in the 'Return Journey', we worship Him in the Spirit. (John 4:23, 24)

Godliness in 'Journey' makes us servants of God. Godliness in 'Return Journey' makes us children of God.

If God's grace earned us Salvation, then pleasing God will earn us the Kingdom of God. I believe, many readers

must be thinking now that Holy Spirit is **giving** them a **harvest of revelations**.

Dear readers, I believe, these revelations that helped me overcome my misconceptions; will benefit you as well.

If God's grace earned us 'Salvation', then *pleasing God* will earn us the Kingdom of God.

Is 'Salvation' and 'Inheritance of the Kingdom of God' same?

In the Father's 'statement of condemnation' where it states that, "you will die if you eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil", death happens in three stages. Similarly in the 'statement of Salvation' by Jesus which states that "he who feeds on Me will live because of Me", salvation happens in three stages.

Justification (Related to the spirit) = Accepting Jesus as the savior.

Sanctification (Related to the soul) = Obeying the Holy Spirit and taking the 'Return Journey'.

Glorification (Related to the body) = Manifesting into the fullness of sons of God and inheriting the Kingdom of God.

The three stages of salvation which is justification, purification and glorification are mentioned as one word in the Bible which is '*Salvation*'. So let us depend on God to understand these three stages.

We will understand this in relation to the 'Return Journey'.

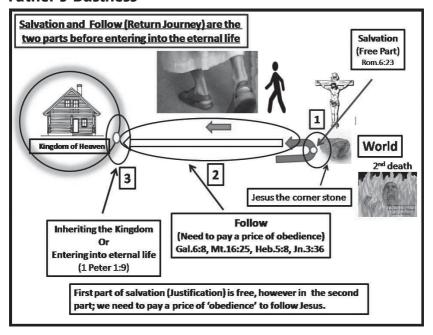
Our situation before receiving Christ was that, we who were under the 'Father's condemnation' (Genesis 2:17) bound by chains of sin and death were being taken by devil through the world into the lake of fire. The moment we accept Jesus as our savior, the devil releases us. We then, end the journey of condemnation to the eternal lake of fire and start the 'Return Journey'. Thus we escape from judgment. This is how we are <u>saved</u> (Justification). Once we end the 'Journey of condemnation' (Genesis 2:17) after being saved, we do not have to go through the second judgment which is the second death. This is the reason, the Word of God says, those who are delivered from the hands of the devil and those who are in Christ Jesus have no condemnation

"There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit." (Romans $8:1~\mathrm{NKJV}$)

This is because Jesus turned our journey of condemnation into the journey of salvation. In our 'Return Journey', we who are saved must obey the Holy Spirit (Sanctification) and inherit the Kingdom of God. The redemption of our mortal flesh is called glorification, which is the last stage of salvation.

It is at the end of this 'Return Journey', that we inherit the Kingdom of God. At the end of a person's 'Journey of condemnation', he is saved and at the end of his 'Return Journey', he inherits the Kingdom of God. Therefore salvation is different from inheriting the Kingdom of God.

Note: 'Born Again' believers are freed from 'past condemnation', which happened in Eden according to Genesis 2:17, and not from the 'future judgment' of Christ for the believers, mentioned in the Bible. (2 Cor.5:10, 1 Pet.4:17-18, Mat.7:21-23). So prepare to enter through this 'Narrow Gate' as commanded by Jesus (Mat.7:13).



(Image - 27)

WHAT IS YOUR MOTIVE IN ACCEPTING JESUS AS YOUR SAVIOR?

Is it to gain the world or to inherit the Kingdom of Heaven?

We have already understood that the Old Testament is the shadow and the New Testament is the reality. The sacrifice of the Passover lamb in the Old Testament is equivalent to the crucifixion of Jesus on Calvary in the New Testament. Similarly, in the Old Testament, eating the Passover lamb by the Israelites is equivalent to accepting Jesus as the Savior in the New Testament.

If we understand the attitude God wanted the Israelites to have when eating the Passover, then we will understand the attitude a person in the New Testament should have when accepting Jesus Christ as his sayior.

Israelites ate the Passover with an intention of going for a 'Journey'.

"And thus you shall eat it: with a belt on your waist, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. So you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD's Passover."

(Exodus 12:11 NKJV)

None of us sleep with a sandal, a belt on the waist or with a staff in the hand. If we wear a sandal on the feet or tie a belt on the waist it implies that we are going on a journey. The Israelites ate the Passover in haste and had to leave Egypt without wasting another minute of their time. This can be compared to a person who has his breakfast hurriedly when running late for office. The underlying message that we receive from this passage is that the Israelites were leaving immediately to the land of Canaan, which God had prepared for them without wasting their time on anything in Egypt.

This is the same attitude people should have in the New Testament when they accept Jesus as their Savior. When they accept Jesus, they start the 'Return Journey' with their heart set on the Kingdom of God. They no longer belong to the world but to the Kingdom of God and the world becomes a foreign land to them. They do not depend on the wealth of the world (Resources), instead they depend on the wealth of the Kingdom of God (Source). Though physically they are servants of God in their heart, they are the children of God who have repented and are on their way to inherit the Kingdom of God.

This is the attitude that every person who is 'being saved' should have. In other words, every person who accepts Jesus as his Savior should have the attitude of leaving the systems of the world as soon as possible and taking the 'Return Journey' to the Kingdom of God i.e., the attitude of not gaining Egypt (World) but leaving Egypt at the earliest.

After understanding this truth from the Bible, I took a decision not to preach about 'how to gain the temporary blessings of the world' which is pleasing to people, but about inheriting the 'Kingdom of God' which Jesus preached.

Every person who accepts Jesus as his Savior should have the attitude of leaving the 'systems of the world' as soon as possible and taking the 'Return Journey' to the Kingdom of God.

It is not necessary to please God. He saved us because we have His favor! Right or Wrong?

The statement is partially right and wrong.

The right part; we are saved because we have the favor of God. That is the reason the God of Heaven, came into the world through Jesus looking for the lost sheep. All the children of God who are in Adam are in the favor of God. At the time of the birth of Jesus, the Angels sang, peace among men in whom God is well pleased.

"Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!" (Luke 2:14 NKJV)

We were drawn to Jesus and saved through Him, because we were in His favour.

"And He said, "Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father." (John 6:65 NKJV)

We don't have to please God with our good deeds to receive Salvation. We received Salvation because we had His favor. Nevertheless, we are required to please God when we do the 'Return Journey' after being saved from the clutches of the devil. If not, we will be judged by Jesus Himself and not the devil.

"Finally then, brethren, we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should abound more and more, just as you received from us how you ought to walk and to <u>please God;"</u>
(1 Thessalonians 4:1 NKJV)

"But as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, even so we speak, not as <u>pleasing</u> men, but <u>God</u> who tests our hearts." (1 Thessalonians 2:4 NKJV)

Word of God is exhorting the church in Corinth which is saved due to God's favor, that though they are saved, they will die if they live according to the flesh. This clearly shows that we don't need to please God to be saved, but after being saved, we need to please Him by obeying the Spirit and not the flesh.

Saints who are saved

"Paul, called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother, To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, <u>called to be saints</u>, with all who in every place call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:"

(1 Corinthians 1:1-2 NKJV)

Salvation is God's free gift which cannot be earned by pleasing Him. We only need to accept this free offer through Jesus Christ. On the contrary, we need to please God once we are saved.

If you live by obeying the flesh, you will not inherit the Kingdom of God

What Bible mean by obeying the flesh?

It means continuing the 'Journey' in the world instead of taking the 'Return Journey' by obeying the Spirit.

"Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God."

(Romans 8:7-8 NKJV)

"Do you not know that the unrighteous <u>will not inherit</u> <u>the kingdom of God</u>? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God."

(1 Corinthians 6:9-10 NKJV)

Notice Jesus' words to the Church of Galatia.

"Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry,

sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things <u>will not inherit the kingdom of God.</u>" (Galatians 5: 19-21 NKJV)

Notice Jesus' words to the Church of Laodicea.

"I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth." (Revelation 3:15-16 NKJV)

In Hebrews chapter 12, the Holy Spirit is telling the saints to serve the Lord in a way acceptable to Him.

"Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may <u>serve</u> <u>God acceptably</u> with reverence and godly fear."

(Hebrews 12:28 NKJV)

"Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies." (Romans 8:33NKJV)

No man or devil can judge whom God has called and justified. Then who is the one who judges? It is Jesus Himself. We don't need to please God to be saved. Instead He saved us because He was pleased with us. However, we need to please God once we are saved.

Let us not be like the believers and anointed servants of God mentioned in Matthew 7:21-23. **Believers:**-

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of Heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in Heaven."

Anointed servants of God:-

Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!' (Mathew 7:21-23, NKJV)

It is not the devil but Jesus Himself who judges the redeemed people, who continue their 'Journey' in the world by not taking the 'Return Journey' to the Kingdom of God.

Once Saved, always Saved! Right or Wrong?

I considered Salvation and 'inheriting the Kingdom of God' to be one and the same. The reason for my confusion was my ignorance in discerning time.

This confusion was eliminated when Holy Spirit taught me how to discern the 'time' which in turn helped me understand the difference between Salvation and 'inheriting the Kingdom of God'. This understanding is based on my revelation about 'Journey' and 'Return Journey'.

Salvation: - According to the Father's judgment in Genesis 2:17, when man who was in the 'Journey of Condemnation', bound by chains of sin and death accepted Jesus as his Savior, he escaped the eternal condemnation and entered into the 'Return Journey' to Heaven.

Inheriting the Kingdom of God (Return Journey): - We inherit the Kingdom of God when we obey the Holy Spirit to do the 'will of God' and become victorious in our 'Return Journey'. Therefore, we who are saved, are expected to inherit the Kingdom of God by doing the 'Return Journey', in other words by following Jesus.

When I learned to discern time, the idea of 'once saved, always saved' did not make sense. Instead God helped me understand that, "I, who am saved, should inherit the Kingdom of God".

Is eternal life free?

Jesus is asking a price....!

"For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give <u>in exchange</u> for his soul?" (Matthew 16:26 NKJV)

In the Word of God, one part says <u>eternal life is for free</u> and the other part says, <u>eternal life is the fruit of what you sow to the spirit.</u>

Free part

"For the wages of sin is death, but the *gift of God* is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23 NKJV)

Part where payment has to be made

"For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life." (Galatians 6:8 NKJV)

Which of the above statement is correct? Is eternal life free or is it something that we reap after sowing to the spirit?

Eternal life has two steps, 'Salvation' and 'inheriting the Kingdom of God' by following Jesus Christ. The Word of God says both are correct. This is because 'Eternal life' has two steps, 'Salvation' and 'inheriting the Kingdom of God' by following Jesus Christ, as shown in picture 27 (Chapter-15)

The First and the second plan of the Father

Only if we know God's purpose for creating man, will we understand God's plan.

God's first plan

This earth is God's examination hall for man. God is testing man for his obedience to God's word. That is the reason God placed the 'tree of life' and 'tree of knowledge of good and evil' in the Garden of Eden. i.e., God placed two trees in the Garden of Eden, one symbolizing the door to death and the other symbolizing the door to life. God's first plan before Adam's fall was to <u>test and know man</u>. This was even before Jesus was promised as the Savior and before the Gospel of Salvation was even a requirement. Let us first understand that there is still no change in God's first plan which is to test and know man.

In God's first plan, God wanted to bring Adam eternally into God's

own family by giving him eternal life. In order to obtain eternal life, Adam had to eat the fruit of the 'tree of life'. Fruit of the tree of life is given only to

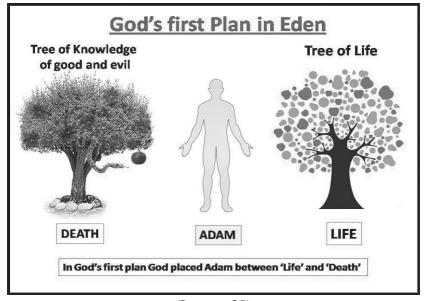
God's most important plan is to test man's obedience to Him.

victorious people (Revelation 2:7). In the first plan, God placed 'life' and 'death' before Adam in the form of two trees and warned him not to eat from the tree of Knowledge of good and evil. The day he ate he would die.

'Salvation' is a gift from God which cannot be earned. 'Inheriting the Kingdom of God', is the fruit of our obedience to the HOLY SPIRIT. Jesus paid the price on the Cross for our Salvation and we received it freely when we accepted Jesus as our Lord. But to inherit the kingdom of God, we need to pay the 'price of obedience' to the Holy Spirit.

"... but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die." (Genesis 2:17 NKJV)

This earth is God's examination hall for man.



(Image - 28)

But Adam failed the test because he chose 'death' by disobeying God. This is the reason God started his 'second plan' which is to save Adam's descendants and to bring them back to God's 'first plan'.

"For I am the LORD, I do not change;" (Malachi 3:6 NKJV)

God's *first and most important plan* is to *test man's* obedience to Him. And *God's second plan* is to save man, who fell into condemnation from God's first plan due to sin, through the crucifixion of Jesus Christ on the Cross. Once man is brought back to God's first plan, God will then test man's obedience and whoever passes the test will be given access or inheritance to his Heavenly family, the Kingdom of God.

God's second plan

This earth is God's examination hall for man. God is testing man for his obedience to God's Word.

When God's first plan was in existence, Adam sinned and fell short of the glory of God and died in the spirit due to his own disobedience. Even though, his descendants had no part in this act of disobedience, they automatically became victims to this act. That is the reason; God gave free salvation to save

Adam's descendants from judgment. In order to understand this, we have to know the mind of God. He never wants a righteous man to carry the burden of his ancestor's sin. We understand the mind of God clearly from the below scripture. This is the reason; God is still freely saving man in the New Testament.

"The soul who sins shall die. The <u>son shall not bear the</u> <u>guilt of the father</u>, nor the father bear the guilt of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself."

(Ezekiel 18:20 NKJV)

God's second plan is to save man from judgment through the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. However, this free salvation is not to save man from God's first plan which is to test and know him and to give the fruit from the tree of life to those who are victorious, but to save him from the judgment into which Adam fell. The Word of God says in

Revelation 2:7, that if we are victorious, God will give us the 'fruit of the of life'.

"To him that overcometh, to him will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the Paradise of God." (Rev.2:7)

Man who is freely saved through Jesus Christ according to God's second plan is added to the Church and God then restarts His first plan.

If we, who are freely saved by the work of Christ, sow to the Spirit (Return Journey), submit to God, obey Him and become victorious, then we will get to eat from the 'tree of life' and enter into eternal life.

"And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved." (Acts 2:47 NKJV)

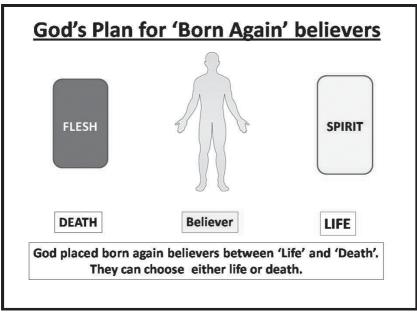
The church believers are then brought into the <u>first plan of God</u> <u>which is to "test and know man"</u>. This is where man has to 'sow to the Spirit' by obeying the prompting of the Holy Spirit, which will finally result in the inheritance of eternal life.

"For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who <u>sows to the Spirit</u> will of the Spirit <u>reap everlasting life."</u> (Galatians 6:8 NKJV)

If we, who are <u>freely saved from condemnation</u>, by the work of Christ, sow to the Spirit, submit to God, obey Him, and become victorious then, God will give us to eat from the tree of Life which Adam didn't get to eat and we will then enter into eternal life. Notice Jesus' words to the church of Ephesus who were freely saved.

"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God." (Revelation 2:7 NKJV)

God, who is merciful, freely saved us through Jesus Christ and placed us in His first plan because we became partakers of Adam's sin due to no fault of ours. If God placed 'life' and 'death' in the form of two trees before Adam, who was part of His first plan then God keeps the same 'life' and 'death' in the form of 'spirit' and 'flesh' before the saved. Notice the below picture and the scripture.

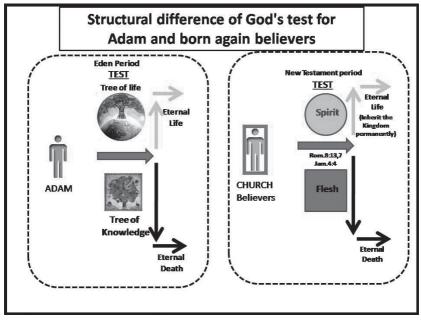


(Image - 29)

"For if you live according to the <u>flesh</u> you will <u>die</u>; but if by the <u>Spirit</u> you put to death the deeds of the body, you will <u>live</u>." (Romans 8:13 NKJV)

"For he who sows to his <u>flesh</u> will of the flesh reap <u>corruption</u>, but he who sows to the <u>Spirit</u> will of the Spirit reap <u>everlasting life</u>." (Galatians 6:8 NKJV)

From this we understand that there are two steps we need to follow before entering into life.



Gods first plan ('Test and know man') for Adam and for the New Testament believer. (Image 30)

The Two steps man has to take before entering into eternal life:-

1. Be saved (Salvation)

Adam brought death on us, Jesus brought life on us.

2. Do the 'Return Journey' or **follow Jesus** Christ and inherit the Kingdom of God

1. **Salvation**:- The first step before entering into eternal life is to be

'Born Again' in the spirit or to be saved through Jesus Christ from the judgment into which Adam fell due to his sin. This part is free for man because Jesus paid the price for us. That is the reason the Holy Spirit says through Paul in the book of Romans that 'eternal life is a gift'.

There are two steps before entering into eternal life:- 1. Be saved 2. Do the 'Return Journey' or follow Jesus Christ and inherit the Kingdom of God.

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23 NKJV)

2. **Return Journey**: - We enter into eternal life at the end of the 'Return Journey' which is the second step. Here we pay the price of obedience and our faith is tested when we follow Jesus. We inherit eternal life when we obey God (Sow to the Spirit) and *prove* that our faith in Him through Jesus is true. (Ref. Picture 27), Chapter-15

We can find 'Life', only if we lose our life for Christ i.e., 'Life for life'. Instead of using our life to fulfill our dreams, we should surrender our life to fulfill God's will, and give our 'life in exchange for Life' which Jesus gives.

Today majority of the Christian communities know only the first step of inheriting eternal life-Salvation, which God has freely given us. Very few know the second step, which is inheriting the Kingdom of God by paying a price. This is the reason, most of the Christian meetings in today's world, talk only about the salvation. However, if we pay attention to what Jesus preached 2000 years ago, we will understand that Jesus is asking a price to enter into eternal life.

"For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matthew 16:26 NKJV)

Jesus is asking a price for the salvation of the soul.....!

Jesus is asking mankind "What will man give to redeem his soul?"

Jesus died on the cross to redeem mankind. But this same Jesus is asking us individually "on the cross of Calvary, I will become the price for your soul and redeem you. But what will you give me instead?"

When Jesus asked this to Peter and his friends, they remained quiet. So Jesus himself answered the question.

"Life in exchange for life." This means "I gave my life for you and now you give your life to me." In other words, 'you do not belong to yourself anymore but to God. The remaining time of your life does not

belong to you, but it belongs to God and He must be revealed through you.'

"For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever <u>loses his life for My sake</u> will find it."

(Matthew 16:25NKJV)

The only way to give your life to Jesus is to 'follow him' and do the 'Return Journey'.

"Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me." (Matthew $16:24~\rm NKJV$)

Two steps to enter into 'eternal life' are: First:- Salvation, which is free because Jesus paid the price.

<u>Second</u>: - 'Return Journey' proving that our faith in God which we declared at the time of salvation is true, by following Jesus.

Then we will get to eat from the tree of life which Adam didn't get to eat and we will inherit the Kingdom of God.

God does not remember sins...!

I got to learn from the Word that according to the New Testament, God does not remember sins.

"For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and <u>their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more."</u>
(Hebrews 8:12 NKJV)

In some other parts of the Word, I found God to be a Father who chastises for sins.

I got confused. God, who said He doesn't remember our sins, sometimes like a father, chastens us and at other times, like a master, punishes us for the sins he had already forgiven. <u>Learning to discern time</u> helped me come out of this confusion.

"You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against

God chastens whom receives.

sin. And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as He loves and scourges to sons: "My son, do not despise the every son whom He chastening of the LORD, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; For whom the LORD loves He

chastens. And scourges every son whom He receives." If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected

us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live?" (Hebrews 12:4-9 NKJV)

In short, Salvation is a gift and 'Kingdom of God' is inherited by paying the price of 'obedience'.

But in other parts I found God punishing His people again for the sins He had once forgiven.

"Therefore the kingdom of Heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made. The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, 'Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt. "But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat. saying, 'Pay me what you owe!' So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt. So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they

were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done. Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?' And his master was angry, and <u>delivered him to the torturers</u> until he should pay all that was due to him."

(Matthew 18:23-34 NKJV)

God forgives without punishing

"For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more."

(Hebrews 8:12 NKJV)

According to Hebrews 8:12, God forgives our sins, however big they are, when we accept Jesus as our savior. The sins which are freely forgiven without punishment are those committed prior to our salvation and not those committed after the salvation or in the 'Return Journey'. The Bible says God has *passed over our sins that were previously committed*.

"whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the <u>sins that were previously committed.</u>" (Romans 3:25 NKJV)

Father who chastens his son

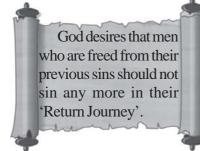
God desires that men who are freed from their previous sins should not sin any more in their 'Return Journey'. That is the reason, when the woman who was caught in the act of adultery was brought to Jesus for judgment according to the law, He said to her, "go and sin no more".

"Then the scribes and Pharisees brought to Him a woman caught in adultery. And when they had set her in the midst, they said to Him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act. Now Moses, in the law, commanded us that such should be stoned. But what do You say?" This they said, testing Him, that they might have something of

which to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with His finger, as though He did not hear. So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first." And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground. Then those who heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest even to the last. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, "Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?" She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said to her, "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more." (John 8:3-11 NKJV)

When Jesus said "neither do I condemn you", He was actually freely forgiving the sins she committed previously.

"Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more."
(John 8:11 NKJV)



This means that, God does not desire people who are freely saved from the 'Journey of Condemnation' and are in the 'Return Journey' to sin anymore. We will be chastened by our Father if we sin. This is the Father we find in Hebrews who chastens His son. (Hebrews 12:4-9)

"You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin. And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: "My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him For whom the LORD loves He chastens, <u>And scourges every son whom He receives</u>." If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate

and not sons. Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live?" (Hebrews 12:4-9 NKJV)

The Word says God chastens us because He deals with us, as with sons.

The King who accounts for the sins already forgiven

Why did we see God as a king who accounted for the sins already forgiven?

God requires a person who is saved from the 'Journey of condemnation' to be conformed to His image in the 'Return Journey'. This means we should reflect His character. We should be merciful to others because He was merciful to us. In other words, God desires our heart to be like His heart.

In Matthew 18:23 – 34, the king (God) forgave his servant's huge debt (Debt of sin). That is, all his sins in the 'Journey' were forgiven and he was expected to do the 'Return Journey'. However, instead of doing the 'Return Journey', the servant continued the 'Journey' by living according to the flesh (Romans 8:7). This is seen in his character when he punishes his debtor who was indebted to him in little. Since he was exempted from the debt, God expected him to be merciful and reflect His character by forgiving his debtor as well.

The message we get from this story is that if we, who are saved continue our 'Journey' in the world in flesh without doing the 'Return Journey' to Heaven, ie, without changing our character into the character of our Heavenly Father, we may fall under the judgment of God himself, who saved us. The prayer that God taught us to pray is "forgive us our sins as we forgive our debtors".

"And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors."
(Matthew 6:12 NKJV)

Dear readers, I exhort you to obey Jesus and make the 'Return Journey' to Heaven.

God deals with us according to the way we deal with others.

The relation between 'Faith' and 'Obedience'

God deals with us according to the way we deal with others.

When I studied about the Salvation through faith in Jesus Christ, I found some verses in the Bible contradicting to each other. But my doubts were cleared, when God revealed the relation between 'faith' and 'obedience'.

Part A - Shows a few Words of Salvation by Faith

Part-A

"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life." (John5:24 NKJV)

"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who <u>believes</u> in Me has everlasting life." (John 6:47 NKJV)

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that <u>whoever believes</u> in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:16 NKJV)

"He who <u>believes</u> in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God."

(John 3:18 NKJV)

"There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus....." (Romans 8:1 NKJV)

"Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies." (Romans 8:33 NKJV)

Jesus promises complete Salvation

"Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them." (Hebrews 7:25 NKJV)

"being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ." (Philippians 1:6 NKJV)

It is impossible for God to lie or change His Word

From the above words, God guarantees that, those who believe in Jesus Christ will never perish. Moreover, <u>God neither lies nor changes His Word</u>.

Part B - Shows a few Words which seem to contradict the above mentioned verses

Part-B

Those who confessed Jesus as their Lord are rejected

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of Heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in Heaven." (Matthew 7:21 NKJV)

Jesus' servants are rejected

"Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?'And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!""

God says that the fruit from the tree of life will be given to only those who are both 'saved' and 'victorious' and not to those who are only 'saved' but not 'victorious'.

(Matthew 7:22-23 NKJV)

"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who <u>overcomes</u> I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God."

(Revelation 2:7 NKJV)

Only the overcomers in the Church will not be affected by the second death.

"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the Churches. He who overcomes <u>shall not be hurt by the second death."</u> (Revelation 2:11 NKJV)

The Word of God says, out of the saved people in the Church, only the names of those who overcome will not be blotted out from the Book of Life.

"He who <u>overcomes</u> shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not <u>blot out his name from the Book of Life</u>; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels." (Revelations 3:5 NKJV)

Jesus warns the believers that they will be cast out because they are conformed to the world.

"I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, <u>I will vomit you out of My mouth.</u>" (Revelations 3:15-16 NKJV)

The Word of God urges to enter the Kingdom of God through the narrow gate.

"Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it."

(Matthew 7:13-14NKJV)

The Word of God says that many who try to enter through the narrow gate will fail and they will need to strive if they want to enter it.

"Then one said to Him, "Lord, are there few who are saved?" And He said to them, "<u>Strive to enter through the narrow gate</u>, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able." (Luke 13:23-24 NKJV)

The Word of God says, it is impossible to bring them to repentance who had once believed in Jesus Christ and have fallen away.

"For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the Heavenly gift, and have become

partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the Good Word of God and the powers of the age to come, 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." (Hebrews 6:4-6 NKJV)

There are many more contradicting verses. The verses in part-A says, that those who believe in Jesus Christ will never perish. Whereas, the verses in Part-B says three things; those who believe in Jesus will be judged, those who don't overcome will not enter Heaven and it is impossible to bring to repentance those who have fallen away. I asked God "You neither lie nor change your Word. But wouldn't your people misunderstand you by these contradicting verses? What should I, your servant, understand from this?"

Fruit of Faith

God showed me a section in the Bible, and pointed out the faith that He desires and expects. Let me share this with you.

In our faith in Jesus Christ, God expects us to have complete obedience to Him.

Most of us read John chapter 3, verses 16, 18 which says, 'whoever believes in Jesus Christ shall not perish and shall not be judged', and stop right there. But God showed me in the last verse of the same chapter, the faith which He desires man to have

According to God, faith means obedience to Him.

In other words faith is revealed through obedience.

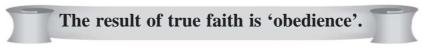
"FRUIT OF FAITH IS OBEDIENCE"

"Whoever <u>believes</u> in the Son has eternal life; [1st part] whoever <u>does not obey</u> the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him. [2nd part]" (John 3:36 ESV)

In this sentence, the first part says what you will receive when you believe; second part says what type of faith God desires you to have in order to obtain eternal life.

- 1. What you receive when you believe? **Eternal life**.
- 2. What type of faith? Faith by which we obey Christ

In the sight of God, faith means obedience to Him. True faith will produce obedience.



True faith = Obedience

Now in all the verses in 'part A', if we replace the word 'believe' with the word 'obedience', there will be no more confusion. Moreover we can confirm that God is 'truth' and He never changes His Word.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever <u>obeys</u> (Believes) in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:16 NKJV)

"He who obeys (Believes) Him is not condemned; but he who does not <u>obey</u> (Believe) is condemned already, because he has not <u>obeyed</u> (Believed) in the name of the only begotten Son of God." (John 3:18 NKJV)

"Whoever <u>obeys</u> (Believes) in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not <u>obey</u> the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him." (John 3:36 ESV)

"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and <u>obeys</u> (Believes) in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life." (John 5:24 NKJV)

"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who <u>obeys</u> (Believes) in Me has everlasting life." (John 6:47NKJV)

My dear brothers, I believe your questions have been answered, just like mine was.

Dear readers, learning to discern 'time' helped me remove many misconceptions from the Bible. I understood that, it is not the teachings of the world but the 'Return Journey' that will help us reflect the character of our Father. God started changing my character in this 'Return

Aid to ward off confusions

Journey' and is still continuing to this day. Dear friends, I exhort you to join me in this 'Return Journey' to Heaven by following Jesus and living by the prompting of the Holy Spirit.

Prayer



Our Heavenly Father, thank you for giving Heavenly enlightenment to our thoughts which were in the darkness of ignorance and misunderstandings. Continue to teach us. In Jesus' name. Amen

Important principles and points to remember

- 1. Discerning 'time' is God's work to redeem and keep man who is in the 'Journey' and 'Return Journey' which are in the opposite directions. We should understand 'Journey' and 'Return Journey' as two different time periods in God's mind.
- 2. 'Journey' is the journey to death and 'Return Journey' is the journey to life.
- 3. When a person accepts Jesus as his savior, he is delivered from the clutches of the devil and he ends the journey of condemnation to the eternal lake of fire and starts the 'Return Journey', thus escaping judgment. This is how we receive salvation.
- 4. Jesus turned their 'Journey of Condemnation' into a 'Journey of Salvation'. Now in their 'Return Journey', these people who are saved must obey the Holy Spirit and inherit the Kingdom of God.
- 5. We don't have to please God with our good deeds to receive Salvation. We received Salvation because we had the favor of God.
- 6. Those who are saved by Jesus from the clutches of the devil and from eternal judgment, but are still continuing their 'Journey' in the world will be judged by Jesus himself and not the devil.
- 7. This earth is God's examination hall for man. God is testing man for his obedience to God's word.
- 8. God's first plan before Adam's fall was to <u>test and know man</u>. This was even before Jesus was promised as the Savior and before the 'Gospel of Salvation' was even a requirement. Let us first

- understand that there is still no change in God's first plan which is to 'test and know man'.
- 9. If we, who are freely saved from punishment, by the work of Christ, sow to the Spirit, submit to God, obey Him, and become victorious then, God will give us to eat from the tree of Life which Adam didn't get to eat and we will then enter into eternal life.
- 10. God, who is merciful, freely saved us through Jesus Christ and placed us in His first plan because we became partakers of Adam's sin due to no fault of ours.
- 11. There are two things man has to do before entering into eternal life:- 1. Be Saved 2. Do the 'Return Journey'.
- 12. In the sight of God, faith means obedience to Him. True faith will produce obedience.
- 13. The result of true faith is 'obedience'.
- 14. We don't have to please God to be saved. He saved us because He is pleased with us. However, after being saved, we need to please God.
- 15. We can find 'Life', only if we lose our life for Christ i.e., 'Life for life'. Instead of using our life to fulfill our dreams, we should surrender our life to fulfill God's will, and give our 'life in exchange for Life' which Jesus gives.
- 16. God desires that men who are freed from their previous sins should not sin any more in their 'Return Journey.'
- 17. God deals with us the way we deal with others.
- 18. Every person who accepts Jesus as his Savior should have the attitude of leaving the systems of the world as soon as possible and making the 'Return Journey' to the Kingdom of God.
- 19. 'Born Again' believers are freed from 'past condemnation', which happened in Eden according to Genesis 2:17, and not from the 'future judgment' of Christ for the believers, mentioned in the Bible. (2 Cor.5:10, 1 Pet.4:17-18, Mat.7:21-23). So prepare to enter through this 'Narrow Gate' as commanded by Jesus (Mat.7:13).

Chapter 16

ARE WE BELIEVERS, IN THE 'JOURNEY' OR IN THE 'RETURN JOURNEY'?

"The law and the prophets were until John. Since that time the kingdom of God has been preached, and everyone is pressing into it. (Luke 16:16 NKJV)

St is vital that we check whether we are in the 'Journey' or in the

'Return Journey' because 'Journey' is in the Old Testament and the 'return journey' is in the New Testament. If we do not discern this fact, we can be lost. We can compare this to a child who studies the old syllabus

In the 'Journey', things are originates from man. In the 'Return Journey' everything originates from God.

unaware of the revised syllabus. Consider two students writing an exam, one prepared with the old syllabus and the other prepared with the new syllabus. When the results come out, the student who studied the old syllabus would have failed and the student who studied the new syllabus would have passed.

After the Lord's Sermon on the Mount, about a house built on the rock and on the sand (MATTHEW chapter 5, 6, 7), He said:

Here two people built houses, one person who obeyed the message of the 'Kingdom of God' (Return journey) and the other who ignored it. During a rainfall, which can be compared to the judgment, the obedient person's house remained while the other person's house was destroyed.

"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall,

for it was founded on the rock. "But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall."

(Matthew 7:24-27 NKJV)

THE FIRST TEST (CHECK POINT - 1)

Repent (To change the direction)

Are we in the 'Journey' or the 'Return Journey'? Let us examine ourselves

The first check point to know if we are in the 'Journey' or the 'Return journey' is to check if we have a repentant heart or not.

As we read in the previous chapters, Repentance means 'to think

differently' or it is similar to changing the direction of a vehicle by taking a U-turn.

A person who is in the 'Journey' cannot make the 'Return Journey' without repentance (change in the direction of thinking).

'Journey' is from the Kingdom of God to the world and 'Return journey' is in the opposite direction ie., from the world to the Kingdom of God or from man's way to God's way. A person who is in the

'Journey' cannot take the 'Return Journey' without repentance (Change in the direction of thinking). In the 'Journey' (Old Testament), God *establishes people in the world* and in the 'Return Journey' (New Testament), God *reinstates people in the Kingdom of God*. Today what is our priority when serving Christ? Being established in the temporary world or being reinstated in eternal Heaven? Let us examine our hearts.

In the 'Journey' (Old Testament), God establishes people in the world. In the 'Return Journey', (New Testament) God reinstates people in the Kingdom of God.

If your answer is **'to be reinstated'** in eternal Heaven, then you have turned your hearts in the direction of the 'Return Journey', otherwise

you are still serving God in the 'Journey'.

THE SECOND TEST (CHECK POINT -2)

Does your work originate from yourself or from God?

In the previous chapter, we saw that God revealed His will for man in the Bible (Old Testament and New Testament) in one and a quarter sentence.

Old Testament portrait 'man's journey' to the world and the New Testament portrait 'man's Return Joureny' to the Kingdom of God.

We studied that Old Testament is man's journey to the world and the New Testament is his 'Return Journey' to the Kingdom of God. In the 'Journey', everything originates from our desires because our 'Journey' is in the Kingdom of man and not to the Kingdom of God.

"Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets. Enter by the narrow gate...." (Matthew 7:12,13 NKJV)

In the 'Return Journey' (New Testament) we are entering into the Kingdom of God. Matthew 7:13 states 'enter the Kingdom of God by the narrow gate'. In the Kingdom of God everything is born of God and not of man.

In the Kingdom of God everything is born of God and not of man.

In the 'Journey', everything *originates from man's will*. But in the 'Return Journey', everything is born of God.

This means that in the 'Journey', we give priority to our will and in the 'Return Journey, we give priority to God's will.

'Journey' is to do with the will of man and 'Return Journey' is to do with the will of God.

When we are in the 'Journey', we give importance to our will and not to the will of God. This shows that we are not in the 'Return

'*Deny yourself*' means to kill one's desires.

Journey' following the Lord. Pay heed to what the Lord says.

"Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me." (Luke 9:23~NKJV)

'Deny yourself' means kill one's desires in order to live for the will

In the Kingdom of man, everything originates from the will of man and in the Kingdom of God everything originates from the will of God.

of God. If we deny ourselves, then we will be in the Kingdom of God because everything originates from the will of God. In the Kingdom of man, everything originates from the will of man and in the Kingdom of God everything originates from God.

<u>If our 'Life' starts from God and not</u> from ourselves, then we are in the 'Return Journey'.

If our 'Life' starts from God and not from ourselves, then we are in the 'Return Journey'.

"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God."

(Romans 8:14 NKJV)

A life led by the Holy Spirit is the life that originates from God. This is the life that originates from the 'Daily Bread' (The Word revealed by the Holy Spirit).

A life led by the Holy Spirit is the life that originates from God. This is the life that originates from the 'Daily Bread' (The Word revealed by the Holy Spirit).

THE THIRD TEST (CHECK POINT - 3)

In the 'Return Journey' there will definitely be many hurdles.

"Do you suppose that I came to give peace on earth? I tell you, not at all, but rather division. For from now on five in

'Return journey' is the flow against the flow of the world.

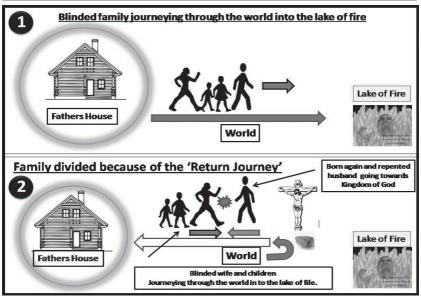
one house will be divided: three against two, and two against three. Father will be divided against son and son against father, mother against daughter and

daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her

Are we believers, in the......

daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law." (Luke 12:51-53 NKJV)

These words of Jesus "<u>I came not to bring peace on earth</u> <u>but division</u>" surprises many. 'Why is Jesus who is the prince of peace saying this!'



(Image - 31)

'Return journey' is the flow against the flow of the world.

'Journey' is from the Kingdom of God to the world. Explaining it further, 'Journey' is from the Kingdom of God through the world into the lake of fire. Consider a family consisting of a father, mother, son and a daughter. All of them who are unsaved are in the 'Journey' as they are conformed to the world and

Journey is from the Kingdom of God to the world. Explaining it further, 'Journey' is from the Kingdom of God through the world into the lake of fire.

flowing with the world. There will be worldly unity among them as all of them are flowing in the same direction in the world. However, if the husband, hears the Gospel of the Kingdom of God, repents and starts the 'Return Journey', then ..

...you are 'Born Again' from the captivity of the evil one into the Kingdom of God and are making the 'Return Journey' against the flow of the world. The rest of the family members will remain under the captivity of the evil one. Though in the natural, you are living as a family in the same house, spiritually you and your family members are in two different Kingdoms. Your family members are in the Kingdom of the devil and you are in the Kingdom of God. Moreover, when you are in the 'Return Journey' to Heaven, your family members are journeying in the opposite direction through the world into the lake of fire. When members of a family travel in opposite directions, the peace of the family will be affected.

This is why JESUS said, "I did not come to bring peace but a sword."

"Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword." (Matthew 10:34~NKJV)

Dear readers, by now you would have understood the significance of the 'Return Journey' in Jesus' heart. If you desire to follow Jesus Christ, you will definitely suffer persecutions.

".... all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution." (II Timothy 3:12 NKJV)

This persecution is a proof that we are in the 'Return Journey' following Jesus. Those who conform to the world and try to please men may not have to face persecutions as those in the 'Return Journey'. The reason is that, they are still in the 'Journey' and not in the 'Return Journey'.

Even though there is peace in the heart of a person who has accepted Jesus, he who faithfully takes the 'Return Journey' to the Kingdom of God will have persecutions in the world because that individual is moving against the 'ways or the flow of the world'.

FOURTH TEST (CHECK POINT 4)

An individual who is in the 'Return Journey' prefers to <u>leave</u> the world and live in the Kingdom of God.

Since a person who is in the 'Return Journey' is travelling from the world to the Kingdom of God, his heart will grow far from the world

Are we believers, in the......

and grow closer to the Kingdom of God. When he understands the instability of the deceived world which he is in, that is ruled by the devil and the stability of the Kingdom of God

where the Father is the king, he will not desire to remain in the world any further, but like the prodigal son, he will wish to return back to the Father.

Such people hate the world. This is only known to himself and God. Paul was a person who took the 'Return

Paul did not desire to live in this world. However, the reason he lived was to do the will of God and help to increase the faith of his brethren.

Journey'. When we read the Word, we understand that Paul desired to leave this world and go to the Father.

"For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better."

(Philippians 1:23 NKJV)

"So we are always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord. We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be <u>absent from the body</u> and <u>to be present with the Lord</u>."

(II Corinthians 5:6, 8 NKJV)

"For to me, to live is Christ, and to <u>die is gain."</u>
(Philippians 1:21 NKJV)

Paul did not desire to live in this world. However, the reason he lived was to do the will of God and help to increase the faith of his brethren.

"Nevertheless to remain in the flesh is more <u>needful for you</u>. And being confident of this, I know that I shall remain and continue with you all for your <u>progress and joy of faith</u>."

(Philippians 1:24, 25 NKJV)

World is not suitable for an individual who takes the 'Return Journey'.

"Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and

imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the

sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth."

(Hebrews 11:35-38 NKJV)

Like Paul, if we desire to leave the world and be with the Father, then we are in the 'Return Journey', else we are still in the 'Journey'.

The world is not suitable for them. Then what is suitable?

The Heaven which is the Father's house is suitable for individuals who take the 'Return Journey'.

If we examine ourselves based on these verses, we will be able to know whether we have the mind of Paul to leave the world and to be with the Father or if we have the mind to fulfill the desires of our heart by influencing the world.

Like Paul, if we desire to leave the world and be with the Father, then we are in the 'Return Journey', else we are still in the 'Journey'.

"THIS WORLD IS NOT FITTING FOR THE HOLY"

In the 'Journey' we are servants, but in the 'Return journey' we are revealed as sons of God.



Are we believers, in the......

Prayer



Our Heavenly Father, thank you for your Word that helps us examine ourselves. Help us to be the people who deny self, hate the world and make the 'Return Journey' to the Father's house. ...in the name of Jesus. Amen

Important principles and points to remember

- 1. Old Testament portrait 'man's journey' to the world and the New Testament portrait 'man's Return Journey' to the Kingdom of God.
- 2. In the Kingdom of God everything originates from God and not man.
- 3. If we are in the 'Journey', we give priority to our own desires.
- 4. 'Deny self' means to kill one's will with the 'Will of the Father'.
- 5. In the Kingdom of man, everything originates from man and in the Kingdom of God everything originates from God.
- 6. The words of Jesus, who is the prince of peace "I came not to bring peace on earth but division" surprised many who could not discern time.
- 7. Paul did not desire to live in this world. However, the reason he lived was to do the will of God and help increase the faith of his brethren.
- 8. 'Return journey' is against the flow of the world.
- 9. 'Journey' is from the Kingdom of God through the world into the lake of fire. But 'Return Journey' is from the world to the Kingdom of God through Jesus.



POINTS TO REMEMBER FROM THE FIRST PART:-

- 1. Accepting Christ is momentary but following Christ is a 'life time' process.
- **2. 'Salvation'** is being saved from the clutches of the devil and **'Follow'** means following Jesus to the Father's house which is the Kingdom of God.
- 3. Today majority of the people who accept Jesus as their savior do not take the 'Return Journey'. This is because, the 'conviction or the Right Sense' that happened in the prodigal son, is not taking place in most of the meetings where the Gospel is preached.
- 4. A man in his 'Right Sense' returns to his house and a man who is not, wanders in the streets. Similarly a spiritually convicted man returns to the Kingdom of God and a person who is not spiritually convicted strives to gain the world.
- 5. Jesus is only introduced in majority of the Gospel meetings today. 'Kingdom of God' which was the subject that Jesus preached is not even mentioned. So people are not convicted in these meetings and hence they are not journeying to the Father's house. Neither the man of God who preached the Gospel nor the listeners give a thought about the 'Return Journey'.





Part-2

THE LAW OF THE SPIRIT



Chapter 17 'THE LAW OF THE SPIRIT'

"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God." (Romans 8:14 NKJV)

One thing, that really surprises me when I think about the Church of Christ today, is the revelation about 'The Law of the Spirit'. Unfortunately, this revelation not only surprises me but also saddens me. The readers might probably wonder what 'The Law of the Spirit' is and why its revelation both surprised and saddens me.

What is 'The law of the spirit'?

The law of the Kingdom of God is called 'The Law of the Spirit'. Before we understand 'The Law of the Spirit, let us first understand the 'Law'. This will make it easier to understand 'The Law of the Spirit'.

Law consists of the 10 commandments and approximately 630 sub commandments which God gave Israelites through Moses. Law is a set of rules written with letters and that which can be read with the natural eyes and heard with the natural ears. If an individual lives by

The thoughts of the Spirit of God are called 'The Law of the Spirit'.

obeying these rules, he is said to be living according to the 'law'.

But 'The Law of the Spirit' is not written in letters. On the contrary, 'Law of the Spirit' are the thoughts of the Spirit of Christ that occurs in the heart of man, when a person is 'Born Again' in Christ or when he becomes one with the Spirit of Christ.

"But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him."
(I Corinthians 6:17 NKJV)

In other words,

Law of the spirit

Only the Spirit of God knows the things of God. The thoughts of the Spirit of God are called 'The Law of the Spirit'.

"For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God." (I Corinthians 2:11, 12 NKJV)

The origin of 'The Law of the Spirit' when concerning man

Did 'The Law of the Spirit' originate in the New Testament? Concerning man, 'The Law of the Spirit' originated not in the New Testament, but in the Garden of Eden when Adam was created. In 'The Law of the Spirit', everything originates from God and man lives in the world by obeying the voice of God which he hears with his inner ears. However, when Adam sinned and died in the spirit, mankind no longer remained under 'The Law of Spirit'. 'The Law of Spirit' then resumes in man's life when he is 'Born Again' in Jesus Christ.

'Life' according to the 'Law' means, people live in obedience to 'God's written Law'. 'Life' according to 'The Law of the Spirit' means, 'Born Again' persons live in obedience to 'the <u>Voice</u> of God' that reveals in their hearts.

It is our thoughts that transform into words. Similarly, it is the thoughts of the Spirit that a 'Born Again' person hears as the voice of God. A person is said to be led by the Spirit when he hears this voice of the Spirit with his inner ears and lives accordingly. Obeying the Law is 'Life' according to the 'Law'. Hearing the voice of God in the spirit of a 'Born Again' person and obeying it, is 'Life' according to 'The Law of the Spirit'. Since the church of Christ is under the Law of Spirit, it is the Spirit of God that talks to the Church.

"He who has an ear, let him hear what the <u>Spirit says to</u> the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God."

(Revelation 2:7 NKJV)

Why did 'The Law of the Spirit' surprise me?

Many of the 'Born Again' believers are under the misconception that they are 'free' when actually they are under 'The Law of the Spirit'.

Every person is either under the 'Law' or 'The Law of the Spirit'. Today when majority of the Christian Churches claim to have received freedom from the 'Law' through Jesus; they are actually ignorant of **The Law of the Spirit'**. It is this Law of the Spirit that

give them freedom from the 'Law of sin and death' and there by from the 'Law'.

"For the <u>law of the Spirit</u> of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death." (Romans 8:2 NKJV)

"But if ye be <u>led of the Spirit</u>, ye are <u>not under the law."</u>
(Gala 5:18 KJV)

'Born Again' believers received freedom from the 'Law' when they surrendered themselves as slaves to the Lordship of Christ. Now 'Born Again' believers are not under the 'Law' anymore, but they are under the 'Spirit of Christ', who gained freedom for them. In other words, they are under 'The Law of the Spirit', because Christ paid His blood as a price to redeem mankind into the Kingdom of God, similar to paying a price to buy a slave. All those who are in the Kingdom of God are under 'The Law of the Spirit'.

Though 'Born Again' believers are free from laws like 'do not taste', 'do not handle', they are not free to live their life according to their will because they are under 'The Law of the Spirit' that freed them.

"Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and <u>you are not your own?"</u> (I Corinthians 6:19 NKJV)

Though 'Born Again' believers are free from laws like 'do not taste', 'do not handle', they are not free to live their life according to their will because they are under the 'Law of the Spirit' that freed them.

How can a person obey the Holy Spirit if he is unable to hear Him?

Law of the spirit

What surprised me was the ignorance of the Christian churches to the fact that they are under 'The Law of the Spirit'. In short, the believers and majority of the men of God are ignorant of 'The Law of the Spirit' to which they should be submitted to. I was shocked to know that it was not even included in the syllabus of the Bible colleges.

Why did 'The Law of the Spirit' sadden me?

Though the ignorance of 'The Law of the Spirit' in the Church surprised me, it saddened me when I understood the significance of

'The Law of the Spirit' in a believer's life and the underlying danger of not listening to 'the Voice of the Spirit'.

Since the Church is under 'The Law of the Spirit', it is the Holy Spirit who talks to the Church. But majority of the Christians do not know how to hear or discern 'the Voice of the Holy Spirit' because their spiritual ears are not tuned to it. Then how can they hear 'the Voice of the Holy Spirit?' If they cannot hear, how can they obey? Because the Church is under 'The Law of the Spirit', it is the Holy Spirit who talks to the Church. But majority of the Christians do not know how to hear or discern the voice of the Holy Spirit.

The word says those who are led by the Spirit are called sons of God.

"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God." (Romans 8:14 NKJV)

How can I listen to the 'Voice of the Holy Spirit'?

- a. An unbeliever cannot hear the voice of the Spirit, because his spirit is not 'Born Again'.
- b. Even though a person is 'Born Again' he cannot discern the voice of the Holy Spirit, if his vision is still in the world. This is because world hides the kingdom of God from him.

(Mathew 13:44, 38, John 14:17).

c. If a 'Born Again' person repents (Turn his vision from the world to the Kingdom of God) and does the 'Return Journey', he starts to hear the 'Voice of the Holy Spirit' and this voice becomes clearer to him as he advances in the 'Return Journey' with the Holy Spirit.

It is the Spirit of Jesus who talks to the Church

Majority of the churches are ignorant to the fact that they are under 'The Law of the Spirit' because they don't have a revelation of God's purpose for man and also they concentrate more on the Old Testament books that try to lead man through letters.

Majority of the Churches are ignorant to the fact that they are under 'The Law of the Spirit' because they don't have a revelation of God's purpose for man.

Old Testament ministry is that of letters and not of the Spirit.

Three and half years following Christ and the remaining years led by the Holy Spirit

Another reason that the Church does not understand that they are

We should be submissive to the 'Spirit of Christ' who dwells is us, in the same way the disciples surrendered to the 'Voice of Jesus' when He was in the body.

under the Spirit of God is because they focus only on what Christ said in the four Gospels. Dear readers, one thing we need to understand is that, Christ is still speaking to His Church in the same way, in fact more than He spoke to the world when He was in His physical

body, which is the reason He said, "I will not leave you orphans, but will be with you till the end of the world" and sent His Spirit to be with us forever. Now Christ is speaking to us through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us. We should be submissive to the Spirit of Christ who dwells in us, in the same way the disciples surrendered to the voice of Jesus when He was in the physical body.

Christ is still speaking to His Church in the same way, in fact more than He spoke to the world when He was in the physical body, which is the reason He said, "I will not leave you orphans, but will be with you till the end of the world" and sent His Spirit to be with us forever.

The only difference is that when Christ lived in this world, He spoke to his disciples from outside their physical body whereas now He speaks

Law of the spirit

to his disciples from inside their physical body, that means through their spirit by dwelling in them. Jesus speaking through His Spirit is called 'The Law of the Spirit.'

When Christ lived in this world, He spoke to His disciples from outside their physical body, where as now He speaks to His disciples inside their physical body, that means, 'through their spirit by the Holy Spirit dwelling in them'.

How is 'The Law of the Spirit' and 'Christ' related when Church is concerned?

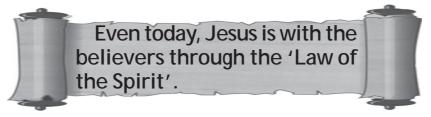
The Law of the Spirit did not manifest in the disciple's lives, during the time of Jesus' earthly ministry, as mentioned in the Gospels.

During that time they were under 'Christ' and not under the 'Holy Spirit'. The Church came under 'The Law of the Spirit', when the Holy Spirit was sent into the world instead of Jesus, after His death, resurrection and ascension into Heaven. The purpose of sending the Holy Spirit was to continue the 'Father's Business' or in other words the ministry of Jesus as promised to his disciples.

"Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high." (Luke 24:49 NKJV)

Jesus is still speaking to the Churches today as He was 2000 years ago. The only difference is that, 2000 years ago, He spoke directly to His disciples, through His earthly body, but now He is speaking through the Holy Spirit. After Jesus purchased the Church (Acts 20:28) with His blood, which is mentioned in the book of Revelation, He conveys the message that His Father gave to the Church through His Spirit.

The Church came under 'The Law of the Spirit', when the Holy Spirit was sent into the world instead of Jesus, after His death, resurrection and ascension into Heaven. Jesus now speaks to individuals and Church through His Spirit.



Jesus speaks to the seven churches in Revelation chapters 2 and 3 through His Spirit. Here we see Jesus initiating the talk, but the Church does not hear it from Him, instead they hear it from the Holy Spirit. This is the relation between 'Jesus' and 'The Law of the Spirit' when the Church is concerned. That means Jesus initiates the conversation and Holy Spirit ends it. In Revelation chapter 2 & 3 this types of God's communication to the Churches showed 7 times.

1. Jesus is speaking:

To the Church in Ephesus:

"To the angel of the church of Ephesus write, '<u>These things</u> says <u>He</u> who holds the seven stars in His right hand, who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands:"

(Revelation 2:1 NKJV)

Church hears through the Holy Spirit:

"He who has an ear, let him hear <u>what the Spirit says to</u> <u>the churches</u>. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God."

(Revelation 2:7 NKJV)

2. Jesus is speaking:

To Church in Smyrna:

"And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write, 'these things says the First and the Last, who was dead, and came to life:" (Revelation 2:8 NKJV)

Church hears through the Holy Spirit:

"He who has an ear, let him hear what the <u>Spirit says to</u> <u>the churches</u>. He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death." (Revelation 2:11 NKJV)

3. Jesus is speaking:

To the Church in Pergamos:

"And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write, '<u>These</u> things says He who has the sharp two-edged sword:"

(Revelation 2:12 NKJV)

Church hears through the Holy Spirit:

"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it." (Revelation 2:17 NKJV)

4. Jesus is speaking:

To the Church in Thyatira

"And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write, 'These things says the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet like fine brass:" (Revelation 2:18 NKJV)

Church hears through the Holy Spirit:

"He who has an ear, let him hear <u>what the Spirit says to the churches.</u>" (Revelation 2:29 NKJV)

5. Jesus is speaking:

To the Church in Sardis:

"And to the angel of the church in Sardis write, 'These things says He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars: (Revelation 3:1 NKJV)

Church hears through the Holy Spirit:

"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." (Revelation 3:6 NKJV)

6. Jesus is speaking:

To the Church in Philadelphia:

"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write,

'<u>These things says He who is holy</u>, He who is true, "He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens": (Revelation 3:7 NKJV)

Church hears through the Holy Spirit:

"He who has an ear, let him hear <u>what the Spirit says to the churches."</u> (Revelation 3:13 NKJV)

7. Jesus is speaking:

To the Church in Laodicea:

"And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, '<u>These things says the Amen</u>, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God:"

(Revelation 3:14 NKJV)

Church hears through the Holy Spirit:

"He who has an ear, let him hear what the <u>Spirit says to the churches</u>." (Revelation 3:22 NKJV)

Today the Church of Christ, in whichever corners of the world they are, are under 'The Law of the Spirit' and should make themselves ready by obeying the 'Voice of the Holy Spirit'. This shows that Jesus is still operating in the Church through 'The Law of the Spirit'. The Church of Christ, wherever in the world they are, should know that they are under 'The Law of the Spirit' and make themselves ready by obeying the 'Voice of the Holy Spirit'. Thus the believers who received

the right to become the children of God by believing in Jesus Christ should be led by the Spirit and fight the good fight of faith. Those who

Today, it is Christ who speaks to the Churches through the Holy Spirit, even though Church does not hear from Christ directly. This is the relation between 'Christ' and 'The Law of the Spirit' when the Church is concerned.

Law of the spirit

become victorious will be acknowledged by God as His children and will inherit the Kingdom of God and live with God eternally.

To be led by the Spirit means to be led by Christ.

Dear readers, let us surrender ourselves to this 'ministry of the Holy Spirit'.

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:" (John $1:12~\mathrm{KJV}$)

"For you are all sons of God through <u>faith</u> in Christ Jesus."
(Galatians 3:26 NKJV)

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have <u>kept the faith</u>." (II Timothy 4:7 NKJV)

"For as many as are <u>led by the Spirit</u> of God, these are sons of God." (Romans 8:14 NKJV)

"He who <u>overcomes</u> shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and <u>he shall be My son</u>." (Revelation 21:7 NKJV)

Let us use the privilege that God has given to us who believe in Jesus, to become the children of God and reveal ourselves as sons of God.

Prayer



My Heavenly Father, help me listen and obey the 'Voice of the HOLYSPIRIT' and be victorious and attain the position of sons of God. In Jesus name... Amen

Important principles and points to remember

- 1. The law of the Kingdom of God is called 'The Law of the Spirit'. Concernig man this originated in the Garden of Eden at the time of Adam's creation.
- 2. Obeying the Law is 'Life' according to the 'Law'. Hearing the voice of God in the spirit of a 'Born Again' person and obeying it is 'Life', according to 'The **Law of the Spirit'**.

- 3. Though 'Born Again' believers are free from laws like 'do not taste', 'do not handle', they are not free to live their life according to their will because they are under 'The Law of the Spirit' that freed them.
- 4. Many of the 'Born Again' believers are under the misconception that they are 'free' when actually they are under 'The Law of the Spirit'.
- 5. Because the Church is under 'The Law of the Spirit', it is the Holy Spirit who talks to the Church. But majority of the Christians do not know how to hear or discern the voice of the Holy Spirit.
- 6. Majority of the Churches are ignorant to the fact that they are under 'The Law of the Spirit' because they don't have a revelation of God's purpose for man.
- 7. Christ is still speaking to His Church in the same way, in fact more than He spoke to the world when He was in his physical body, which is the reason He said, "I will not leave you orphans, but will be with you till the end of the world" and sent His Spirit to be with us forever. Today Jesus speaks to the Church through His Spirit.
- 8. We should be submissive to the Spirit of Christ who dwells in us in the same way the disciples surrendered to the voice of Jesus when He lived in this world in His earthly body.
- 9. Jesus speaking through His Spirit is 'The Law of the Spirit.'
- 10. The Church came under 'The Law of the Spirit', when Holy Spirit was sent into the world instead of Jesus after His death, resurrection and ascension into Heaven. Jesus now speaks to individuals and Church through His Spirit.
- 11. Jesus is still with the believers through 'The 'Law of the Spirit'.
- 12. Today, it is Christ who speaks to the Churches, through the Holy Spirit, even though Church does not hear from Christ directly. This is the relation between 'Christ' and 'The Law of the Spirit' when the Church is concerned.
- 13. To be led by the Spirit means to be led by Christ.



Chapter 18 'LAW' AND 'THE LAW OF THE SPIRIT' FROM THE KINGDOM VIEW

"The law and the prophets were until John. Since that time the kingdom of God has been preached, and everyone is pressing into it. "(Luke 16:16. NKJV)

Moses, is stand in the '<u>Journey</u>' and 'The Law of the Spirit' in the 'Kingdom of God' is stand in the '<u>Return Journey</u>'. Once Jesus happened to differentiate between the Old Testament and the New Testament to the Jews.

The message of the Old Testament was received through the 'books of Law' and the 'Prophets'. The message of the New Testament is the 'Kingdom of God'.

"The law and the prophets were until John. Since that time the kingdom of God has been preached, and everyone is pressing into it." (Luke 16:16. NKJV)

The message of the Old Testament was received through the books of 'Law and the Prophets'. The message of the New Testament is the 'Kingdom of God'. This is quite evident from chapter 13 'THE COMPLETE BIBLE IN ONE AND A QUARTER SENTENCE' (Matthew 7:12-13)

According to Luke 16:16, period of the Old Testament or the time

period of the 'Journey', is only until John the Baptist. After that is the period of the New Testament or the 'Return Journey'.

From the story of the prodigal son we understand that, 'Journey' is the 'Journey of condemnation' through the world into the lake of fire and 'Return Journey' is to

'Journey' is the 'Journey of condemnation' through the world into the lake of fire and 'Return Journey' is to Heaven through Jesus Christ.

Heaven through Jesus Christ or by following Jesus. 'Journey' and the 'Return Journey' are entirely in the opposite directions. It is in the 'Journey' that God gave the 'Law' to man.

Why was the 'Law' given to man in the 'Journey'?

Word of God clearly shows us that, 'Law' was given to prevent people from sin in the 'Journey'.

"What purpose then does the law serve? It was added <u>because of transgressions</u>, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was appointed through

In the 'Journey', man lost all his innocence and became defiled in nature.

made; and it was appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator." (Galatians 3: 19 NKJV)

Law was given to man to prevent sin but it does not remove the sinful nature in man. In the journey of the prodigal son, we see that he squanders the wealth of the father through wrong friendships. God created man to be innocent but in the 'Journey' he lost his innocence and became defiled in nature. To

prevent this sinful nature, God gave the Law to the people in the 'Journey'.

"Truly, this only I have found: That God made man upright, But they have sought out many schemes."

(Ecclesiastes 7:29 NKJV)

Until when is the Law valid for a believer?

From Luke 16:16 we understand that Law was until John.

"The law and the prophets were until John. Since that time the kingdom of God has been preached, and everyone is pressing into it."

(Luke 16:16. NKJV)

It is not the 'Law' but 'The Law of the Spirit' that is followed in the 'Return Journey'.

What happened during the time of John the Baptist? It is during the time of John the Baptist that the promised seed 'Jesus' came and changed the 'Journey' of man which was in the world, into the 'Return

Law & Law of the Spirit....

Journey' to Heaven. It is for this purpose that Jesus became a sacrifice for our sins.

"What purpose then does the law serve? It was added because of transgressions, *till the Seed should come* to whom the promise was made; and it was appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator." (Galatians 3: 19 NKJV)

'Law' and 'The Law of the Spirit'

Why was the Law valid only until the coming of the promised seed, Jesus? Is it not necessary to <u>prevent the sins of the people</u> even after the coming of Jesus?

Let me answer the second question first and then come back to the first question.

The answer to the second question, "Is it not necessary to prevent the sins of the people even after the coming of Jesus?" is that 'Law' is for the people in the 'Journey' but Jesus has come to make believers who are in the 'Journey' make the 'Return Journey'.



Those who are in the 'Return Journey' are not under the 'Law' because they have a higher Law which is 'The Law of the Spirit'.

When the 'Law' tries to hide the sinful nature of man from being exposed to the world, 'Law of the Spirit' uproots the sinful nature from him.

In the 'Return Journey', it is the 'Law of the Spirit' that is followed and not the 'Law'. When the **Law** tries to hide the sinful nature of man from being exposed to the world, '**Law of the Spirit'** uproots the sinful nature from him. However, this happens only when Jesus Christ changes the 'Journey' to 'Return Journey'.

Those who are in the 'Return Journey' are not under the 'Law' because they have a higher Law which is 'The Law of the Spirit'. Now let me move on to the first question. Why was the Law valid only until the coming of the promised seed, Jesus Christ?

The purpose of the Law: to prevent sins

I will make it clear through an example. Consider a junction where many accidents occur. The government decides to construct a fly over to avoid the numerous accidents. Since the budget is not sufficient to construct the flyover immediately, the government decides to place signals temporarily at the junctions to prevent accidents, until the time they get enough funds for the construction of the flyover. Now the speeding Lorries and the buses see the red signal from afar and stop at the signal.

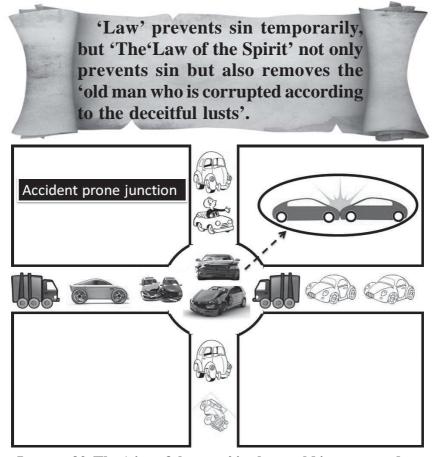


Image - 32 The 'sins of the man' in the world is compared to the accidents in an accident prone junction.

Law & Law of the Spirit....

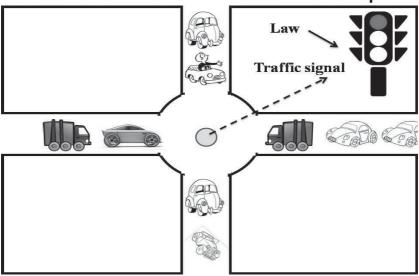


Image - 33 The Law that was given to prevent sins are compared to a traffic signal installed by the government to prevent road accidents.

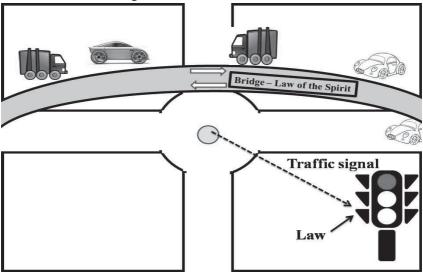


Image - 34 'Law of the Spirit' under which the Church should be subjected today, is compared to a flyover which prevents accidents and the queue at the traffic signal thus allowing the free flow of traffic.

Law is compared to the 'traffic signal' and 'The Law of the Spirit' is compared to the 'fly over'.

Whoever believes in Jesus and follows the 'Law of the Spirit' is exempted from the 'Law'. Traffic light is used temporarily to prevent the accidents. But the fly over helps not only to avoid the accidents but also allows the smooth flow of the traffic. Law prevents sin temporarily, but the 'Law of the Spirit' not only prevents sin but also removes the 'man

corrupted by sin'.

Traffic light = Law

Law of the Spirit = Fly over

Due to shortage of money to build the fly over, traffic signals were erected to avoid accidents. Similarly, because it was not yet time for Jesus Christ to reestablish 'The Law of the Spirit', the Heavenly

'Law' is for the people who are in the 'Journey' through the world. 'Law of the Spirit' is for the people who are in the 'Return Journey' to the Kingdom of God.

government gave the 'Law' which is temporary through the intermediary Moses.

"What purpose then does the law serve? It was added because of transgressions, <u>till the Seed should come</u> to whom the promise was made; and it was appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator." (Galatians 3:19 NKJV)

"For the law was given through Moses...."
(John 1:17 NKJV)

When the government had budget, a fly over was constructed over the junction and those who travelled by the fly over was not required to stop at the signal any more. Similarly, when the time was fulfilled, Jesus Christ came into the world, became a sacrifice on the cross, reestablished 'The Law of the Spirit' and exempted the followers of Jesus from the Law.

"But if you are led by the Spirit, you are <u>not under the law."</u> (Galatians 5:18 NKJV)

Law & Law of the Spirit....

"I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall <u>not fulfill the</u> <u>lust of the flesh."</u> (Galatians 5:16 NKJV)

How beautiful is 'The Law of the Spirit' which is given to us by our Heavenly Father. But with profound sorrow I tell you that majority of the people are those who accept Jesus and try to obey the 'Law' but fail due to the weakness in their flesh. *The result of this is very scary*.

"For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live." (Romans 8:13 NKJV)

Prayer



Our Heavenly Father, thank you for revealing the 'Law' which is the law of the 'Journey' in the world and 'The Law of the Spirit' which is the law of the 'Return Journey' to the Kingdom of Heaven. Help us to understand 'The Law of the Spirit' and to

take victory over sin and to inherit the Kingdom of God. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Important principles and points to remember

- 1. The message of the Old Testament was received through the 'books of Law' and the 'Prophets'. The message of the New Testament is the 'Kingdom of God'.
- 'Journey' is the 'Journey of Condemnation' through the world into the lake of fire and 'Return Journey' is to Heaven by following Jesus Christ.
- 3. 'Law' was given to prevent people from in the 'Journey'.
- 4. In the 'Journey', man lost all his innocence and became defiled in nature.
- 5. It is not the 'Law' but 'The Law of the Spirit' that is followed in the 'Return Journey'.
- 6. When the 'Law' tries to hide the sinful nature of man from being exposed to the world, 'Law of the Spirit' uproots the sinful nature of man from himself.

- 7. Those who are in the 'Return Journey' are not under the 'Law' because they have a higher Law which is 'The Law of the Spirit.'
- 8. Law prevents sin temporarily, but 'The Law of the Spirit' not only prevents sin but also removes the 'sinful man' corrupted by sin.
- 9. Whoever believes in Jesus and follows 'The Law of the Spirit' is exempted from the 'Law'.
- 10. 'Law' is for the people who are in the 'Journey' through the world. 'Law of the Spirit' is for the people who are in the 'Return Journey to the Kingdom of God'.



Chapter 19 HOW DOES 'THE LAW OF THE SPIRIT' WORK?

"For the 'law of the Spirit' of life 'in Christ Jesus' has made me free from the law of sin and death." (Romans 8:2 NKJV)

Purpose of 'The Law of the Spirit'

need to know the purpose of 'The Law of the Spirit' before

we understand the working of it. 'Law' could not give sinners, victory over sin, because of their weakness in the flesh which prevented them from fulfilling the Law. Therefore they could not attain the

'Law of the Spirit' free people who are bound by the 'law of sin and death'.

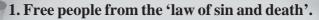
righteousness of the law and inherit the Kingdom of God. However, the purpose of the Law of the Spirit is to help the people who are led by the Spirit to overcome the weaknesses in their flesh and give them victory over sin and fulfill the righteous requirement of the Law and thus help them inherit the Kingdom of God.

"For what the <u>law could not do</u> in that it was weak through the flesh (To fulfill), God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, that the <u>righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us</u> who do not walk according to the flesh <u>but according to the</u> <u>Spirit</u>." (Romans 8:3-4 NKJV)

In the 'Return Journey', 'The Law of the Spirit' helps man to overcome sin, reveal the son of God hidden by the 'old corrupted man' in the soul and inherit the Kingdom of God.

"For the <u>law of the Spirit</u> of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death." (Romans 8:2 NKJV)

Two significant works of 'The Law of the Spirit'





Two legs of 'The Law of the Spirit'

The 'Law of the Spirit' is the law of the Christian Churches today.

The 'Law of the Spirit' is the law of the Christian Churches today. The Church or the 'Born Again' believers should grow by paying heed to the counsel of the Spirit.

The Church or the 'Born Again' believers should grow by paying heed to the counsel of the Holy Spirit. Similar to the two legs of man, the two legs of the 'Law of the Spirit' are 'Grace' and 'Truth'. We can lead a victorious Christian life and inherit the Kingdom of God only if we use these two legs of 'The Law of the Spirit' together.

"For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came

through Jesus Christ." (John 1:17 NKJV)

Consider that I am in UAE and my son is in India. The Law that God gave Moses can be compared to the instructions that I give to my son through a servant, to prevent him from falling into sin.

The two legs of 'The Law of the Spirit', which is grace and truth, can be compared to myself going to India directly to instruct my son.

'Grace' should be received in gratitude but 'Truth' should be loved and obeyed with the help of grace.

"And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness."

(II Corinthians 12:9 NKJV)

".... because they <u>did not receive the love of the truth</u>, that they might be saved." (II Thessalonians 2:10 NKJV)

'Grace' will empower man to obey the 'Truth' and receive the love of God (Agape) from this 'Truth', thus revealing the son of God.

Truth will helps us to enter into the reality [Kingdom of God] from this shadow world.

Two Legs of 'Law of the Spirit'



'Grace' will empower us to obey the 'Truth' and this 'Truth' will free us from the ignorance and bondage of the 'flesh' conform us into the image of God.

(Image - 35)

Grace - What is impossible with man is made possible by God.

Truth - The thought of the Heavenly Father which is revealed in our heart as the 'daily bread'.

Word - The revelation of this Truth.

<u>'Grace'</u>: What is impossible with man is made possible by God.

<u>'Truth'</u>: is the thought of the Father. <u>'Word'</u>: is its revelation.

If we receive and use 'grace', then we will be <u>saved from the punishment</u> mentioned in Genesis 2:17, and be able to overcome the weaknesses in the flesh and thus be victorious in the world. However, if we love and obey the truth, then with the help of the Holy Spirit, we will be able to destroy the <u>flesh</u> and reveal the son of God from us. In short, **if we love and obey the truth, then with the help of grace we will be able to make the 'Return Journey'**.

When His disciples heard it, they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be <u>saved</u>?" But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "<u>With men this is impossible</u>, but with God <u>all things are possible</u>." (Matthew 19:25, 26 NKJV)

"For by <u>grace</u> you have been <u>saved</u> through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,"

(Ephesians 2:8 NKJV)

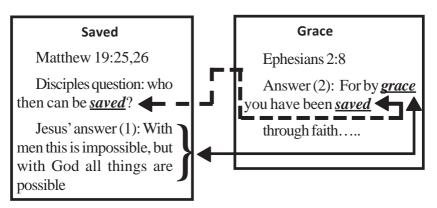
From the above verses the definition Jesus gives for 'grace' is that 'God makes possible what man considers impossible'.

Just like how Paul received revelation of the Word from the Father, the Father's thought that is revealed to us through the Holy Spirit is called the 'Truth'. The revelation of the 'truth' is the Word.

"Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth."
(John 17:17 NKJV)



Jesus' definition of 'Grace'



"Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in Heaven." (Matthew 16:17 NKJV)

The inner realms of the 'Journey of Condemnation' and 'Journey of Salvation'

In the 'Journey of Condemnation' according to Genesis 2:17, man got separated from God or in other words, died in the spiritual realm and started his 'Journey' through the world into the lake of fire. He became completely enslaved by the Kingdom of devil. We have understood that man comprises of spirit, soul and body.

"Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole <u>spirit</u>, <u>soul</u>, <u>and body</u> be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

(I Thessalonians 5:23 NKJV)

How is man, who cannot sin, be revealed?

"Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God." $(I\ John\ 3:9\ NKJV)$

When a person accepts JESUS as his Savior, his spirit is 'Born Again' in the Kingdom of God. The soul and the body continue in the

old state. But when he repents and surrenders his old corrupted man in the soul to die, then the soul follows the Spirit to the Kingdom of God by doing the invisible 'Return Journey'. In other words, the person draws near to the Kingdom of God in his heart. In the 'Return Journey', when man surrenders to 'The Law of the Spirit', which works through the 'Daily Bread, Daily Cross and Daily Death' (Mentioned in chpt.11) the old corrupted man in the soul dies. The son of God who is 'Born Again' in the spirit manifests himself in the soul where the old corrupted man died. As the 'Return Journey' under 'The Law of the Spirit' progresses, the son of God who is conformed to the image of God and who cannot sin (1 John 3:9) will fill the soul where the old corrupted man got destroyed and reveals himself to the world through the body. This means that in the 'Return Journey', the character of the old corrupted man will be changed and the character of the spirit man (Son of God) will be revealed.

Thus instead of dealing with each sin individually, through the ministry of the Holy Spirit, God will destroy the old sinful man in the soul and reveal the new man who cannot sin.

Always remember, God's method to destroy our fleshly nature as a whole is by allowing us to do the 'Return Journey' by following Jesus Christ. This ministry which was hidden by the devil is being brought to light by the Holy Spirit in these last days. It is imperative that the men of God listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit and reveal this to the Churches.

Moses murdered only a single Egyptian, but God destroyed pharaoh and his

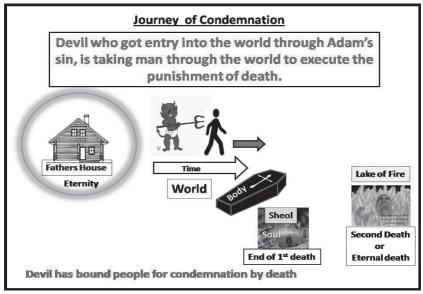
whole army at one shot in the Red Sea. Just like Moses, we too try to deal with jealousy, revenge and other fleshly nature individually.

Under 'The Law of the Spirit' in the 'Return Journey', when we love and obey the truth, Holy Spirit helps destroy the corrupted fleshly man at one shot just like God destroyed pharaoh and his army completely in the red sea. Always remember, God's method to destroy our fleshly nature as a whole is by allowing us to do the 'Return Journey' by following Jesus Christ. Those who do not use the two legs of 'The Law

of the Spirit' are not said to be walking in the New Testament. He who uses only one leg limps and he, who uses both the legs walk victoriously.

Freedom from 'the Law of sin and death' (Salvation)

If we understand the spiritual structure of the 'Journey' and 'Return Journey', it will be easier to understand the things that follow.

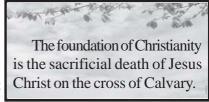


Devil who got entry into the world through Adam's sin, is taking man through the world to execute the punishment of death. (Image - 36)

What is the 'Law of sin and death'? The wages of sin is death. This is the law of sin and death.

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23 NKJV)

According to the commandment mentioned in Genesis 2:17



The wages of sin is death. This is the 'Law of sin and death'.

"But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die." (Genesis 2:17 NKJV)

Adam who sinned against God and all mankind who were born of him, were bound by the angel of death for judgment. Death started in the spirit of Adam and entered in to the world through him.

"Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death dead in the spirit. through sin, and thus death spread to

All mankind who are born of Adam are

all men, because all sinned." (Romans 5:12NKJV)

All mankind who are born of Adam are dead in the spirit. The angel of death still continues to carry out the judgment on Adam and his descendants. The body of man is perishing every moment.

When a man accepts JESUS as his Savior, 'The Law of the Spirit' in the Kingdom of God first delivers him from the 'Law of sin and death'.

When the complete death of the body happens, the soul will enter the place of torment in Hades.

In the final judgment, man is cast in the lake of fire. This is the second death. Man became a victim to all this because he violated God's commandment

mentioned in Genesis 2:17 and got trapped in the 'Law of sin and death'. However, the moment he accepts JESUS as his Savior, the law of the Holy Spirit redeems him from this law of sin and death.

"For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death." (Romans 8:2 NKJV)

Man who became the victim of judgment due to Adam's sin, gains freedom by being 'Born Again' (second birth).

Whatever is born of the first birth ends up in the first death.

"There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus..." (Romans 8:1 NKJV)

After the first death is the second birth

We have understood the first death and the second death mentioned in the previous chapters. Being 'Born Again' (Second birth) happens in Christ whereas the first death happens in Adam. In Genesis, the spirit of Adam died in the Garden of Eden, followed by the death in his body on earth. And finally his soul is thrown into Hades, the temporary place of torment. This death of spirit, soul and body is called the first death.

In the final judgment, all those who have experienced the first death without completing God's righteous requirement in their life, will be cast into the lake of fire. This is called the Second death.

Today, every person on earth who accepts Jesus as his savior is spiritually dead in Adam. However, the first

death has not been completed in the body and soul. So when a person accepts Jesus as his savior, only the spirit (Where the first death has happened) is born again (Second birth) into the Kingdom of God.

The death of man's spirit, soul and body in his first birth is called the 'first death'.

Why is it that only the spirit of man becomes 'Born Again' (Second birth) after he accepts Jesus? Why doesn't the soul and the body be born the second time?

YOU CANNOT DIE WITHOUT BEING BORN. SIMILARLY YOU CANNOT BE 'BORN AGAIN' WITHOUT DYING FIRST

The state of a person before accepting Jesus as his savior.	The state of a person when accepting Jesus as his savior.	The state of a person after accepting Jesus as his savior.
Spirit (the <u>first death</u> <u>finished</u>)	Spirit (is <i>being Born</i> <i>Again</i>)	Spirit (is Born Again)
Soul (the first death has not finished)	Soul (is not Born Again)	Soul (is <i>being Born Again</i>)
Body (the first death has not finished)	Body (is not Born Again)	Body (is not Born Again)

When a person who was in Adam becomes in Christ, it is not mere repair work that is done on him, instead he is made into a 'totally new creation'.

The old man dies and he becomes a new creation.

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old

things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."

(II Corinthians 5:17 NKJV)

Unless a person is born, he cannot die. Similarly, he cannot be born again (Second birth) without dying first.

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the

Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."

(Galatians 2:20 NKJV)

Unless a person is born, he cannot die. Similarly, he cannot be born again (Second birth) without dying first. That is why, when a person accepts Jesus, only the spirit which experienced death (First death) in Adam is 'Born Again' because the body and the soul have not died (First death).

Why should the old man die?

The wages of sin is death. So if a person needs to obtain freedom from the judgment mentioned in Genesis 2:17, as a result of Adam's sin, he has to die.

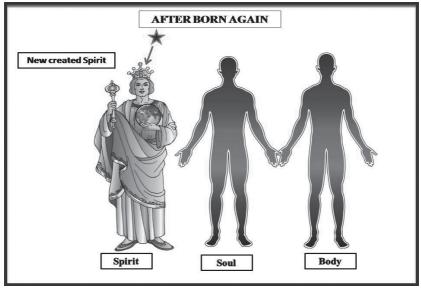
"For he who has died has been freed from sin."
(Romans 6:7 NKJV)

Who is the new creation?

When a person accepts Jesus as his Savior, the 'Born Again' process starts. This spiritual man who is born new in the image of God is the new creation. He is called the 'son of God', because he is born

The newly created son of God in a man is hidden by the corrupted soul which has not experienced the first death.

of God. But this son of God is hidden by the corrupted soul which has not experienced the first death.



(Image - 37)

The spirit man who is created (Redeemed) in the image of God and the soul and the body which are not redeemed.

It is God's desire that this new creation in the spirit, which is born of Jesus Christ, should be revealed to the world. This is the second main ministry of 'The Law of the Spirit'. We will understand further about this ministry in the following chapter.

Prayer



Our Heavenly Father, thank you for freeing us from the Law and redeeming us from death which is the wage of sin and placing us under 'The Law of the Spirit'. Help us to be led by the Holy Spirit and enter eternal life.. In JESUS name.. Amen



Important principles and points to remember

- 1. 'Law of the Spirit' free people who are bound by the law of sin and death.
- 2. In the 'Return Journey', 'The Law of the Spirit' helps man to overcome sin, reveal the son of God hidden by the 'old corrupted man' in the soul and inherit the Kingdom of God.
- 3. 'The Law of the Spirit' is the law of the Christian Churches today. The Church or the 'Born Again' believers should grow by paying heed to the counsel of the Spirit.
- 4. **Grace** What is impossible with man is made possible by God. **Truth** the thought of the Heavenly Father which is revealed in our heart as the 'daily bread'.
- 5. The foundation of Christianity is the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ on the cross of Calvary.
- 6. The wages of sin is death. This is 'the law of sin and death'.
- 7. All mankind who are born of Adam are dead in the spirit.
- 8. When a man accepts JESUS as his Savior, 'The Law of the Spirit' in the Kingdom of God first delivers him from the 'Law of sin and death'.
- 9. Whatever is born of the first birth ends up in the first death.
- 10. The death of man's spirit, soul and body in his first birth is called the 'first death'.
- 11. In the final judgment, all those who have experienced the first death without completing God's righteous requirement in their life, will be cast into the lake of fire. This is called the Second death.
- 12. Unless a person is born, he cannot die. Similarly, he cannot be born again (Second birth) without dying first.
- 13. The newly created son of God in a man is hidden in the corrupted soul which has not experienced the first death.
- 14. 'Grace' will empower us to obey the 'Truth' and this 'Truth' will free us from the ignorance and bondage of 'flesh' and conform us into the image of God.
- 15. Truth will helps us to enter into the reality [Kingdom of God] from this shadow world.
- 16. Always remember, God's method to destroy our fleshly nature as a whole is by allowing us to do the 'Return Journey' by following Jesus Christ.

Chapter 20 DO NOT SWALLOW THE CAMEL

"Blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel!" (Matthew 23:24NKJV)

The second main ministry of 'The Law of the Spirit'

The people who anoint Jesus!

 \mathfrak{S}_n the previous chapter, we learned about the newly created son

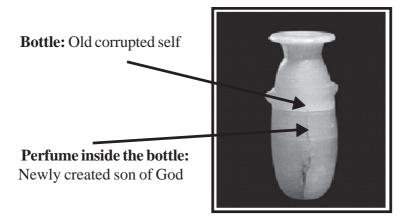
of God in our spirit. This newly created son of God is hidden by our corrupted soul which has not experienced the first death. The second main ministry of 'The Law of the Spirit' is to reveal the newly created 'son of God'. This soul contains our 'old self' which is defiled by fleshly thoughts.

There is good news for the 'Born Again' believers. The son of God has already been

This newly created son of God is hidden by our corrupted soul which has not experienced the first death. The core of the Gospel of Jesus Christ is to reveal this son of God.

created in our spirit. But this son of God is hidden by our 'old self'. So if we put off or kill our 'old self' by denying it, this son of God will manifest from the spirit into our soul and finally into the world through our body. Isn't this similar to the fragrance in a perfume bottle which spreads when the bottle is broken?

When our old corrupted 'self' is destroyed, the newly created son of God will be revealed from the spirit into the world. This can be compared to a perfume bottle spreading fragrance when broken.



The perfume is compared to the 'newly created son of God' in the spirit. The perfume bottle can be compared to our 'old

The core of the Gospel of Jesus Christ is the revealing of the son of God.

self' which is defiled by our flesh. When our 'old self' is destroyed, the newly created son of God, who is our 'new self' will be revealed from the spirit into the world through the body. This can be compared to a perfume bottle spreading fragrance when broken. The

core of the gospel of Jesus Christ is the revealing of the son of God. Or in Jesus' words, this is the <u>camel</u> in His gospel. In Jesus' language, <u>camel</u> means 'the most important'.

Jesus talks about the camel and the gnats when He publicly rebukes the Jewish leaders who give undue importance to least things such as preaching and adopting different methods to add people to the religion and ignoring the weightier parts of the 'Law' which is mercy and justice.

"Blind guides, who strain out a gnat and <u>swallow a camel</u>!" (Matthew 23:24NKJV)

The core of the Gospel (Camel)

The <u>foundation</u> of Christian life is the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross of Calvary and His resurrection. The <u>core</u> of Christian life is the 'Return Journey' where the sons of God are revealed.

Jesus *truly talks* about the most important topic that has to be preached wherever the Gospel of Jesus is preached in the world.

Before the crucifixion, when Jesus sat at the table in the house of Simon the Leper, a woman came with an Alabaster flask with very costly oil of spikenard. She broke the flask and poured it over Jesus' head. In other words, she anointed Jesus with the expensive oil.

The foundation of Christian life is the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross of Calvary and His resurrection. The core of Christian life is the 'Return Journey' where sons of God are revealed.

"And being in Bethany at the house of Simon the leper, as He sat at the table, a woman came having an alabaster flask

of very costly oil of spikenard. Then she broke the flask and poured it on His head." (Mark 14:3 NKJV)

When Jesus talks about anything truly, we better understand the importance of it.

Following this incident, Jesus says that the <u>deed of this woman</u> would be remembered and discussed wherever the Gospel is preached.

"Itell you the truth, wherever the Good News is preached throughout the world, this woman's deed will be remembered and discussed." (Mark 14:9 NLT)

There is a message in the deed of the woman. That message is the core of Jesus' Gospel. Why did Jesus <u>say truly</u> that the deed of the woman would be discussed and remembered wherever the Gospel is preached? It is because there is an underlying message in this particular act.

This message is the core of Jesus' Gospel. And the message is — "By killing the 'old self' which is corrupted by the fleshly desires, we 'Born Again' believers should reveal the newly created son of God or our new self, to the world".

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:" (John $1:12~{
m KJV}$)

Expensive '<u>spikenard oil</u>' = the '<u>newly created son of God (new man or new self</u>)' who is very important in God's presence (hidden person of the heart; 1 Peter 3:4)

'<u>Alabaster flask</u>' = The '<u>old man who is corrupted by the</u> <u>fleshly desires (old self)</u>'

The message that the woman gave when she broke the **Alabaster flask** and poured the oil over Jesus' head was "we should destroy the old man which is corrupted by the fleshly desires and to reveal the

Our Father God gave Jesus Christ to us, so that each one of us will be revealed as sons of God.

hidden and precious son of God who is newly created". Similarly, we who are 'Born Again' should reveal the newly created son of God in us and anoint Jesus like the woman did. For this we should kill or put off our old self, which has not

experienced the first death, by denying it.

The creation also eagerly waits for the revealing of these 'sons of God'.

"For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the <u>revealing of the sons of God."</u> (Romans 8:19 NKJV)

It is not necessary to wait till our body dies, for the son of God to be revealed to the soul and then to the world. If we die to our 'old self', the newly created son of God will be revealed through us to the world. This is the most important ministry that the Holy Spirit does through us, in the 'Return Journey'. Most of the Churches do not have the revelation of this ministry. Though Jesus truly said about the core of the Gospel, how many people remember, discuss or teach about the underlying message in the deed of the woman? *Very few...!*

Jesus said to the Jewish leaders who practiced and taught the rules of Judaism and converted other people to their religion, ignoring the weightier part of the Law which is mercy, faith and justice, "you are hypocrites, who strain the gnat and swallow the camel. Hell is prepared for you and for the people whom you have converted."

The reason is that these men of God swallowed the core part of the Law.

"Blind guides, who strain out a gnat and <u>swallow a camel</u>!" (Matthew 23:24NKJV)

Do not swallow......

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have <u>neglected</u> <u>the weightier matters</u> of the law: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone." (Matthew 23:23 NKJV)

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you devour widows' houses, and for a pretense make long prayers. Therefore you will receive greater condemnation. "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel land and sea to win one proselyte, and when he is won, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves."

(Matthew 23:14, 15 NKJV)

"But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you <u>shut up the kingdom of heaven</u> against men; for you neither go in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in." (Matthew 23:13 NKJV)

Jesus spoke angrily to these people because they travelled land and sea to win people. But they and the people who they gained did not have any change within. Their changes were only on the outside.

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of extortion and self-indulgence. Blind Pharisee, first cleanse the inside of the cup and dish, that the outside of them may be clean also. "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness."

(Matthew 23:25-27 NKJV)

The people whom they converted were twice deserving of hell.

Why this unnecessary expense?

Today in the New Testament Church, many have swallowed the camel, i.e., very rarely people make the 'Return Journey' or follow Jesus Christ. When the woman poured the expensive oil on Jesus' head, the people who loved wealth said, "why this unnecessary expense?"

Gospel without the 'Return Journey' is similar to straining the gnat and swallowing the camel.

"But there were some who were indignant among themselves, and said, "Why was this fragrant oil wasted? For it might have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and given to the poor." And they

criticized her sharply. But Jesus said, "Let her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a good work for Me."

(Mark 14:4-6 NKJV)

In today's New Testament church, very rarely people make the 'Return Journey' or follow Jesus Christ.

The act of the woman was most pleasing to Jesus. But the people who were with Jesus considered this as an unnecessary expense. In the 'Return Journey', we break the bottle and anoint Jesus. Gospel without the 'Return Journey' is similar to straining

the gnat and swallowing the camel. Through such gospels, the sons of God who cannot sin will not be revealed.

"Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God."

(I John 3:9 NKJV)

When a person makes the 'Return Journey', the sons of God who cannot sin will be revealed.

We need to change on the inside and not on the outside. When the change happens inside, it will automatically manifest

outside.

When a person makes the 'Return Journey', the sons of God who cannot sin will be revealed from within. We should not be like the foolish Pharisees. who do only the servant journey and convert people from one religion to another and not try to build the Godly character in them. These works are dangerous and deceiving in spiritual life.

Friends, from today let us reveal the son of God from within by making the 'Return Journey' and anointing Jesus like the woman did. Otherwise like how hell was prepared for for the Pharisees in spite of their many works, we also might be cast away from the judgment seat

of Christ after our hard work of preaching the Gospel where the son of God doesn't get revealed. We need to have the change on the inside and not on the outside. When the change happens on the inside it will gradually manifest on the outside.

"Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who <u>practice lawlessness</u>!'" (Matthew 7:22, 23 NKJV)

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but <u>he who does the will of My Father</u> in heaven." (Matthew 7:21NKJV)

What is the will of the Father?

To reveal the sons of God.

"He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be <u>My son</u>." (Revelation 21:7 NKJV)

The frequently used principle....!

The frequently used principle in the Christian churches today is what Jesus said "**it remains alone**".

"Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it <u>remains alone</u>; but if it dies, it produces much grain." (John 12:24NKJV)

The principle, '<u>it</u> remains alone' is the frequently used principle among the believers.

I hear many of the believers saying, "It has been 10 or 20 years since I got saved. However,

I still have the anger and jealousy that I had when I accepted Jesus." This implies that they have not had any transformation but has 'remained alone'. This is the principle that Jesus said in John 12:24.

Majority of the believers are holding on to this promise. They believe that when they accepted Jesus as their Lord and savior, they received forgiveness from their sins but are yet to be saved from their sinful nature of anger, jealousy and other fleshly desires. Majority of the

Majority of the churches consist of people who operate in their flesh. This is the reason for the rising conflicts among the churches.

churches consist of people who operate in their flesh. This is the reason for the rising conflicts among the churches.

Most of the people know, 'Jesus *forgives* them from their sins', but they

are not aware of the fact that, 'Jesus <u>saves</u> their sins'.

Let me explain it further with an example. Imagine I told my 15 year old son. "When I go out, do not climb on the guava tree because

Majority of the believers do not know how Jesus can save them from their sins.

the road workers have dug a pit beside the guava tree. Instead sit and

Most of the people know that, 'Jesus *forgives* them from their sins', but they are not aware of the fact that, 'Jesus *saves* them sins'.

study." After I leave for work, my son disobeys my words and climbs the tree and the branch breaks. My son falls into the pit and gets seriously hurt. When I return from work, I don't find my son in the house. Instead, I hear my son crying out from the pit. "Father, help!." I go and ask him, "Why did you disobey me?"

Then he replies, "Father, forgive me." Imagine myself responding to him like this. "It is ok, I have forgiven you" and walk off without saving him from the pit. (This is an imaginary story) Most of the Christians have a similar understanding of Christ who forgives sins but does not save from sins.

However, the Christ mentioned in the Bible not only forgives our sins but also saves us from sins. Majority of the believers do not know how Jesus saves them from their sins.

Jesus forgives and saves

"And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for <u>He will save His people from their sins</u>."

(Matthew 1:21 NKJV)

'Jesus means Savior'. And He definitely saves from sins.

When we believe in Jesus and confess our sins, He will '<u>forgive</u>' our sins. When we make the 'Return Journey', Jesus also '<u>saves</u>' us from our sins.

When do we receive forgiveness from Jesus?

When we believe in Jesus and accept him as our savior.

How does Jesus save us from sins?

It is in the '<u>Return Journey</u>' that our sinful man dies and the son of God who cannot sin is revealed.

If it dies, it produces much fruit

"Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain."

(John 12:24NKJV)

If a grain of wheat falls to the ground and its outer cover dies, the life that is hidden inside will sprout out in the form of a wheat plant.

Jesus points out that, as the alabaster flask which the lady brought, had two

parts like the oil and the bottle, a seed also has two parts.

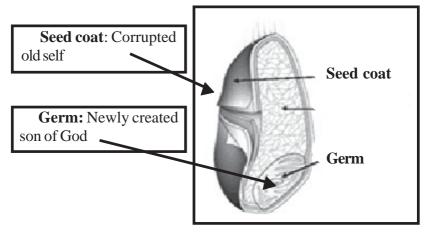
- 1. The 'life' hidden inside the seed
- 2. The outer cover of the seed that hides the 'life'

If a grain of wheat falls to the ground and its outer cover dies, the life that is hidden inside will sprout out in the form of a wheat plant. And JESUS says it will produce much fruit.

If a grain of wheat falls to the ground and its outer cover dies, the life that is hidden inside will sprout out in the form of a wheat plant. And JESUS says it will produce much fruit.

Life hidden inside the seed - The hidden son of God who is the new creation

The outer cover of the seed - The 'old self' in the soul of the saved man which does not reveal the new creation, the son of God.



JESUS compares the life inside the seed to the son of God, created

Similarly when our 'old self' dies in the 'Return Journey', the son of God who is created by God will be revealed and we can bear much fruit according to God's desire.

in the spirit of a 'Born Again' man. The cover of the seed is compared to our 'old self' which prevents the newly created son of God from being revealed.

The plant that is hidden inside will come out and bear fruit only when

the outer covering of the seed falls to the ground and dies. Similarly the son of God who is created by God, will be revealed and we can bear much fruit according to God's desire, only when our 'old self' is destroyed and replaced by the 'new self' or 'newly created son of God' in the 'Return Journey'.

JESUS says there is only one way to get the fruit from the seed...!

"Fall to the ground and die or in other words make the 'Return Journey'."

Jesus compares the fruit that we produce from our self righteousness to the religious works of the Pharisees. A wheat grain cannot try and produce a mango. Even if it produces a mango, it will be artificial. God the creator has deposited only a wheat plant and not a mango tree in a wheat grain.

The son of God who is created by God will be revealed and we can bear much fruit according to God's desire, only when our 'old self' is destroyed in the 'Return Journey'.

Dear friends, we need to display the fruit that God has deposited in us and not display something else that originates from our 'old self'. There is only one way to display what is deposited inside of us and that is by doing the 'Return Journey'.

In the 'Return Journey', as the person's 'self' dies, the son of God and the fruit of the Spirit that God has deposited in him will be revealed through him.

The secret of Paul's spiritual growth

The fruit that God has deposited in us will be revealed through us

only when the son of God grows from the spirit into the soul. Unless our old 'self' dies, the son of God will not be born into our soul because a birth will not happen without a death. When we kill the fleshly nature in our soul by denying our old 'self', we are subjecting our 'self' into the hands of

When we subject our 'self' into the hands of the Holy Spirit for the first death, the new creation in the spirit which is the son of God will then be revealed in the soul.

the Holy Spirit for the first death. The new creation in the spirit which is the son of God will then be revealed in the soul.

"For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live." (Romans 8:13 NKJV)

This is the reason Paul took pride in dying daily.

"I protest, brothers, by my pride in you, which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, *I die every day*!"

(I Corinthians 15:31 NKJV)

Paul's daily death to 'self' drew him closer to God, which is the reason we were able to receive thirteen epistles through Paul. The fruit

that God had deposited in Paul were the thirteen epistles which can be compared to the wheat plant inside a wheat grain. The secret of all this is that he made the 'Return Journey' under 'The Law of the Spirit'.

Do first, the things that have to be done first (First things first)

To grow, you need to die first

SPIRITUAL GROWTH:-

Today there are many people who love Christ innocently and genuinely desire to grow spiritually. They pray, fast, worship, hear the word and learn. However, this is only increasing their knowledge but not helping them grow spiritually.

For the wheat grain to grow, it has to die first. Today most of the people do not grow spiritually because they try to grow without dying first.

Dear readers, do not forget the words of Jesus. For a wheat grain to grow, it has to die first. Today most of the people do not grow spiritually because they try to grow without dying first.

So today if you desire to grow spiritually, kill the corrupted 'self' first by surrendering to the Holy

Spirit in the 'Return Journey'. Then the son of God who cannot sin will be revealed through you and you will grow spiritually and inherit eternal Heaven.

PUT OFF BEFORE YOU PUT ON

First put off

"....put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires,"
(Ephesians 4:22 NKJV)

Secondly put on

"....<u>put on</u> the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness." (Ephesians 4:24 NKJV)

Do not swallow......

Growth in Spiritual anointing

If you desire to grow in spiritual anointing and ask the Father for the increase through prayer and fasting, then He who said, "how much more will He give the Holy Spirit to those who ask", will fill you with the anointing and make you a man of God who operates in the gifts according to your calling and you will be able to draw many people to Christ. Don't misunderstand between the growth in spiritual anointing

and growing spiritually. As servants of God we need Heaven's power to operate in the world, which is ruled by satan. This is the reason JESUS asked His disciples not to leave Jerusalem till they were endued with power from above. (Luke 24:49) The journey with the spiritual anointing is the journey of

In an individual's life, the spiritual growth leads to the increase in 'Sonship' and growth in spiritual anointing leads to increase in the ministry.

a servant which can be compared to a candle that burns up within a short period of time. However, growth in spiritual anointing is very important.

The 'Sonship Journey' is very important for spiritual growth. This growth does not happen in the 'Journey' but in the 'Return Journey'. 'Sonship Journey' is unlike the temporary 'Journey' of a servant. It is a 'Journey' that leads to an eternal relationship with God.

"He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son." (Revelation 21:7, KJV)

It is for this reason that God the Father gave JESUS CHRIST to us.

"But as many as received him, to them gave <u>he power to</u> <u>become the sons of God</u>, even to them that believe on his name:" (John 1:12 KJV)

"The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever." (John 8:35 NKJV)

By doing the 'Servant Journey' in the world, we can also make the 'Return Journey' and be revealed as 'sons of God' and live eternally with our Heavenly Father in the Kingdom of God.

If spiritual growth is drawing closer to God in heart, then, growth in spiritual anointing is growing in the power of God.

We need to do both the 'Servant Journey' and the 'Sonship Journey' by giving the due importance that Bible gives to them.

The two most important ministries of 'The Law of the Spirit' are; First, to deliver mankind from 'the law of sin and death' by the 'death of Jesus on the cross' and the second, to manifest the 'Newly created son of God' from Born Again believers by removing the 'old sinful man'.

Prayer



Heavenly Father, thank you for helping me understand the core of Jesus' Gospel, which is to deny self and take the 'Return Journey' after accepting JESUS. So help us to be fruitful and reveal the son of God by taking the 'Return

Journey' under 'The Law of the Spirit'. In Jesus name... Amen...

Important principles and points to remember

- 1. The core of the Gospel of Jesus Christ is revealing of the sons of God.
- 2. The message we received from the action of the woman who broke the Alabaster flask and anointed Jesus with the perfume, in Mark chapter 14, is the same as destroying our 'old self' and revealing the 'newly created son of God' from the spirit into the world. This is what Jesus expects from us.
- 3. When Jesus talks about a matter **'truly'**, that matter is of significance.

Do not swallow......

- 4. The foundation of Christian life is the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross of Calvary and His resurrection. The core of Christian life is the 'Return Journey' where sons of God are revealed.
- 5. Our Father God gave Jesus to us, so that each one of us will be revealed as sons of God.
- 6. Gospel without the 'Return Journey' is similar to straining the gnat and swallowing the camel.
- 7. When a person makes the 'Return Journey', the sons of God who cannot sin will be revealed.
- 8. We need to change on the inside and not on the outside. When the change happens inside, it will automatically manifest outside.
- 9. The promise of Jesus, 'it remains alone' is the frequently used promise among the believers. That is the reason majority of the churches consist of people who operate in their flesh. This is the reason for the rising conflicts among the churches.
- 10. Most of the Christians understand Christ as one who forgives sins but does not save from sins. However, the Christ mentioned in the Bible not only forgives our sins but also saves us from sins.
- 11. When we believe in Jesus and confess our sins, He will forgive our sins. When we make the 'Return Journey', He also saves us from our sins.
- 12. When a grain of wheat falls to the ground and its outer cover dies, the life that is hidden inside will sprout out in the form of a wheat plant.
- 13.JESUS says there is only one way to get the fruit from the seed...! "Fall to the ground and die or in other words, make the 'Return Journey'".
- 14. The son of God who is created by God will be revealed and we can bear much fruit according to God's desire, only when our 'old self' is destroyed in the 'Return Journey'.
- 15. In the 'Return Journey', when our 'old self' dies, the son of God and the fruit that God has deposited in him will be revealed through him.
- 16. We subject ourselves into the hands of the Holy Spirit for the first

death by denying our 'old self'. The new creation in the spirit which is the son of God will then be revealed in the soul.

- 17. For the wheat grain to grow, it has to die first. Today most of the people do not grow spiritually because they try to grow before dying first.
- 18. In an individual's life, the spiritual growth leads to the increase in sonship and growth in spiritual anointing leads to increase in the ministry.
- 19. If spiritual growth is drawing closer to God in heart, then, growth in spiritual anointing is growing in the power of God.
- 20. We need to do both the 'Servant Journey' and the 'Sonship Journey' by giving the due importance that Bible gives to them.
- 21. The two most important ministries of 'The Law of the Spirit' are; First, to deliver mankind from 'the law of sin and death' by the 'death of Jesus on the cross' and the second, to manifest the 'Newly created son of God' from Born Again believers by removing the 'old sinful man'.



POINTS TO REMEMBER FROM THE SECOND PART:-

- 1. It is important for every Christian who accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior and is planted in the Church to understand that though he has received freedom from the 'Law', he is under 'The Law of the Spirit', who freed him from the Law. In other words, the Church is under 'The Law of the Spirit'.
- 2. Obeying the Law is 'Life' according to the 'Law'. Hearing the voice of God in the spirit of a 'Born Again' person and obeying it is 'Life', according to 'The Law of the Spirit'
- 3. We who are under 'The Law of the Spirit' can bear much fruit and reveal the son of God through us only when our 'old self' is destroyed in the 'return journey'.
- 4. The message we received from the action of the woman who broke the Alabaster flask and anointed Jesus with the perfume, in Mark chapter 14, is the same as destroying our 'old self' and revealing the newly created son of God from the spirit into the world. This is the will of God and the earnest expectation of all creation.
- 5. The two most important ministries of 'The Law of the Spirit' are; First, to deliver mankind from 'the law of sin and death' by the 'death of Jesus on the cross' and the second, to manifest the 'Newly created son of God' from Born Again believers by removing the 'old sinful man'.





Dear Readers, when we study the world history of Israel, we understand that due to their disobedience to God, they were twice destroyed and exiled. The first was when they were taken into captivity by Babylon in BC 586. The second exile happened in AD 70 as prophesied by JESUS Christ in (Matthew 24:2) when the Roman army under the leadership of Titus Ceasar destroyed the nation of Israel. The Jerusalem temple was destroyed with not one stone left untouched. The children of Israel were scattered across the five continents of the world. Out of them, one group reached India and chose Mumbai, Kolkota and Kochi as their expat land. But they knew that India was not their land and they were expatriates there. And that one day as God prophesied through his prophets (Amos 9:15, Jeremiah 33:7) they would take the 'Return Journey' to their native land and be restored again.

Dear readers, it happened just as they believed. In 1947, after the Second World War, The United Nations took a decision to divide Palestine and give one part to the Jews and the other part to the Arabs. The Jews occupied their allotted land under the leadership of David Ben-Gurion. According to the word of God, after 1878 years, on 14th May, 1948, Israel was 'Born Again' under the leadership of David Ben-Gurion in an art museum in Tel Aviv. Israel was declared as a nation again.

Hearing this, the happiness of the Israelites who were scattered around the world knew no boundaries. They celebrated their rebirth or their independence by dancing in the streets. It was a fulfilment of their dream. They who

were in their right sense, without any further delay obeyed the voice that echoed in their heart

"RETURN JOURNEY"

They sold their business, properties, houses and with the money they got they travelled by plane, ship and other sources and took the 'Return Journey' to their native land. Out of the 8000 Jews who lived in kochi, according to the statistics taken in 2010, only 40 of them are remaining.

Dear friends, they returned to their land because they were in their 'Right sense....'

"DON'T WE WANT TO GO.....?" Our Father is waiting for us.....!!!!!



Journey & Return Journey Fast Review

'Journey' is the journey of 'death' and 'Return Journey' is the 'Journey' of 'life'. In the 'Journey' of 'death', death manifests first in the spirit followed by the soul and then the body. In the journey of 'life', life manifests first in the spirit followed by the soul and then the body. We call this justification, purification and glorification.

'Journey' is visible but **'Return Journey'** is invisible.

'Journey' is in the physical realm and 'Return Journey' is in the spiritual realm.

'Journey' is done in the body and 'Return Journey' is done in the heart. In the 'Journey', man is subdued by the devil and in the 'Return Journey' man is led by the HOLY SPIRIT.

The 'Journey' is through the world into the lake of fire and the 'Return Journey' is following Jesus into the Kingdom of God.

'Journey' is along the direction of the world and 'Return Journey' is in the opposite direction of the world, which is against the flow of the world. In the 'Journey', people who are dead in the spirit travel through the world into the lake of fire but in the 'Return Journey', a man who is 'Born Again' in spirit, enter the Kingdom of God by following Jesus.

'Journey' is from 'eternity' to 'time' and 'Return Journey' is from 'time' to 'eternity'.

In the 'Journey', man gets defiled and in the 'Return Journey', man is made holy.

In the 'Journey', the increase of anything makes a man proud but in the 'Return Journey', the increase makes him humble.

In the 'Journey', man gets separated from God but in the 'Return Journey', man grows closer to God.

In the 'Journey', a man who accepts Jesus is <u>saved</u> from the Father's judgment (law of sin and death) and from the clutches of the devil. In the 'Return Journey' a man who faithfully obeys the HOLY SPIRIT becomes victorious and <u>inherits the Kingdom of God.</u>

In the 'Journey', a man lives by sight in the flesh but in the 'Return Journey', man obeys the Holy Spirit and lives by faith.

In the 'Journey', man is under the 'law' and in the 'Return Journey', man is under the 'Law of the Spirit'.

'Journey' is in the 'law' and 'Return Journey' is in 'grace and truth'.

'Journey' is with the devil but the 'Return Journey' is with the **HOLY SPIRIT.**

In the 'Journey', man is deceived by the devil but in the 'Return Journey', man is led by the Holy Spirit.

'Journey' started with Adam and 'Return Journey' started with Christ.

'Journey' is named as 'Journey of disobedience', and the 'Return Journey' is named as 'Journey of obedience'.

If 'Journey' started with disobedience then 'Return Journey' starts with obedience.

In the 'Journey' world becomes our friend and in the 'Return Journey' world becomes our enemy.

In the 'Journey', we are our king but in the 'Return Journey', God is our king.

In the 'Journey', devil rules the world through man. But in the 'Return Journey', God rules the world through man.

In the 'Journey', devil becomes the king of the world through man. In 'Return Journey', God becomes the king of the world through man.

In the 'Journey', we live to please men but in the 'Return Journey', we live to please God.

In the 'Journey', we are in the kingdom of the devil but in the 'Return Journey', we are in the Kingdom of God.

In the 'Journey', man's aim is to gain the world but in the 'Return Journey', man's aim is to inherit Heaven

'Journey' is the 'Journey of Condemnation'; 'Return Journey' is the 'Journey of Salvation'.

In the 'Journey', we walk in darkness but in the 'Return Journey', we walk in the light.

If the end of a person's 'Journey of Condemnation' in the world is <u>Salvation</u> and doing the '<u>Return Journey</u>', then the end of a person's 'Return Journey' is inheriting the Kingdom of God.

In the 'Journey', man is taught by 'letters' and in the 'Return Journey', man is taught by the Holy Spirit.

In the 'Journey', man meditates on what is taught by the letters but in the 'Return Journey', man receives what is revealed by the Holy Spirit.

In the 'Journey', we die eternally, but in the 'Return Journey', we live eternally.

'Journey' is a journey of weaknesses and 'Return Journey' is a 'Journey' of power.

'Journey' is a journey of foolishness and 'Return Journey' is the journey of wisdom.

In the 'Journey', man wrestles against fellow men but in the 'Return Journey', man wrestles against the devil.

In the 'Journey', we fight against our human enemies but in the 'Return Journey', we love human enemies.

'Journey' is done in the physical realm and 'Return Journey' is done in the spiritual realm.

The promise in the 'Journey' is the physical land of Canaan but the promise in the 'Return Journey' is the eternal Kingdom of God.

In the 'Journey', we regard people according to the flesh, but in the 'Return Journey', we regard people according to the spirit. (2 Corinthians 5: 16)

In the 'Journey', we worship God in the flesh and in the 'Return Journey', we worship Him in the Spirit. (John 4:23, 24)

Godliness in 'Journey' makes us servants of God. Godliness in 'Return Journey' makes us children of God.

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Ephe 5:16 and 17 reads: "Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore **be ye not unwise**, but understanding what the will of the Lord is."



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"Jesus Christ saves the sinners, heals the sick, casts out demons



and gives eternal life."

"For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matthew 16:26 NKJV)

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Tel: 00971 -7- 2211059

Email: shajijoseph@live.com, kingdomdoubt@gmail.com

Website: www.thevoiceofgod.org

"The Voice of God"
TV Program

On Power Vision TV Channel

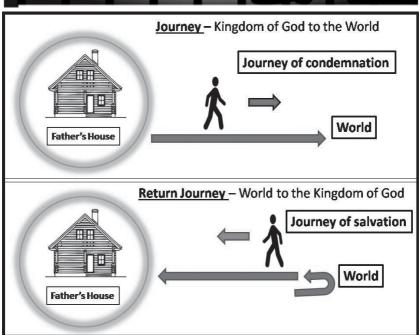
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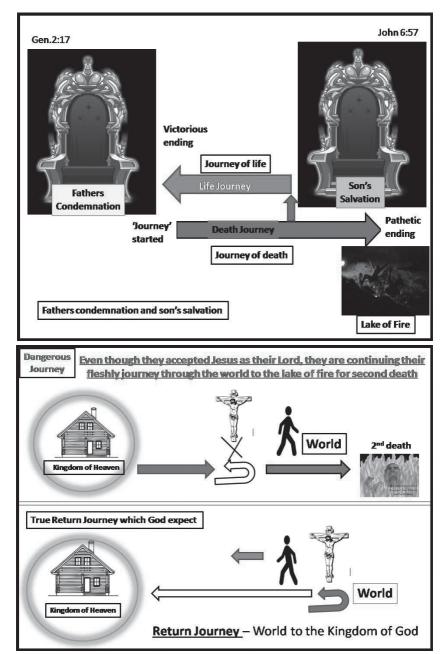
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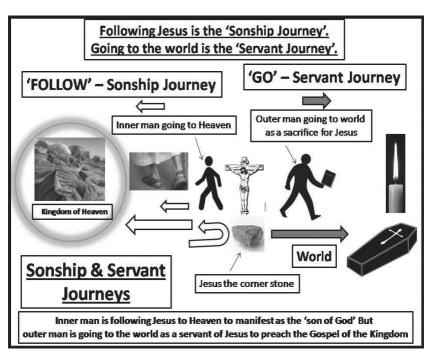
A few insights of the book 'Father's Business'

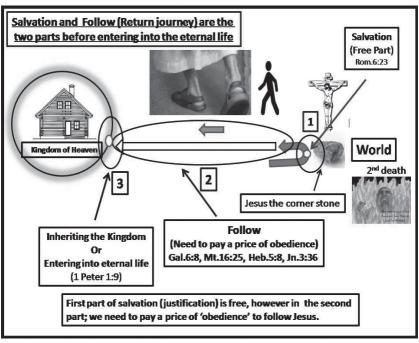


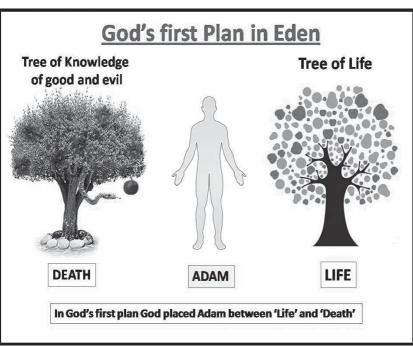


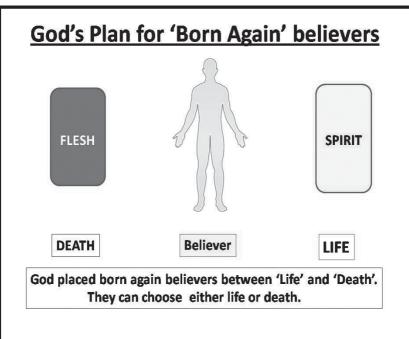


'Dangerous Journey' of most believers to the lake of fire and the 'True Return Journey to Heaven' which God expect.





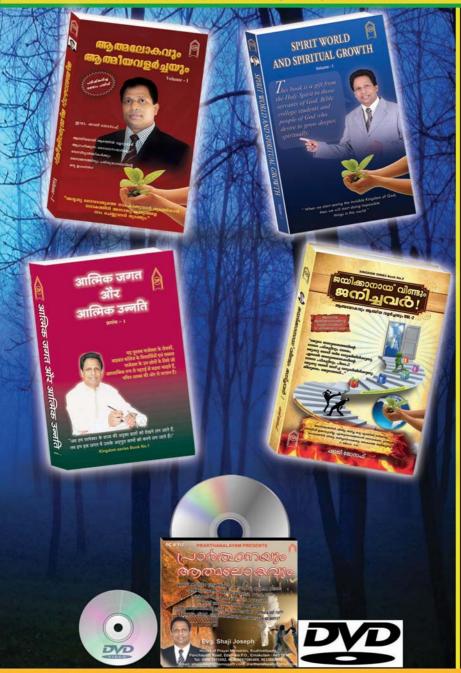




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A man born into this world, comes empty handed. But from the day he is born, he starts accumulating things of the world like job, education, business, fame, wealth, house etc.

Unfortunately he cannot take anything what he earns on this earth, beyond his grave. Ignorant to the fact that the devil is stealing his time, he invests all his time to gain the world. But in the midst of his endeavor, man is overtaken by death and removed from this world with nothing to his credit. Seeing this, the devil has a good laugh.

"I gained you too ...!"

Friend, you cannot take anything along with you that you earn on this earth!

Then why did you live in this world?
What did you gain from this world?
What can you gain from here?
How can you gain it?

Dear friends, if you desire to obtain answers to these questions, the messages in this book will help you. There is no greater achievement in life than finding the answers to these questions and applying it in your life....!





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"Blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel!"
(MATTHEW 23:24 NKJV)