Heart of God Ministries International Greater Works TEAM Building

Christ's Disciples of 1st Century Church Understanding of Kingdom Initiation THE LIGHT OF TRUTH!

[Note: The numeric 4 represents Divine Power of God's Will and Ways.] Four Divine responses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ:

- 1. Repent (Instantly transformed from spirit of darkness into spirit of God's Light) (Trinity)
- 2. Added to the Lord's Body; General Assembly of Heaven; Spiritual Israel, New Jerusalem; Church of the New Born. (Not local church membership> that is "right-hand" of fellowship.
- 3. Be baptized (full body water immersion). Death, Consummation and Resurrection in Christ.
- 4. Holy Spirit imparts "robes of righteousness" covering, then empowerment evidenced by speaking in tongues); (may occur in any of these or by "laying on of hands ministry.")

This is the "Pattern of the Son" for entering Christ's Eternal Kingdom for discipleship, anointing of divine power, and public witness of being consummated in Him and with Him. Repentance of whole heart and mind is the divine mandatory 1st step to Salvation. A repentant is immediately added to the Heavenly Assembly!

The Law of the Spirit is the Law of the New Creature in Christ Jesus to progressively build the New Creation. As one gives freely and willingly of heart, soul and mind to receive His Peace Treaty of Reconciliation and seek God to live in His Light through the Light of Jesus Christ. Matthew 1:23 (AMP)

23 "Behold, the virgin shall be with child and give birth to a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel"—which, when translated, means, "God with us."

1 Thessalonians 4:8 (AMP)

So whoever rejects and disregards this is not [merely] rejecting man but the God who gives His Holy Spirit to you [to dwell in you and empower you to overcome temptation].

2 Timothy 1:14 (AMP)

Guard [with greatest care] and keep unchanged, the treasure [that precious truth] which has been entrusted to you [that is, the good news about salvation through personal faith in Christ Jesus], through [the help of] the Holy Spirit who dwells in us.

[Note: God is spirit and truth! Jesus informed His chosen 12 forerunners that His earthly ministry would soon be completed and that He was going back to Father God. He said that the Holy Spirit/Holy Ghost would be Sent to represent Him (re-present Him, be His substitute)!

(Spiritually) Grace, Mercy and Favor (God's Promises) cover one for redemption at the event of physical death... to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord. Scriptural Reference: 2 Corinthians 5:8 (AMP) Jesus is seated in All Power and Authority ruling the Kingdom of all of the earth and the universe. He has returned by the Personage Holy Ghost to Dwell in those obedient to the Faith in Christ through communion with Him and obedience to the written Word of God: the "Word of Wisdom"> a Gift of the Spirit.

[Note: Look at Acts 2:37, please note Peter has just preached the Gospel of the Kingdom, and now he is about to tell the Jews how to be saved! [Note: The Kingdom is the Heavenly Government or Rule of Christ. His Reign!

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He is reigning in us via Holy Ghost! Father, Son and Holy Ghost are One God! (Trinity) His Reign is from generation to generation eternally! Jesus is crowned Lord and King as promised to David that one of His sons would set upon his throne forever.

Psalm 145:4 (AMP) One generation shall praise Your works to another, And shall declare Your mighty and remarkable acts.

Genesis 17:7 (AMP)

I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your descendants after you.

Acts 2:37-40 [The Ingathering]

37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart [with remorse and anxiety], and they said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what are we to do?" 38 And Peter said to them,

"Repent [change your old way of thinking, turn from your sinful ways, accept and follow Jesus as the Messiah] and be baptized, each of you, in the name of Jesus Christ because of the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

39 For the promise [of the Holy Spirit] is for you and your children

and for all who are far away [including the Gentiles],

as many as the Lord our God calls to Himself."

40 And Peter solemnly testified and continued to admonish and urge them with many more words, saying, "Be saved from this crooked and unjust generation!" {Note: "He" and "Him" is Jesus..."God" is Father}

Hebrews 7:25 (Amplified Bible)

Therefore, He is able also to save forever (completely, perfectly, for eternity) those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to intercede and intervene on their behalf [with God].

Salvation is one of the functions of the Heavenly government, the Kingdom of God! He saves all those who repent and obeys God's decree, and He judges or destroys those who stiffen their necks and refuse to repent and obey;

(Penalty of Rebellion against God)

Salvation and the Kingdom are not two entirely different things, but are very closely related. God the Father has established the Kingdom or Government of His Son and given all Rule to Him. Salvation is the Divine Grace given through the "Peace Treaty" in and through Jesus Christ of which God has freely given the "Way" that fallen mankind can celebrate Him. Is it not God who is the creator of mankind? Should He therefore. be recognized for His demonstration; (His actions as the designer and creator of all things? Fallen mankind is void of knowledge of the eternal Love and Grace of the Trinity. Did not, Father (the source) of the Only Begotten Son send Him to reveal the God, the Divine and Sovereign Supreme Being of all things?

Jesus was Sent by the Sender! This principle is a "pattern" of not only the Divine existence of Father, Son and Holy Ghost, but it is the "pattern" of all that pertains to mankind! We must understand the significance of this Divine foundational Truth! In the "beginning" we are introduced to the Trinity of God! He is Light! Darkness was upon the "waters" of the void! Void is discernable by absence of Light!

Light exists in both the physical (natural) world and the (spiritual) world: (realms).

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Genesis establishes Light in the physical realm! Holy Ghost has given us Enlightenment, Illumination and Revelation of the Light of Jesus Christ in three measurements!

John (Chapter 1) establishes and reveals Jesus, the spiritual Light (in the likeness of man) coming into the realm of mankind's natural world of thoughts and actions! The Son of God> The Light, was Sent to earth to reveal Father God, Holy Spirt

and the Kingdom of Righteousness: the spiritual realm. Darkness is the "life of evil" (rebellion against God) that separates mankind from divine Life. Righteousness only exists in the Light of Christ which is His Presence indwelling us

via Holy Ghost and the Word of God. Presence is experienced in Truth, Life, and Spirit:

"The Revelation of the Light of Jesus Christ" is a delightful and powerful study! As we venture into the following three divine provisions we gain deeper understanding.

1. The Light of Truth

God in His 3 Persons is Divine Truth. All 3 Persons of the Godhead Bodily

(Father, Son and Holy Ghost (Spirit) are the actualization of Truth.

God Recorded His Essence, His Character, His Nature, His Plan,

His Sovereignty, and His Mightiness (all Power and Authority in heaven and earth).

His Existence, and His Ways are for all mankind to know and understand.

He is the Living God! There is no other! He can be "seen" in His works

and 'touched' in a multitude of ways! He is living and dynamic!

Father has revealed Himself through His Only Begotten Son.

His Son is The Christ, the Messiah, Lord and King of All!

As such, those who worship Father through Jesus, His Son, in spirit

and truth of these revelations are known as Christians.

All other 'gods' and forms of religious practice are man-made and false.

There is No life sustained by them or in them. This then, reveals:

2. The Light of Life

The Light of Life is both temporal and eternal! Only by the Testimony of Christ and Holy Spirit is there evidence the Kingdom of heaven and of Life Eternal! Therefore, the 3rd essence of God is:

3. The Light of the Holy Spirit (Holy Ghost).

One must believe in the Person Jesus Christ as the Son of God.

reconciliation to Father God through the conviction of Holy Ghost

about the testimony of The Son, is one endued with faith to use His Name in worship, praise and situations.

John 14:23 (AMP)

Jesus answered, "If anyone [really] loves Me, he will keep My word (teaching); and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our dwelling place with him.

2 Timothy 1:14 (AMP)

Guard [with greatest care] and keep unchanged, the treasure [that precious truth] which has been entrusted to you [that is, the good news about salvation through personal faith in Christ Jesus], through [the help of] the Holy Spirit who dwells in us.

Let us hear His VOICE spoken through prophetic proclamation!

Psalm 2:12 (AMP)

Kiss the Son [pay homage to Him in purity], lest He be angry and you perish in the way, for soon shall His wrath be kindled. O blessed (happy, fortunate, and to be envied) are all those who seek refuge and put their trust in Him!

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The Kingdom is Now... it is not waiting for a "rapture" or a "catching away" to a future "wedding celebration." At the moment of repentance one's spirit is transformed from the darkness of this earthly world to the marvelous Light of the Kingdom of God! Immersion baptism is one's public demonstration and recognition of the New Birth within one's spirit and soul.. God's response is to reward! [The inward manifestation may not always be displayed outwardly at the moment of "spiritual resurrection" in Christ].

John 16:8-11 (AMP) [About Holy Ghost representing and re-presenting Jesus] 8 And He, when He comes, will convict the world about [the guilt of] sin [and the need for a Savior], and about righteousness, and about judgment: 9 about sin [and the true nature of it], because they do not believe in Me [and My message];

10 about righteousness [personal integrity and godly character],

because I am going to My Father and you will no longer see Me;

11 about judgment [the certainty of it], because the ruler of this world (Satan) has been judged and condemned.

[Note: therefore at transformation (Being Born-Again) one is no longer focused on the evil of this world as a participant. The Light has Come! Isaiah 60:1 [Reward of Glorification]

"Arise [from spiritual depression to a new life], shine [be radiant with the glory and brilliance of the Lord]; for your light has come,

And the glory and brilliance of the Lord has risen upon you.

There are (2) judgements declared by Jesus.

1. Righteousness (obedience and loving God with whole heart, mind and soul.

2. Unrighteousness (rebellion against God and disobedience to His Commands) Jesus proclaimed these judgements on every individual.

God gave mankind a free will. It is our choice as to the personal life we live on earth. Choice (free will action) determines the judgement and path of our eternal destiny.

Do you believe Peter knew what is required for a person, any person, Jew or Gentile to be saved? Obviously, He knew how a person should call on the Name of the Lord!

Acts 2:21 (AMP)

'And it shall be that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord [invoking, adoring, and worshiping the Lord Jesus] shall be saved (rescued spiritually).' Question? What is the proper response to the Gospel of the Kingdom to be saved?

First Peter commanded, "Repent...renounce all right to self-determination...renounce Satan, the world, and the self-life..." In other words: Change Governments! Secondly, he commanded, "Get yourself baptized into the Name of Jesus Christ..." (Christ is the head of the New Creation, the resurrection and the life; a person is either in Adam or in Christ!) Do you understand? [In Adam is Law; In Christ is Spirit!] Seeking to be baptized is the God given way in which one obeys the Gospel!

There are so many aspects that underscore the importance of getting ourselves baptized. Here are a few:

1. It is the way a person actually Receives the Truth of the Kingdom.

(The Good News is that the Promise (Covenant of eternal life) has been fulfilled in the resurrection of Jesus.) (Note: this is NOT a ministry of the "Jesus Only" theology! We are examining the Reality of the Trinity Godhead. Jesus is the Son of Father God. As such, His Divine purpose is our focus as He relates to both the natural and spiritual realms.)

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Acts 2:40-41 (AMP)

40 And Peter solemnly testified and continued to admonish and urge them with many more words, saying, "Be saved from this crooked and unjust generation!" [Note: YES! Escape! You have been given free will to escape... How? Answer: renounce Satan, the world, and the self-life]

41 So then, those who accepted his message were baptized; and on that day about 3,000 souls were added [to the body of believers].

[Note: History points to about 100,000 to 120,000 people in Jerusalem at this time, and even more at these festivals. Can you imagine the excitement of observing Holy Ghost empower the new-born of the spirit as they were immersed in water baptism as the 120 newly empowered disciples on the Day of Pentecost engaged in the instructions of Peter?]

Repentance is the door through Christ to eternal life. (Salvation) Baptism is the proper way to receive Jesus Christ as Lord of your life! He set the "Pattern." Jesus insisted that John the Baptist baptize Him!

Mathew 3:13-15 (AMP)

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan [River], to be baptized by him. 14 But John tried to prevent Him [vigorously protesting], saying,

"It is I who need to be baptized by You, and do You come to me?"

15 But Jesus replied to him, "Permit it just now; for this is the fitting way for us

to fulfill all righteousness." Then John permitted [it and baptized] Him.

[Seeking and partaking in full immersion baptism is how a person fully calls on the Name of Jesus Christ for salvation.

Acts 2:21 (AMP)

'And it shall be that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord [invoking, adoring, and worshiping the Lord Jesus] shall be saved (rescued spiritually).' [Yes! There are rewards for obedience!] Water Baptism is important after repenting! Acts 22:16 (AMP)

Now, why do you delay? Get up and be baptized, and wash away your sins by calling on His name [for salvation].'

[Note: Baptism is the New Testament way we activate and release our faith!] You may believe the Gospel fully, but until you actually do what God commands, it is not faith! Saving Faith is acting on the Gospel; it is obedience! And the way you obey the Gospel is you get yourself baptized!

Paul calls this "the obedience of faith!"

Romans 1:3-5 AMP)

3 [the good news] regarding His Son, who, as to the flesh [His human nature], was born a descendant of David [to fulfill the covenant promises],

4 and [as to His divine nature] according to the Spirit of holiness

was openly designated to be the Son of God with power [in a triumphant and miraculous way] by His resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.

5 It is through Him that we have received grace and [our] apostleship to promote obedience to the faith and make disciples for His name's sake among all the Gentiles,

Baptism is the way our sins are actually washed away! (Acts 2:38 and 22:16) Acts 2:38 (AMPC)

38 And Peter answered them, Repent (change your views and purpose to accept the will of God in your inner selves instead of rejecting it) and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of and release from your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Page 6 Kingdom Initiation

Acts 22:16 (AMP)

Now, why do you delay? Get up and be baptized, and wash away your sins by calling on His name [for salvation].'

Our sins were forgiven at the Cross! But the way we enter into His death on the Cross is by getting ourselves baptized into His death! In His Name! As we rise up out of the water represents our consummation in Him in the resurrection to eternal life! His Name is the Highest in Heaven and in Earth. He is in the Father and the Father is in Him in image and like-kind. The Godhead bodily resides in Christ... all are spirit. God indwells the reconciled/born-again via Holy Ghost/Spirit!

John 14:14-15 (AMP) [Jesus and the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Ghost] 14 He will glorify and honor Me, because He (the Holy Spirit) will take from what is Mine and will disclose it to you. 15 All things that the Father has are Mine. Because of this I said that He [the Spirit] will take from what is Mine and will reveal it to you. In other words, Holy Spirit will [re-present] the things of Jesus Christ to you!

Colossians 2:9 (AMP)

For in Him all the fullness of Deity (the Godhead) dwells in bodily form [completely expressing the divine essence of God].

You get yourself baptized into the Name of Jesus Christ, into His death and into His resurrection! Baptism is the way in which you enter experientially into Christ's death and resurrection, which took place 2000 years ago! This is an act of an "eternal marriage." It is the marriage consummation! You become "one" with and in Him! You are intimately in relationship in Him and in His Love!

Romans 6:3 (AMP) [Die to self to become one with and in Him] or are you ignorant of the fact that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Baptism is the means by which you put off the old man and put on Christ! Then we are in Christ and have the right to use His Name in prayer and in spiritual warfare with the Kingdom of darkness!

Oh what wonderful promises regarding the use of the authority and power of His Name! Those who love Jesus, love the Word of God. They desire to feast upon His Word and His Presence. He sent Holy Ghost to represent His Presence! In every baptism there is a baptizer, the baptizing, and the one to be baptized. There is the substance you are baptized into (fully immersed in water) and the result of the baptism (the fruit of it).

Water represents the Holy Spirit. It is eternally blessed in natural and in spiritual realms. Water covers about 71% of the earth's surface. 97% of the earth's water is found in the oceans (too salty for drinking, growing crops, and most industrial uses except cooling). 3% of the earth's water is fresh! At Jacob's well, Jesus told the Samaritan woman that one who drinks of His water, the Holy Spirit, will no longer thirst. Yes! We are to drink of the Holy Spirit! He is the essence of Life!

Return to Colossians 2:9 (AMP)

For in Him all the fullness of Deity (the Godhead) dwells in bodily form [completely expressing the divine essence of God]. Let us dwell in deeper understanding of the "essence of God." [Note: Primary Supreme Values of His "essence" is spirit. A second one is His "essence" of Life. He is "pneuma," the breath of life, the source of life. Yes, Holy Spirit is (the vital spirit, soul and creative force): "Spirit!"

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Pnuema is used 254 times in New Testament clearly translated as "Holy Spirit" or "Spirit."

Holy Spirit is seen as Person (138 occasions), as God-Given Power (116 occasions). His activities are ascribed as "indwelling," "sealing," "filling," "baptizing" "enduing" and "empowering." There are other attributes that refer to Holy Spirit or the Spirit such as breath, wind, air, fire, wine, dew, rivers, water, oil, and dove...

Holy Spirit is a "spirit" agent of the Godhead (along with the Father and Jesus Christ, His Only Begotten Son: each Personage of God are of the same essence... (attribute, quality, reality, essentiality, virtuality, nature, value). Water Baptism is also the witness of the circumcision of your heart. (Baptism is the cutting off of the fleshly heart and receiving of a new heart.)

Colossians 2:10-13 (AMP)

And in Him you have been made complete [achieving spiritual stature through Christ], and He is the head over all rule and authority [of every angelic and earthly power]. 11 In Him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not made with hands, but by the [spiritual] circumcision of Christ in the stripping off of the body of the flesh [the sinful carnal nature],

12 having been buried with Him in baptism and raised with Him [to a new life] through [your] faith in the working of God, [as displayed] when He raised Christ from the dead

when He raised Christ from the dead.

13 When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh (worldliness, manner of life), God made you alive together with Christ, having [freely] forgiven us all our sins, {Note: "consummated" (together with)]

It is the way in which you are translated out of the Kingdom of Darkness and into the Kingdom of God's Beloved Son.

Colossians 1:13 (AMP)

For He has rescued us and has drawn us to Himself from the dominion of darkness, and has transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son,

When we yield to His dynamics, we are saturated in, by and through relationship and fellowship as One God in three Persons!

Call God, Father, call Him Jesus, call Him Holy Ghost or Spirit, spending time with Him and in Him empowers us to have our being in Him.

God is the essence of Truth, Life and Spirit... the fulfillment of the Good News in Jesus Christ, Savior, Lord and King!

By the way, if we have already been translated into the Kingdom of God's Son through baptism into Christ's death and resurrection, then how can Messiah's Kingdom be postponed until some future millennial age? How many Kingdoms does the Lord Jesus have? According to the apostles, Christ's present Kingdom is the promised Kingdom of David's Son!

[Note: the Special Message of "Appendices 2 "Promise to David" presents this TRUTH! "Therefore, we can receive the promised indwelling Presence of the Holy Spirit"]

[Note: The following is also huge and it is as controversial as water baptism!] Legalistic, traditional and orthodox churches fully neglect the Divine Person Holy Spirit in an intimate relational way. Yes, they make reference to Him, but, Do Not allow Him in their services or meetings.] Holy Ghost's Coming is God's great promise to the fathers of Israel. Prophets of Israel prophesied that in Messiah's Day, the age of Messiah's Kingdom, God would pour out the Spirit upon all flesh! The Holy Spirit would bring forth the new Creation and fill the earth with the glory of God! Page 8 Kingdom Initiation

John the Baptist prophesied of the Messiah, "He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire..." Matthew 3:11 (AMP)

"As for me, I baptize you with water because of [your] repentance [that is, because you are willing to change your inner self your old way of thinking, regret your sin and live a changed life], but He (the Messiah) who is coming after me is mightier [more powerful, more noble] than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to remove [even as His slave]; He will baptize you [who truly repent] with the Holy Spirit and [you who remain unrepentant] with fire (judgment).

John the Baptist was the great "time" man, the Master of Ceremony of Redemption!

Isaiah 40:3 (AMP)

A voice of one is calling out, "Clear the way for the Lord in the wilderness [remove the obstacles]; Make straight and smooth in the desert a highway for our God. [Spiritually, desert refers to the dry and thirsty soul. Life in the natural and in the spiritual requires water!] Genesis 1:2... "The Spirit of God hovered (brooded) over the water.. Whatever the Spirit touches, is Blessed! When you are immersed in the water of baptism and then come up and out, you are covered (clothed) with the Holy Spirit, with the "robes of righteousness" of Christ! Note: that is clothed, not baptized in the Holy Ghost! Righteousness is one of the essences of God! The event of your decision of baptism to demonstrate your faith in Christ results in the fact you have clothed (surrounded, immersed) yourself in Christ! It required your conscience free will action to obey the Gospel of the Kingdom of Light!

No longer does Father God see you as your "previous self" with all its immorality. [Note: remember, Your sins are forgiven in your free will action of repentance]. You have PUT Christ On!!! This is a Great Treasure... a treasure of the Holy Ghost!

And again! Acts 2:38 (AMP)

And Peter said to them, "Repent [change your old way of thinking, turn from your sinful ways, accept and follow Jesus as the Messiah] and be baptized, each of you, in the name of Jesus Christ because of the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. You are baptized into Christ's death!

Romans 6:3 (AMP)

Or are you ignorant of the fact that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? The old you is Gone! You come out of the "spiritual grave"... it is the realm of darkness... void of Light of Christ! We know no other way of life but that of a self-centered one. When baptized, the conscience is cleaned!

You are transformed out of darkness into the marvelous Light of Jesus!

(Consult Genesis 1:2) "void" (waste and emptiness, and darkness).

Genesis 1:2 (AMP)

The earth was formless and void or a waste and emptiness, and darkness was upon the face of the deep....

Romans 6:4 (AMP)

We have therefore been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory and power of the Father, we too might walk habitually in newness of life [abandoning our old ways]. Page 9 Kingdom Initiation

Malachi 3:1 (AMP)

"Behold, I am going to send My messenger, and he will prepare and clear the way before Me. And the Lord [the Messiah], whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple; the Messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight, behold, He is coming," says the Lord of hosts.

God makes preparation in the things He does! Jesus is announced by the message of Good News! Isaiah prophesied His coming 700 years before His Advent to earth. Isaiah's prophesy is the sign! The birth of Jesus and His Truth, Life and Spirit is the Good News! Isaiah 7:14 (AMP) Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Listen carefully, the virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and she will call his name Immanuel (God with us).

This prophesy was a sign to Judah when being threatened by invasion of neighboring Nations, a time of crisis!

Malachi 4:5-6 (AMP)

5 "Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the Lord.

6 He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers [a reconciliation produced by repentance], so that I will not come and strike the land with a curse [of complete destruction]."

[Note: Here in this verse is the reference to the "spirit of Elijah" the prophet.

John, the Baptist, is that individual prepared to proclaim the Coming of Jesus and therefore the 'Great and Terrible Day of the Lord of judgment."]

Israel was in full apostate upon the revealing of the Light to the World. The "world" of God's people (especially the government) were mired in doing their own imaginative things.

They were fully lawless and corrupt! John's job was to prepare the hearts of the people of Israel and introduce the Messiah to the nation! If anyone knew what the Messiah was sent to do, it was John.

There were many things that John could have said to the nation.

- 1. He will proclaim the truth about the father...
- 2. He will teach you the mysteries and secrets of the Kingdom...
- 3. He will perform mighty miracles and destroy the works of the devil...
- 4. He shall die and rise again on the third day....
- 5. He shall ascend to heaven and be enthroned on the throne of David at the right hand
- of God the father in heaven...

6. He shall govern the nations....

But John didn't proclaim any of these things...He introduced the Messiah as the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world and he declared,

"He shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire! (See Matthew 3:11)

Baptism means to be "thrust into." Baptism in "Greek" means "emerging." You are thrust into the water with faith that God is fulfilling His Word in you! You are "thrust into" Jesus Himself (in the water representing His wholeness in the Holy Spirit.)

Galatians 3:26 (AMP)

For you [who are born-again have been reborn from above—spiritually transformed, renewed, sanctified and] are all children of God [set apart for His purpose with full rights and privileges] through faith in Christ Jesus.

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[Note; The "fire" here is not the fire of the Holy Spirit, but the fire of Messiah's judgment!] See the expression, "His winnowing fork is in His hand. He shall gather the wheat into the barn and the chaff shall be burned with fire." We see this in Acts 2:19 as Peter declares that Your sons and daughters shall prophesy and there shall be blood and fire and billows of smoke...)

Acts 2:19 (AMP)

'And I will bring about wonders in the sky above and signs (attesting miracles) on the earth below, Blood and fire and smoking vapor.

But John went to the bottom-line! "The One coming after me (the Messiah) shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire..."

Everything Jesus did in His life, death, resurrection and ascension was done so that He can fill us with the Holy Spirit and power of God! [Holy Ghost re-presents the Lord Jesus.]

Jesus and the Father are One in Will, Plan and Purpose! The Holy Trinity dwells in us (the Godhead bodily...spirit) as we dwell in Christ and He in us by the Word of God and Holy Spirit! We must "put on" the "robes of righteousness", peace and joy in the Holy Ghost!

Romans 14:17 (AMP)

for the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking [what one likes],

but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

[Note: When you are entering the water in which you are purposefully desiring to be baptized, concentrate on the fact you are getting into it with the Lord Himself!

Baptism is Not a funeral, it is a celebration! You will be coming out of the water transformed into a new Identity! You must "see' yourself changed by the Power of this Kingdom action!] The bible reveals the Kingdom of the Light of Truth!

2 Corinthians 5:17 (AMP)

Therefore if anyone is in Christ [that is, grafted in, joined to Him by faith in Him as Savior], he is a new creature [reborn and renewed by the Holy Spirit]; the old things [the previous moral and spiritual condition] have passed away. Behold, new things have come [because spiritual awakening brings a new life].

Jesus Himself boldly proclaimed, "He that believes in Me, out of his belly will flow rivers of living water."

John 7:38 (AMP)

He who believes in Me [who adheres to, trusts in, and relies on Me], as the Scripture has said, 'From his innermost being will flow continually rivers of living water.'" (This once again, opens the event of Jesus at Jacobs well!) John 4:10 (AMP) Jesus answered her, "If you knew [about] God's gift [of eternal life], and who it is who says, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him [instead], and He would have given you living water (eternal life)."

John 4:13 (AMP)

Jesus answered her, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again. 14 But whoever drinks the water that I give him will never be thirsty again. But the water that I give him will become in him a spring of water [satisfying his thirst for God] welling up [continually flowing, bubbling within him] to eternal life."

John 4:21-24 (AMP)

21 Jesus replied, "Woman, believe Me, a time is coming [when God's kingdom comes] when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.

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22 You [Samaritans] do not know what you worship; we [Jews]
do know what we worship, for salvation is from the Jews.
23 But a time is coming and is already here when the true worshipers
will worship the Father in spirit [from the heart, the inner self] and in truth;
for the Father seeks such people to be His worshipers.
24 God is spirit [the Source of life, yet invisible to mankind],
and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

Eternal Life is the "spirit life." God is spirit and truth! [Note: The Kingdom is Here! The King of the Kingdom lives inside of the Redeemed!]

Jesus' explains that God intended for the earthly temple to be a "type or pattern" of the heavenly temple which is spiritual – not made by human hands, but made by the work of the Holy Spirit who dwells within us. God's purpose, which he accomplishes through his Son Jesus, is the building up of a spiritual temple – God the Father dwelling with his people, through his Son Jesus, in and through the abiding Presence and work of Holy Ghost. Jesus Christ, the Savior, is the One who reconciles us to God and Who enables us to freely come into the Father's Presence to worship him "in the Spirit and in Truth." Jesus replied, "Believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in Truth." The Divine Event of Pentecost Acts initiated with a mighty wind and tongues of Fire! Fire has two divine purposes. One is judgement... the other is empowerment! The Lord Jesus offers each one of us the "living water" of Holy Spirit Whom was Sent to represent Him (re-present Him) so that we may receive new life in Him and never thirst again.

Holy Ghost brings the revelation of God's truth to each one of us, and He brings the revelation of our own personal weaknesses, failings, and inadequacy so that we may draw near to Him to receive Christ's abundant mercy, healing, and transforming power to live as sons and daughters of the Living God: The Holy Trinity! Through the Gift of the Spirit, Jesus also gives us boldness and confidence to share the Good News of salvation to our neighbors, families, friends, and people we meet along the way. May the Holy Spirit fill each one of us with the joy of salvation and the boldness to tell our neighbors what God has done for us and what Christ offers them as well.

Before His death, resurrection, and ascension the Holy Spirit filled Jesus! But after His resurrection, ascension and enthronement, Jesus received the Holy Spirit from the Heavenly Father to send to those who believe upon His Name: His Eternal Being... Who He is, was, and ever shall be... forever and forevermore!

And on the Day of Pentecost, the Spirit of the Lord was poured out upon His disciples as they waited for God's power from on high. They were all "baptized by the Spirit" into Christ (One New Man) and began to drink of His Spirit. Filled with the Holy Spirit, they all began to speak in tongues and prophesy! (see 1 Corinthians 12:13).

Acts 2:33 (AMP)

Therefore having been exalted [to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured out this [blessing] which you both see and hear.

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1 Corinthians 12:13 (AMP)

For by one [Holy] Spirit we were all baptized into one body, [spiritually transformed united together] whether Jews or Greeks (Gentiles), slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one [Holy] Spirit [since the same Holy Spirit fills each life]. [Note: Do you see the indwelling Presence and Power of the Holy Spirit is a Promise of Father God?]

This outpouring and infilling is the distinctive characteristic or distinguishing mark of Messiah's Day and one of the essential benefits of the New Covenant. This is the birthright of every believer! Everything Jesus did He did so you and I might receive the Holy Spirit and be filled with the fullness of God!

Jesus declared, "I came that you might have life and have it abundantly." That life is the life of the Spirit!

John 10:10 (AMP)

The thief comes only in order to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance [to the full, till it overflows].

[Note: But receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit is not automatic as many denominations Preach and many Christians assume! We see this in Acts 8. The whole city of Samaria received the Gospel of the King (when they saw the signs and miracles...). They repented and got themselves baptized into Christ. But Phillip had to send to Jerusalem for Peter and John to come to Samaria, lay hands on those who had been baptized and prayed for them to receive the Spirit.

Acts 8:12-17 (AMP)

12 But when they believed Philip as he preached the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were being baptized, both men and women. 13 Even Simon believed [Philip's message of salvation]; and after being baptized, he continued on with Philip, and as he watched the attesting signs and great miracles taking place, he was constantly amazed.

14 When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that [the people of] Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them.

15 They came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit; 16 for He had not yet fallen on any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus [as His possession].

17 Then Peter and John laid their hands on them [one by one], and they received the Holy Spirit.

They had believed the message of the Kingdom, they had obeyed, but they had not received the Holy Spirit.

[Note: Paul goes to Ephesus and finds some disciples.]

He asks them the all-important question, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed? Acts 19:2 (AMP) He asked them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed [in Jesus as the Christ]?" And they said, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit."

If the gift of the Holy Spirit is automatically imparted and received when a person believes, why did Paul have to ask this question?

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Acts 19:3-7 (AMP)

3 And he asked, "Into what then were you baptized?" They said, "Into John's baptism." 4 Paul said, "John performed a baptism of repentance, continually telling the people to believe in Him who was coming after him, that is, [to confidently accept and joyfully believe] in Jesus [the Messiah and Savior]." 5 After hearing this, they were baptized [again, this time] in the name of the Lord Jesus. 6 And when Paul laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking in [unknown] tongues (languages) and prophesying. 7 There were about twelve men in all. Later Paul declares to the saints at Ephesus that the Holy Spirit Himself is the seal

or witness of God the Father that we are the children of God!

Ephesians 1:13-14 (AMP) [In Christ's Name]

13 In Him, you also, when you heard the word of truth, the good news of your salvation, and [as a result] believed in Him, were stamped with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit [the One promised by Christ] as owned and protected [by God].

14 The Spirit is the guarantee [the first installment, the pledge, a foretaste] of our inheritance until the redemption of God's own [purchased] possession [His believers], to the praise of His glory.

[Note: Redemption is transformation at death. When we obey the Gospel, by seeking to be baptized into Christ's Name, we are actually entering into the New Covenant (the New Covenant is the Person of God, Jesus, the Son) and setting our personal seal of obedience to the New Covenant" to Him. But when God fills us with the Holy Spirit, He is setting His seal to the New Covenant. We don't need a minister to confirm or assure us that we are born again or saved. God Himself assures us in "righteous judgment" (sanctification) "right standing" in Christ.

Romans 8:15 (Amp) For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading again to fear [of God's judgment], but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons [the Spirit producing sonship] by which we [joyfully] cry, "Abba! Father!"

Galatians 4:6 (AMP) And because you [really] are [His] sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying out, "Abba! Father!"

John 12:36 (AMP) While you have the Light, believe and trust in the Light [have faith in it, hold on to it, rely on it], so that you may become sons of Light [being filled with Light as followers of God]."

As one repents and receives the Light of Christ, they are counted in right standing. As one disobeys the command to repent, they are judged unrighteous, and hell bound. [Note: "hell bound" = eternally separated from the Divine Light of Heaven: Spirit and Truth.] In the Ancient Church, as demonstrated to this very day in the Eastern [Orthodox], the Western [Latin], as well as in the Anglican Churches, confirmation of a baptized person by the laying on of hands by the Bishop (the sacrament of receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit). It is considered to be the confirmation of God the Father that a person is truly a child of God. Because of this, without both (Ordinances) Sacraments, Water Baptism and Confirmation, a congregant is not allowed to take Communion.) [Church law!]

The outpouring of the Spirit of God is the distinguishing mark of Christ's Kingdom! The Holy Spirit is the One who actually convicts us of sin, righteousness and judgment. He works in us in both repentance and the obedience of faith, causing us to obey the Gospel by seeking to be baptized into Christ. Then as we open our spirits and ask the Father in prayer or as His servants lay their hands upon us, we truly receive the gift of the Spirit!

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He literally and actually comes to live inside of us to reveal all things to us, to lead us and guide us, to anoint and empower us and to work in us both in willing and doing God's will, and finally to distribute the gifts of the Spirit enabling us to work the works of God... exercising the gifts of the Spirit and making disciples.

Receiving the Holy Spirit's indwelling presence and anointing of power is the bottom-line of all Jesus came to do. This is the birthright (born-again reward) of every believer. It is the distinctive mark of Apostolic Christianity! Filling with the Divine Spirit in every true worshipper, secures Jesus to work universally in everyone Reconciled and Obedient to Him. Therefore, why believe in the heresy of a literal earthly throne for a 1000 year reign? {1000 is symbolic in scripture to represent an uncountable measure.] Christ has been ruling for over 2000 years! God gives the Holy Spirit to those who obey the Gospel! The gift of the Holy Spirit is the indwelling presence and power of God, God with us and God in us to enable us to mortify the deeds of the flesh and live righteously and godly in this present age as well as to do the works of the ministry of Christ in the earth.

Romans 8:13 (AMP)

for if you are living according to the [impulses of the] flesh, you are going to die. But if [you are living] by the [power of the Holy] Spirit you are habitually putting to death the sinful deeds of the body, you will [really] live forever. Romans 14:17 (AMP)

for the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking [what one likes], but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is the indwelling Christ; The Lord Jesus is enthroned at the right hand of God in heaven; it is the Holy Spirit who actually comes to dwell within our human spirit, not the Lord Jesus Himself, but the One Who re-presents Him!

[Right-hand represents Authority and Power].

Jesus is seated on the Promised Eternal Throne of David!

Not only does the Spirit dwell in us individually, Peter also boldly declares that we are joined together with other believers to form a Dwelling Place, a House or Temple for God in the Spirit. The Holy Spirit not only comes to form Christ in us and produce the life of Jesus in us, but to empower us to work the works of God. The Lord Jesus gives us the authority of His Name to enable us to represent Him and to overcome the works of the demonic realm. He also gives us the miracle working power of the Holy Spirit to be in us, to enable us to live a supernatural or miracle-working lifestyle. The Kingdom is not in Word only, but in power!

John 14:12 (AMP)

I assure you and most solemnly say to you, anyone who believes in Me [as Savior] will also do the things that I do; and he will do even greater things than these [in extent and outreach], because I am going to the Father.

After His resurrection Jesus declared:

Mark 16:17-18 (AMP)

17 These signs will accompany those who have believed: in My name they will cast out demons, they will speak in new tongues;

18 they will pick up serpents, and if they drink anything deadly, it will not hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will get well."

[Note: We are not only to receive the gift of the Spirit, we are also added to the Church.

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Acts 2:41-42 (AMP)

41 So then, those who accepted his message were baptized; and on that day about 3,000 souls were added [to the body of believers].

42 They were continually and faithfully devoting themselves to the instruction of the apostles, and to fellowship, to eating meals together and to prayers. When we repent, are baptized into Christ's death and raised into His life, we automatically become members of Christ, members of His one body and thus added to His One Church: Spiritual Israel, New Jerusalem, Zion, General Assembly. Understanding this is huge for the issue of unity of the Church, and for understanding our stewardship and accountability as His ministers.

Jesus declared, "I will build My Church."

Paul declared, "Let everything be constructive and edifying and done for the good of all the church." [Let everything be done for the building of Christ's Church!]

According to Paul, when we are baptized into His death and raised up into His resurrection, we are not only translated into His Kingdom, we become members of the General Assembly in heaven, the Church of the first-born Son of God... the body of Christ. It is important to note, that we are automatically and immediately added to the General Assembly or the Church in heaven...at our reconciliation to God. It is not a matter of our works, but one of His grace.

Hebrews 12:22-24 (AMP)

22 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God,

the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels [in festive gathering],

23 and to the general assembly and assembly of the firstborn

who are registered [as citizens] in heaven, and to God, who is Judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous (the redeemed in heaven) who have been made perfect [bringing them to their final glory],

24 and to Jesus, the Mediator of a new covenant [uniting God and man], and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks [of mercy], a better and nobler and more gracious message than the blood of Abel [which cried out for vengeance].

This is immediate and automatic! You don't join the Church of your choice; No, the Holy Spirit Himself adds you to the Lord and to His General Assembly, the Church, the Body of Christ!

Please, the true Church is the creation of the Holy Spirit! But after He adds you to the Body Christ or the General Church, then the Holy Spirit puts you in the Body as it pleases Him! 1 Corinthians 12:18 (AMP)

18 But now [as things really are], God has placed and arranged the parts in the body, each one of them, just as He willed and saw fit [with the best balance of function]. [Note: Paul is referring to the gifts to the church... the functioning gifts of ministries and gifts of the Spirit!]

Ephesians 4:16 (AMP)

16 From Him the whole body [the church, in all its various parts], joined and knitted firmly together by what every joint supplies, when each part is working properly, causes the body to grow and mature, building itself up in [unselfish] love. John 14:1 (AMP)

"Do not let your heart be troubled (afraid, cowardly). Believe [confidently] in God and trust in Him, [have faith, hold on to it, rely on it, keep going and] believe also in Me.

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God has established "allotments" of those who are guided to become a working part of a specific fellowship. Many live their lives in allotments that are not dedicated to seek anointed ministries focused on "patterns of Christ"). Mankind has perverted the precious Holy Word of God. How? They have built on their own designs and theologies, rather than yielding to Holy Ghost to guide and direct building the "household" of the Lord. The word "allotments" comes from the Old Testament that speaks of the "allotments" or "lots" of Israel and refers to the idea of father's households (families), clans, and tribes of Israel.

Peter uses this word in the New Testament to reference the fact that the Church of Jesus Christ is the New Israel of God. One of the missing revelations in the modern church's experience is a proper biblical understanding of the principle of Divine placement in the Household of faith.

I Peter 5:1-3 (AMP)

5 Therefore, I strongly urge the elders among you [pastors, spiritual leaders of the church], as a fellow elder and as an eyewitness [called to testify] of the sufferings Of Christ, as well as one who shares in the glory that is to be revealed:

2 shepherd and guide and protect the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to the will of God; and not [motivated] for shameful gain, but with wholehearted enthusiasm;

3 not lording it over those assigned to your care [do not be arrogant or overbearing], but be examples [of Christian living] to the flock [set a pattern of integrity for your congregation].

We are to understand that the Lord's Church is one Church. Jesus did not say, "I will build My Churches (plural)!" Instead, He said, "I will build My Church (singular)." Matthew 16:16-18 (AMP)

16 Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed), the Son of the living God."

17 Then Jesus answered him, "Blessed [happy, spiritually secure, favored by God] are you, Simon son of Jonah, because flesh and blood (mortal man) did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.

18 And I say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades (death) will not overpower it [by preventing the resurrection Of the Christ].

[Note: This passage reveals that Christ's Church will be built on the revelation that He (Jesus Christ) is the Rock of Salvation! It is Not built upon the small rock petra: (Simon Peter). Peter replied: "You are the Christ." < [Here we 'see' the divine interpretation!]

Isaiah 26:4 (AMP)

"Trust [confidently] in the Lord forever [He is your fortress, your shield, your banner], For the Lord God is an everlasting Rock [the Rock of Ages]

The key word in this verse is the word, "My." Jesus is really contrasting the Church He would build for God, with the only other man in the bible who had a church.

Moses had his church, his Israel, but it failed to cross the Jordan and conquer the nations in the land! Jesus was saying, "I will build My Church, My Israel (Spiritual Israel) and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." The Lord's Church is one!

But it is made up of many allotments of believers (congregations or "local churches"). (What we call a "local church" is really an allotment of believers within a locality or city.

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The expression "local church" isn't even in the New Testament. The New Testament does speak of the Church in a locality, or in a City, such as the "Church in Jerusalem", the "Church of Antioch", or the "Church of Corinth", speaking of the expression of the Lord's One Church in that particular place or locality. But that is not at all what we mean today by a "local church."

In fact there is no such thing as an "independent local church". What we call a "local church" or a "congregation" is really an allotment of the one Church in a city! It is important to understand that the Church is in General Assembly, before it is local, or before it is the Church of a City or locality. But the Church of a locality is made up of many allotments or congregations (what we call "local churches") built together through eldership as one Church in a place. Therefore, to bridge the gap in this system of separation into one of unity, we witness the "pattern of the Son" working as a 'Communion." This communion is the "apostolate" of Christ!

This revelation is crucial if we are ever going to have a visible and functional unity in the Lord's Church. (Seek and Read John 17, Christ's High Priestly Prayer). The essential pattern of Christ's Church is "General Assembly." It is Holy Nation! But that General Assembly or Holy Nation is made of many allotments of believers (whether house churches or congregations) joined or connected together through apostolic eldership in city after city, and region after region and in nation after nation as One Church. [Note: We will deal with this more fully in a later Appendices]

It is important for us to understand that the allotments or congregations of believers are the allotments of the New Israel...Spiritual Israel, the Universal Body and the "City Churches" in a region or in a nation are the "daughters of the Heavenly Zion"! [Note: We are still focused on 'Kingdom Initiation." Kingdom encompasses New Cities, Regions and Nations of the New Creation... entities of God's principle of Blessing! [Note: Blessings = Increase = Multiplicity]

Once a new convert finds placement in an allotment (congregation) in a locality (City), there is an "open door" to voluntarily (freely) engage (desire) to be taught Kingdom of Christ's commands and foundations and choose to live in obedience to them. Jesus commanded His forerunners/apostles/ambassadors on the Mountain in Galilee, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them...and teaching them to do everything I have commanded you..." (Matt.28: 19-20)

Luke tells us in Acts 2:42 that those who were baptized and added to the Church in Jerusalem, "were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching...." Peter and the other forerunners were obeying Christ's Holy orders; they were teaching the disciples in Jerusalem to obey everything Christ commanded them. These newly baptized disciples were devoting themselves to obeying Christ's commands through the guidance of Holy Ghost abiding in the fruit of the Spirit and the gifts of the Spirit. The actual interpretation of the scriptures is "the Lord added to them daily." [Note: Paul left Timothy at Ephesus." Timothy was instructed to set in order the things that were lacking and to teach the disciples there, the sons and daughters of the Kingdom of God, "how to behave in the House of God."]

1 Timothy 3:15 (AMP)

in case I am delayed, so that you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth.

Our mission is to write these "special messages" that you may continue to dwell in divine understanding of "The Revelation of the Light of Jesus Christ."

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In doing so, we focus on what Paul wrote to Timothy: "the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth." One must understand that the teaching of the Church of Whom Christ is the Foundation upon which the apostolic and prophetic ministries are secured, have been "altered" over centuries!

"Apostolic" denotes "sender" and "the one sent." "Prophetic" denotes to reveal, declare, proclaim, decree, transmit...the message of God.

Organizations have changed the principles; wicked and cunning men have changed elements of Pure Heart and Mind as taught and demonstrated by Christ, Himself. [Note: All the Epistles have both a doctrinal application and a practical one... (See for example the writings of Paul to the Ephesians...]

In the upper room, before His death and resurrection, the Lord commanded His disciples, "A new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another as I have loved you." What was new about Christ's command to love?

The Law of Moses was summed up in two commandments, love the Lord your God, and love your neighbor as yourself. Love is the fulfillment of the Law. So what was new about Christ's command?

[The difference: Jesus commanded us to love one another, "as I have loved you…"] As Christians, we are to love one another as Christ loved us, we are to honor one another, prefer one another, serve one another, and even lay down our lives for one another. This is a non-negotiable, absolute Truth of Christian Life!

It is a new commandment, a new law, a new ethic, of Christ's Kingdom. It is a new way of living, a Kingdom lifestyle, the lifestyle of brotherhood and love. It is the law of a new nature, a new humanity, a new creation! This is foundational Kingdom Initiation! James calls it the royal law [the House of David], the law of Christ's Kingdom, His Household.

James 2:8 (AMP)

If, however, you are [really] fulfilling the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself [that is, if you have an unselfish concern for others and do things for their benefit]" you are doing well. God Is Love It is the way of the Household of God!

I John 4:7-21 (AMP) God Is Love

7 Beloved, let us [unselfishly] love and seek the best for one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves [others] is born of God and knows God [through personal experience].

8 The one who does not love has not become acquainted with God [does not and never did know Him], for God is love. [He is the originator of love, and it is an enduring attribute of His nature.]

9 By this the love of God was displayed in us, in that God has sent His [One and] only begotten Son [the One who is truly unique, the only One of His kind] into the world so that we might live through Him.

10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation [that is, the atoning sacrifice, and the satisfying offering] for our sins [fulfilling God's requirement for justice against sin and placating His wrath]. One of the reasons for the present mess in the Church is that many ministers have substituted the modern invitation system for "a contrite man-made approach."

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The advocates of this "modern invitation system" would have us believe that on the Day of Pentecost Peter declared, "Now I want every head bowed and every eye closed, while James dims the lights and John plays softly on the organ, if you want to receive Jesus as your personal Savior, I want you to raise your hand and pray this simple prayer after me…"

This was not the Pattern of the forerunners! It is not the way it was done in the First Century Church! Read the Book of Acts. Read the Epistles! There is not one example in the New Testament where sinners were told to pray the sinner's prayer in order to be saved! The way sinners called on the Name of the Lord was by getting themselves "over their head" baptized into the Name of Jesus! He is the Savior!

[(Acts 2:21 & 2:38) We have quoted them above in this message!]

Peter boldly commanded, "repent, get yourself baptized into the Name of Jesus." Paul declares, that Ananias commanded him, "Get up and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His Name."

Acts 22:16

Why do you delay, if you have not sought baptism? Get up and be baptized, become one with him in His death and His risen Life by calling on His name [for salvation].' [Note: the truth is that many in our churches have never fully obeyed the Gospel!] They are still in the birth canal; they have never been properly birthed or "mid-wifed" into the Kingdom! That's why they can't get free or go on to maturity in their Christian walk, because they do not have a valid foundation, a valid beginning.

Hebrews 6:1-3 (AMP) [The Peril of Falling Away] Therefore let us get past the elementary stage in the teachings about the Christ, advancing on to maturity and perfection and spiritual completeness, [doing this] without laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God,

2 of teaching about washings (ritual purifications), the laying on of hands,

the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. [These are all important matters in which one should have been proficient long ago.]

3 And we will do this [that is, proceed to maturity], if God permits.

[Note: The Gospel is not merely an invitation; it is God's proclamation, His announcement, decree and command! The proper response to God's proclamation, His decree, His command is to obey! Salvation is not an option; it is God's command! The proper response to a command is to obey! The Gospel is not merely something for us to believe; it requires action! The proper way to obey is to repent, get baptized, receive the Holy Spirit and as a member of the General Assembly of heaven, find valid placement in the Lord's Spiritual Church under true apostolic and prophetic eldership.

Then we can be taught to cherish all Christ has commanded!

Peter commanded them to obey the Gospel; He called for them to repent and come to the water that separates and divides...that they might be saved from a perverse generation and the coming wrath of God, translated into the Kingdom of God's Son and added to the Church! God desires obedient sons and daughters!

There are two families in the world, the children of God and the children of the devil! The children of Satan are called the sons of disobedience.

The children of God are children of obedience, the obedience of faith.

THE LIGHT OF TRUTH!