

Part 3, Our Breathtaking Divine Destiny (Conclusion) From suffering to Glory!

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Summary:

This CONCLUDES THE SERIES about the ultimate divine secret or mystery revealed. See it more clearly revealed in Genesis 1. Learn what must come before dominion on earth. Is God finished creating? Can there be more than one "God" Being and still recite Deuteronomy 6:4? Hints of more than one throughout scripture. What will your resurrection body be like? How this helps us to better appreciate Passover ... and more.

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Hello and shalom to all of you who are my brothers and sisters in the divine family with our big brother Yeshua and our Father, Yehowah Almighty, our God most High. Welcome siblings of the House of Yehowah, the household of God. If you're in Japan, China or Singapore or Turkey or Russia – welcome. If you're listening in South America or Europe or Africa, welcome. If you're listening from the USA or Canada or Mexico – welcome. I also would love it, if some of you many hundreds of unique visitors each month to this site would email me your comments. My email is pws2010@gmail.com We get about 15,000 hits a month from 45-50 countries. I'd love to hear from some of you in Asia, Africa, the USA and Canada and around the world. We all could use some encouragement. I do too.

We've been talking about the greatest secret, a divine mystery, ever to be revealed. If you haven't heard parts 1 and 2 already, I strongly urge you to do so. Please hear parts 1 and 2 first or you will miss a lot. I've prayed hard about this message that it will be understood and that those God is calling as firstfruits will hear it and rejoice in it.

This message concludes my series on our divine destiny, the greatest mystery ever revealed: what is the purpose of life. Gurus and so-called "wise men" have tried for years to figure it out, and yet it was always there, revealed in the first page of the Bible, and the last page of the Bible and all the pages in between. But our purpose is not just to go to heaven, or to become some angelic-like figure forever and ever. It's far, far greater!

Almighty YHVH in the Highest wants a family! A real family! HIS family. HIS children. ONE family—but ultimately made up of BILLIONS of children. But not a family like some people consider their pets as "family". No – a family of children who are just like HE is. A family that is not the plant kind, or animal kind, or angel kind – *but of the God kind*. Kind reproduces after its kind. Horses have horses. Oaks have other oaks. People beget other humans. So if God has children, what MUST they be? We'll really get into that today. So put your seat belts on and hang on for an exciting ride into the future.

I don't know how long it will be before Messiah returns in glory in the clouds of heaven and the trumpets sound and the resurrection of the children of God finally happens—but surely we are getting very close. I'm sure there's much excitement on the heavenly Sea of Glass as the day approaches ever nearer when the children of God are fully revealed!

With our own children, it was exciting to have the news that my wife was expecting and that we would have a child. We've had four children. Each time we got closer to the "due date", it got more and more exciting. I think the same likely is happening in the temple of heavenly Jerusalem as Yehowah in the Highest and King Yeshua make final preparations.

There's a lot yet to happen, so it's no time to be napping spiritually. There will soon be a new Pope. [Since this was given—we have Pope Francis.] He will no doubt play a major role in the end time. Iran is developing their nuclear program and Israel knows they can't wait forever. The Middle East is a fuel-keg about to explode. There will be more and more wars – though illusions of peace as well.

But the REAL war will be fought in the heavenly realms as Satan fights to keep his power on earth. *But the children of God are about to be glorified and given dominion on earth! Wasn't that the original role declared for man and woman – together, to rule the earth? Read it in Genesis 1:26-28. But there's a SEQUENCE of events mentioned here. Notice it!*

Before there can be dominion and rulership, something else was stated first. FIRST we have to become more in the IMAGE of God than we are. The first intention for man was that He be formed in the image of God (Gen 1:26). Once we ARE like God in our conduct and behavior and character – because of His Spirit living in us – THEN He can trust us with dominion over His creation. Children look like their father. We must walk like Elohim, talk like Elohim, BE like Elohim, LOOK like Him in our conduct and character – then we can rule WITH Elohim.

THAT is why we suffer. We learn lessons from suffering. Pain makes us realize what is REALLY important to us. Pain helps us give up bad things in our character. Even Christ was made perfect by suffering. It's no different for the rest of us. Perfection, completeness, full maturity – all of that is the goal. Even in **John 17:23** Yeshua prayed that by Father being in Him, and He being in us, that we "would be made perfect in one." Suffering helps us get there.

It seems to me, that those who have suffered little, those whose lives have been easy – seem very shallow souls to me. So you're being groomed to be a LITERAL child of God. It's hinted at all through the Scriptures. "The LORD (YHVH) said to my lord (Adonai)..." Clearly two beings there. Elohim is a plural word. Even Proverbs 30 hints broadly at it:

Proverbs 30:3-4

3 I neither learned wisdom

Nor have knowledge of the Holy One.

4 Who has ascended into heaven, or descended?

Who has gathered the wind in His fists?

Who has bound the waters in a garment?

Who has established all the ends of the earth?

What is His name, and what is His Son's name, if you know?

Right there. The Holy One has a Son!

But nothing is more exciting than being a real child of the Highest, and being a co-inheritor of ALL THINGS with Christ (Rom 8:16). You may be down and out right now, you may be poor, you may be alone, you may not be the high and mighty of society – but if you were

chosen by Yehowah to have HIS divine spirit – giving you HIS seed and HIS divine nature – then you have a high, high calling. It won't be long now before you hear your name called out before the King of Kings, probably before God the Father too, and given your new name, and then ride back down to earth at the speed of thought on a powerful spirit angelic charger to help take over the reins of rulership with Christ, as part of the Bride of Christ.

I get down, I get discouraged, I have pressures and issues – but in the end, we need to be focusing on THESE things!

Here are a couple things I didn't say before in this series:

First, CREATION IS NOT FINISHED. The **physical** creation was finished in 6 days then the sabbath – but the SPIRITUAL creation is ongoing. Yeshua spoke or created all physical things in to existence. That work is done. But now he's working on the spirit, on the spiritual creation. *I believe Yehowah is – at the right time—going to transform all creation to spirit, to an indestructible, incorruptible universe.* Yeshua says He and His Father still work (John 5:16-18)! They have a lot of work yet to do. The work of being the Passover Lamb of God was finished, so Yeshua can SIT as High Priest (see Hebrews 10:11-13). The human high priest had to move and stand and so on – but beyond Passover, there's still a lot to do.

Passover is the STARTING point. It starts the holyday season each year, it's not the end. We START with accepting the sacrifice then we go on into an ever closer relationship, pictured by the altar, the menorah, the table of shewbread – and finally the Holy of Holies. So this is a process until Christ is formed in us (Galatians 4:19).

Secondly: I want to also hi-lite the fact that this whole topic is **the greatest LOVE STORY of all time.** I call it “the sacred romance”. Some of you get so involved in doctrine, in technicalities, or in the social life of “church”, or in serving others – *and none of these things are bad – but don't forget the BIG picture. If we forget the big picture, we can lose the JOY of being in love with our Redeemer! When we can focus on the BIG picture, we're happier. We can so easily forget the reason we do everything we do!* That's what this series is all about.

Father is having children – that's why He is *called* Father! Jesus is “the firstborn of MANY siblings, of MANY brethren”. Father wants many more children than just Yeshua. Kind after kind. Are you “getting it”?

So this is a LOVE story of Father for his children. Of God the Son for His Bride, the Elect – who will also all be children of God. Our Redeemer is redeeming us from the filth we once were in! Don't worry if others can't accept that you're something you didn't used to be. IN Christ, you're a brand new creation. What you were before is immaterial at this point. All sin is horrible – but in Christ we are a brand new creation!

Sometimes just shout out your joy, your gratitude, your sheer awe at your Master Yeshua who is, over time, changing you and me to look and be more like HIM. Or if you would rather do it quietly, that's good too. But feel the love, FEEL the awe, feel God the Father loved us so much He sent His eternal companion to come as a flesh and blood man to live and die and be resurrected for us, that we might have life.

And Yeshua is preparing the Bride He will marry. He paid the ultimate dowry – his own life. *This is a sacred romance going on. Hopefully WE are growing more deeply in love with our Master each day. Remember **the SACRED ROMANCE**.*

Now let me do a very quick recap, and then let's follow up on what the next step is.

You'll recall that:

- ELOHIM, translated “God” when referring to the Creator, is a plural word. When that same word is applied to pagan deity, it is translated as “gods”. Ecc 12:1 in Hebrew actually says “Remember your Creators” (plural).
- In Genesis 1, we saw how Elohim *spoke* all things into creation except mankind, whom YHVH formed with His own hands. No other creature was given that privilege of being hand-formed – except Woman, whom God shaped from the side of man. Both were made in the image and likeness of Elohim. ONLY mankind has the divine breath given by Yehowah. NO other part of the creation has the breath of God. We discussed how even though Elohim is depicted in male terms, He no doubt also embodies all “male” and “female” traits He's the Elohim of both men and women.
- **John 1:1-3** and numerous other scriptures reveal that the One who **spoke** the creation into existence, **was the one we know as Jesus Christ**, or Yeshua the Messiah. He was with God and was God. *The spoken word of God is powerful. Yehowah warns even humans to watch what we say. Words are powerful – life and death are in the power of the tongue. Slander, repeating evil, gossip – all of that is of Satan the Devil. Satan doesn't believe man can have genuine change, so he slanders. As a child of God, we don't do that. Slanderers and gossips are of THEIR father the Devil, which means “Slanderer”. Did you know that?*

YOUR Savior was the “God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob”. Jesus was the One who wrestled with Jacob, who spoke the 10 commandments – and spoke the universe into existence. That's our Savior! He wasn't just a good man. He was GOD with God.

- John 1 clearly shows two beings, both called “God”. And yet these two Beings are so unified they are one, they work and live as one, they are in total synch with one another. “You've seen me, you've seen the Father” – Yeshua said.

The Shema: “Hear O Israel, YHVH your Elohim, YHVH is ONE” (**Deut. 6:4**). So Jews believe there is only one Being up there because of the Shema that they recite 2x a day. But I covered last time how the word “**echad**” – translated “one” – is used in scripture also to describe Adam and Eve as echad (Genesis 2:21-24), the rebels in Babylon were echad (one) (**Genesis 11:5-6**), and other examples. Yeshua prayed in **John 17:11, 20-25** that the disciples be “one as We are one”, He says to Father. So “echad” does NOT have to mean one unit or one person. It can be 2 or more acting in concert as one. Once we understand that, understand that “**Elohim**” is a **FAMILY**—ONE family, made up right now of Father and Son – and soon there will be sons and daughters, all ONE, all echad.

NO God after God and other “Objections”

New material here: some trip up over the scriptures in Isaiah that speak of “besides me there is no other Elohim (God)”. I’m very familiar with these verses and others.

Isaiah 44:6

6 "Thus says YHVH, the King of Israel,
And his Redeemer, YHVH of hosts:
'I am the First and I am the Last;
Besides Me there is no God.

The only true God, the only living God, is Elohim, plural word – composed of the Father Most high, and Yeshua the Word. We saw that in John 1:1-3, which clearly shows there are two beings, both called “God”. *They* are ONE, as we’ve seen. There is no other true living God besides our Elohim. When we are born of God, we also will be part of that same one Divine Elohim Family – ONE family, one entity acting in total submission to Father.

When we understand that “*echad*” is not limited to one unit or person, and that Father clearly made the rule that “kind reproduces after its kind” – and that HE wants children, and calls himself a “Father”. You’re not a father unless you have children. Those children will be those who are ‘*born of God*’ (John 1:12-13), there IS no other God, no other Elohim who will replace or be formed outside the divine family.

Read this next verse used for objecting to this doctrine -- in context. If we read this next verse without context, we have to reject that Yeshua is God, for example. But John 1:1-3 is clear that He IS God with God.

In this next scripture, go back a few verses in Isaiah 43:5-9 and also read a few verses after the quote. They all point to the fruitlessness of trying to find a “God” among pagan deities or idols.

Isaiah 43:10-11

"You are My witnesses," says YHVH, "And My servant whom I have chosen,
That you may know and believe Me, And understand that I am He.
Before Me there was no God formed, Nor shall there be after Me.
11 I, even I, am YHVH, and besides Me there is no savior.

When we understand we are to be ONE with Him, and that THEY will come make their home in us – as ONE (John 14:23) – and we be one with them—there’s no problem. Read John 17:23 again – “that they may be ONE in US”. We are considered a part of the one body of Yeshua. We are of the same entity—the Elohim family of God. We are “in Christ, in God”, remember (Colossians 3:3).

Certainly there is no Savior but God and the Son.

Without this understanding, we end up with problems with “ye are gods” and Psalm 45:7 – “...God your God”, and “the Lord (YHVH) said to my lord” – and all those verses. Elohim is a plural word for good reason. Elohim is one, made up of more than one – just like Adam and Eve and the other examples. No problem.

Back to review:

- **John 1:12-13** – re-read it with your own eyes. It clearly states that those who believe in the Word who became flesh are given the right to be children of God – “born not of flesh... but OF GOD”. That’s what we’re wrapping up today: that the children of God are **“born of GOD”**. If our Divine Father is having children, by his own law – kind reproduces after kind.
- We covered also how God the Father is “Elohim MOST High”. The Word is subject to God the Father. This goes counter to the Trinity, which says there are 3 who are co-equal. Scripture is ultra-clear: God the Father is higher in authority than everyone.
- Last time I also gave you verses – probably a shocker to some of you -- showing **Yeshua has a God** – the Father is His God (John 17:20; Eph. 1:3, 17; John 20:17). But Father is never shown as having a God. Father – God Most High-- is as high as you can go.
- We also covered how Jews in Yeshua’s day perfectly understood that if Yeshua was saying he was the Son of God, that Yeshua was also God (John 5:18). Yeshua didn’t try to “fix” their thinking. At the Jewish festival of Hanukkah, Yeshua left no doubt who He was: the SON of God. See **John 10:22-39**. He was almost stoned for that. He turns it right around and says the psalmist says “YE are gods!”, as he quoted Psalm 82:6. (Yeshua was SO clear that HIS God and father – GOD the Father – is also OUR God and Father (John 20:17). He taught us to pray ‘OUR Father in heaven....’. Yeshua was God, became flesh, returned to God as God’s firstborn son of *many* yet to come (Romans 8:29).

The Mystery of God will be finished when the 7th angel sounds his trumpet (Rev. 10:7). God speed that day. All creation can barely wait. But sometimes I wonder if we, the children of God, are nearly as excited as we should be. This is one big reason for this teaching: to wake us up to the exciting destiny we have!

1 John 3:1-2

Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called **children of God!** Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. 2 Beloved, *now we are children of God*; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but **we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.**

Remember flesh and blood cannot see God and live. Moses was allowed to see a part of God’s back on Mt. Sinai, but normally man cannot see God and live.

When that time comes, the original plan to make mankind in His image and in His likeness, will be complete for those individuals. The spiritual creation continues. This gets exciting!

WHAT KIND OF BODIES WILL WE HAVE?

Scripture speaks of the “first resurrection” (Rev. 20:5-6), which implies there will be more. Let’s see what Scripture says about our resurrection.

Revelation 20:6

6 Blessed and holy is he who has part in **the FIRST resurrection. Over such the second death has no power**, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

If death has no power on those in the first resurrection, then they are immortal. Yeshua said we have to be born again and that those born of spirit ARE spirit (John 3:5-8). Many assume we will be like Adam and Eve –with fleshly bodies. But don't forget, flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God (1 Cor. 15:50).

People used to ask Apostle Paul the same questions about our resurrection body. Let's see what he says:

1 Corinthians 15:35-54

35 But someone will say, "**How are the dead raised? What kind of body will they have when they come?**" 36 Foolish one! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. 37 And as for what you sow—you are not sowing the future body, but only a seed, perhaps of wheat or another grain. 38 But God gives it a body as He wants, and to each of the seeds its own body.

39 Not all flesh is the same flesh; there is one flesh for humans, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. 40 There are heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the splendor of the heavenly bodies is different from that of the earthly ones. 41 There is a splendor of the sun, another of the moon, and another of the stars; for star differs from star in splendor.

42 So it is with the resurrection of the dead:

Sown in corruption, raised in incorruption;

43 sown in dishonor, raised in glory;

sown in weakness, raised in power;

44 sown a natural body, raised a SPIRITUAL body.

If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.

45 So it is written: The first man Adam became a living being; the last Adam became a life-giving **Spirit**. 46 However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural; then the spiritual.

47 The first man was from the earth and made of dust; the second man is from heaven.

48 Like the man made of dust, so are those who are made of dust;

like the heavenly man, so are those who are heavenly.

49 And just as we have borne the image of the man made of dust,

we will also bear the image of the heavenly man.

50 Brothers, I tell you this: **flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, and corruption cannot inherit incorruption.** 51 Listen! I am telling you a **mystery**:

We will not all fall asleep, but **we will all be changed,**

52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet.

For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we will be changed.

53 Because this corruptible must be clothed with incorruptibility,

and this mortal must be clothed with immortality.

54 Now when this corruptible is clothed with incorruptibility,

and this mortal is clothed with immortality,

then the saying that is written will take place:

Death has been swallowed up in victory.

So what will we be like?

Daniel 12:2-3 NET

2 Many of those who sleep
in the dusty ground will awake -
some to everlasting life,
and others to shame and everlasting abhorrence.

**3 But the wise will shine
like the brightness of the heavenly expanse.**
And those bringing many to righteousness
will be like the stars forever and ever.

Here's what our Master said:

Matthew 13:43

43 **Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun** in the kingdom of their
Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!

A bright, immortal, spirit body is what we are going to have.

How and when does this happen? We read earlier how this mystery is fully revealed at the last trump – **Rev. 10:7**—“in the days of the sounding of the 7th angel, when he is about to sound, the Mystery of God would be finished, as He declared to His servants the prophets.”

So at the Last Trump is when the children of God are revealed. The dead in Christ are raised back to immortal life in the first resurrection at the last trump.

1 Thessalonians 4:15-17

15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

When this happens, all the pain we go thru with life and death, disappointments, being betrayed by those we thought were friends and loved ones – all our suffering won't be compared to the GLORY that is about to be revealed in us (Romans 8:18).

The rest of the dead, according to Rev. 20, come up after the 1000 years and are resurrected first to flesh/blood again and have to prove they also will choose life this time, will go God's way. I covered all that in detail in the sermon I gave about the 8th Day Feast, after the Feast of Tabernacles. Please, go back and hear that to see what happens to everyone else.

But it starts with Yeshua as the firstborn son of the Highest. He was “declared to be the Son of God by the resurrection” (**Romans 1:1-4**). So you and I will also be declared to be fully sons and daughters of God in the Highest by the resurrection, just like our Master Christ.

Yes, sons and daughters. You women are co-inheritors of the grace of life. Many women will have higher positions in the kingdom than those who are men now. I'm sure of that.

2 Cor. 6:18 tells us "I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters," says God Almighty.

So the secret, the greatest secret of all time: God is having a family. This family will be so unified, so obedient, so one-minded – that it will be ONE.

I have a sobering reminder for you: if you haven't heard my series on One Body, please do so. Those of us who are the Elect of God, the chosen for the first resurrection, need to come together as ONE now, somehow. By looking to God and being one IN HIM, we can be one with one another. Believers are too divided right now. That's got to stop. Yeshua prays in John 17, "Father, I pray that these may be ONE, just as you and I are one."

Let's not make it difficult for His prayer to be answered, shall we? We are supposed to be like one big happy family. But families can also be the source of some of your greatest pain. As brothers and sisters scattered into many fellowships, let's love one another and come together.

Let me illustrate this further with another story: About 20 years ago now, I went to Sukkot, or a Feast of Tabernacles site in Canada where they had the most beautiful flower arrangements you could imagine on their stage. I knew the designer of those arrangements, a dear older lady friend whom I have adopted as my own Mom after my mother died. She had written on a sash in front of one of the central floral pieces something about "Seek ye first the kingdom of God". Not "kingdom" but "kindom". I thought "of course, the kingdom is a kin-dom! It's about the FAMILY OF GOD!" Someone else might have seen it as a "typo" – but I saw it as something inspired, something deep and meaningful, and I told her so. And now, almost 20 years later, I still remember it.

All Creation Can Hardly Wait

Scripture tells us ALL CREATION is groaning for the children of God to be revealed. In the meantime, we are ravaging the planet Yehowah gave us. We are doing so many things that are hurting animals, even big elephants. We are wiping out much of the big cat family. We are polluting our air. King David says all creation will clap for joy when Yeshua returns and the children of God are revealed.

There is JOY when there is new birth!

John 3:5-8

Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and **that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.** 7 Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' 8 The **wind** blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. **So is everyone who is born of the spirit.**

Hebrews 2:10-12

10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in **bringing many sons to glory**, to make the captain of their salvation perfect

through sufferings. 11 **For both He who sanctifies [God] and those who are being sanctified [we] are all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren**, 12 saying:

"I will declare Your name to My brethren;
In the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You."

I think this is a very moving verse. IN spite of everything I've done, my Savior is not ashamed of me, or you.

So the new birth – in its total reality – is about to happen. The whole creation senses it! Can't wait for it!

Romans 8:18-23

18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is going to be revealed to us. **19 For the creation eagerly waits with anticipation for God's sons to be revealed.** 20 For the creation was subjected to futility—not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it—in the hope 21 that the creation itself will also be set free from the bondage of corruption into the glorious freedom of God's children. **22 For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together with labor pains until now.** 23 And not only that, but we ourselves who have the Spirit as the firstfruits—we also groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

Did you notice verse 22—labor pains. There is a birthing process for God's children about to be born again going on. The first children of God – called the firstfruits – are getting close to term in the pregnancy. Paul calls it "until Christ is formed in you" (Gal. 4:19).

King David says all creation will clap for joy when Yeshua returns and the children of God are revealed. I'll quote a few here but only refer to it in audio and you can read it on the transcript. But my point is, this planet and its inhabitants – including trees, wildlife and everything there is – are eager for the new world, the new rulership. On your own, read **Psalms 148:7-14, Isaiah 55:12; Isaiah 44:23** as well. Here's another one we can read:

1 Chronicles 16:31-33

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
And let them say among the nations, "YHVH reigns."
32 Let the sea roar, and all its fullness; *Let the field rejoice, and all that is in it.*
33 *Then the trees of the woods shall rejoice before the Lord,*
For He is coming to judge the earth.

Isaiah 55:12 says the mountains and hills will sing out with joy and the trees will clap their hands for joy when the new kingdom is set up on earth. Creation can't wait for this new time to come – and YOU are being called to play a part in this grand drama. You and I are being called to be on "the Ground Floor", the beginning, of this new Way on earth.

WHY we go through what we go through

When we really, really get it, then everything we're going thru – all the pain, all the suffering especially – suddenly have meaning. All the reasons why we're learning Torah, or God's word, suddenly come into sharp focus. **Scripture shows us the Way of the**

Family of God, of the Kingdom of God. It's even called "the WAY" in so many scriptures from beginning to end. Take out a concordance and look up "way" and you'll see what I mean. (Proverbs 2:20; 8:20; 2 Peter 2:21; Acts 19:9, 23; Acts 24:14, 22, etc.).

(Story) **Story** about the lost dog - - called it to me, called the owner – because that's what scripture says I'm supposed to do. (See **Deuteronomy 22:1-4**)

When one of my daughters who was normally very kind and gentle, when she was 3-4 yrs old or so, one of the other toddlers was bullying her, but she was bigger so she just stepped on his fingers to show who was boss. But I had to say to her: "Sweetheart, that's not the way the Shields behave. We don't purposely hurt people." So she stopped stepping on his fingers. I was teaching that God's children have a way of doing things that we all have to learn the rest of our lives.

Later, when she was older – maybe 6-7 yrs old, someone at school was bullying her so she baked some chocolate chip cookies, wrote a note to him that it really hurt her when he punched her "in the stomach, but I have made some cookies for you hoping you will stop." He couldn't read, so she had to read her own note – and the bullying stopped. She was learning the WAY of our Father Yehowah in the Highest.

So we study and pray so we can learn His WAY. Scripture shows us how. Early believers were called people of "the Way" – Acts 19:9, 23; 24:14, 22. Paul was looking for those who were of "the Way" (Acts 9:2).

A REAL KINGDOM

Right now we are waiting to be "born again" –as Yeshua describes in John 3, when we'll be like the wind, invisible. We are already "begotten" again, but not technically "born again" yet, according to Yeshua's words in John 3.

This 'kingdom of God' is a real kingdom – with real rulers, real territory, real laws, and so forth. It's not just an ethereal concept. This is SO important to grasp. For example:

- I think it's very likely that Abraham will be the main ruler under Yeshua in the millennium – over Gentiles and Israel. Over the whole world under Christ.
- **Then under Abraham I believe will be David over Israel, and possibly Daniel/Esther/Paul over the Gentiles,** as they certainly had that training. **Boaz and Ruth** might figure in here too – representing Gentiles and Israelites becoming as one. Everything God does is to bring people together, be "one". How? By forgiving and trusting what God is doing in one another. When we lose that trust, we lose the oneness.
- **David** is said to be the coming resurrected king over all Israel once again (Ezekiel 37:25). The House of Judah and the House of Israel will come together. There will once more have one king.

I do NOT subscribe at ALL to the idea that the 10 tribes that were lost to history are just all scattered among the Gentiles now, as many Hebrew Roots folks teach. If that were true, then what do you do with Genesis 49, talking about each of the tribes as

distinct peoples in the last days. I believe the 10 tribes include modern day Joseph which is the USA and UK/Canada/Australia/New Zealand for example. But that's for another time. How can prophecy not mention USA/UK – but mention Egypt, Sudan, Ethiopia and Iran (Persia)? It does speak of the USA, but *by the code words*. They are part of the so-called lost ten tribes. And much of Western Europe also is part of the lost ten tribes. But David, as a powerful resurrected son of God, will be their king.

- Under David will be the 12 apostles. Yeshua said so – they'll be judging the distinct tribes of Israel (NOT scattered and lost) ((**Matthew 19:28; Luke 22:30**)). Possibly the Gentile apostles who came later will be ruling Gentile nations under Daniel/Esther/Paul. Some speculation, but it does make some sense to me.

THE GROWING FAMILY

So back to this growing family of God. We know who “the patriarch” of this one family is – Yehowah-God the Father in the Highest.

Servants of the kingdom

Right now, ***the household servants of the family are ready. These are the powerful spirit ANGELS who remained loyal to Father. (Those who were disloyal are the demons.)*** Hebrews 1-2 make it clear that they have been sent to minister to, to serve, the family of God. In Hebrews 1, we see in the first verses how all things were created by Yeshua, and nowhere – Hebrews 1:5—does God invite angels to be his literal children. But Father did invite Yeshua to be the first born of *many* brothers (Romans 8:29).

Hebrews 1:13-14

13 But to which of the angels has He ever said:

"Sit at My right hand,

Till I make Your enemies Your footstool"?

14 Are they not all ***ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?***

And who will “inherit salvation”? *You will*, if you received and are led by God's spirit. You will have angels as your executive assistants to help you set up the kingdom of God on earth where you will be assigned. If you are understanding this, the chances are high that you are being groomed to be a child of God in the FIRST resurrection. This is such an opportunity.

If we read Hebrews 2, as we did last time, we see Yeshua is not ashamed of even me, even you, to be called His brother or sister! Imagine the King of kings is your brother!

I think this is very moving and we should be humbled by this. None of us deserves the grace of Yeshua or Father, but He gives us His grace anyway. His love and His grace are more powerful than our sin or the slander that goes against us for sins of our past. As we come to Passover, we just sit in awe when we consider: “how can the Almighty even consider taking a piece of dirt like me, or you, and somehow bring us into His very own divine family?” “Adam” comes from “adamah” – the dirt of the ground – from which he was made.

This is why we cry out for mercy and forgiveness, especially when we see the damage we have done by our sins. We hate our sins, we hate being tempted so easily. The spirit is

willing but the flesh is weak. Paul spoke of “that which I HATE, I do”. At least he hated sin and we must also. We come to the point we don’t want to sin anymore and hate ourselves when we do. We must come to where we hate to sin, don’t want to sin. God works with a broken and contrite spirit. If we’re still plotting, planning and desiring sin, we’re still very carnal and unconverted. MUCH repentance is still due.

We must come to the point where we wrestle all night with God in prayer, as our forefather Jacob did (Genesis 32:24-30). Yaakov said he would not let go until YHVH blessed Him. We must hold on to our Maker until He blesses us. Have you ever prayed all night? I recommend you hear my sermon “Repenting of what you ARE”. Each one God calls must be knocked off his high horse. We will all experience that. Sometimes Father uses our “loved ones” to knock us off our horse and it really hurts.

All we hold dear, has to be let go compared to how we feel about Messiah. Compared to what lies ahead everything we have – our family histories, our accomplishments, our intellect -- must be seen as so much “dung”.

As we come to Passover, we have to overcome. As we start deleavening our home, don’t forget the most important deleavening we have: deleavening our spiritual house. Our habits, our private sins, everything that doesn’t measure up to the Kingdom’s way.

I recommend you hear my sermon “Repenting of what we ARE”. **Each one God calls has to be brought to his knees and knocked off his high horse before Abba our dear Father can use that person.** Paul had to be, literally. Job had to come to abhor himself (Job 42:6). David was knocked down a few times. And you have been. I have been. **All we hold dear has to be set 2nd to Yeshua. We must let go** if that’s what it takes to follow our Master. Paul says in Philippians 3 that everything he’d ever built before, all his previous reputation, everything – was just so much dung compared to the glory that will be revealed in us, if we’re willing to give up our own works, our own way, our own ideas. Abraham had to learn it. All of us children of Abraham by faith will have our own versions of the test he faced with Isaac on Mt. Moriah (Genesis 22). Once God knows we WANT *His* way, and we give up our old way – then we’re on the road of humility and salvation. Father elevates the humble. Besides that, we must overcome. We still stumble sometimes, but we no longer WANT to sin. Like Paul, when we sin, we are doing something we now hate. But too often, we still like sin – if we are honest. We have to come to hate sin. Over time, we see more and more of what we really are and throw it off – for the holiness of Messiah.

This is good to think about as we come to Passover. As you start deleavening your home this year, be sure not to miss the most important deleavening. Check out my sermon on that. The most important deleavening is not our physical house – but our spiritual house. Our minds. Our thoughts. Our vanities and lusts.

We have to realize we can’t birth ourselves; we can’t get good enough ourselves to somehow ourselves “qualify” for the kingdom of God. Christ is the Way. HE is the *only* ticket into this kingdom. He is the only Way into it. “There is no other name under heaven by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12).

In Him, in Christ, we are saved. In Him we live and move and have our being – and in Him we have access into the kingdom of God.

We must repent deeply of what we are, and have done, and have been – and STOP living the wrong way!

What am I saying? ONLY OVERCOMERS are going to be born children of God. We cannot continue in adultery, in lying, in stealing, in our cruel gossip and slander. ALL THAT has to stop! And we CAN stop, we can overcome, by His spirit. And we MUST. To each of the 7 churches of Revelation 2-3, the rewards go to the overcomers! (Rev. 2:11—overcomers won't experience 2nd death; 2:17; 2:26; 3:5, 12, 21).

So we have to learn the Kingdom Way of life, and have it in our hearts, if we are to be real children of the Highest. That's what the Matthew 5-7 sermon was all about. How we relate to God and to each other. Your enemy treats you a certain way – we don't go step on their fingers. Then in Matthew 5:45 He says, "THAT you may be the children of your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:43-48). It's not enough to just claim we're saved and go on living the way we always have! I preach to myself too! That's not enough! Master says MANY will claim they preached and did many good things in his name, but he'll say He never knew them!

Matthew 7:21-23

21 "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. 22 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?' 23 And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

And when we see a brother or sister who used to be a certain way finally making some real changes, we need to encourage our brother/sister. *We need to believe in the power of the Holy Spirit to completely renew, rebirth and reprogram each of us to start living the Kingdom Way.* Many of us claim to know Yeshua but we deny His power to transform! Paul says in **2 Corinthians 5**, that we no longer see Yeshua just as He was – a flesh/blood man – but now a spirit in glory. In the same way he says, we need to see each other as NEW in Christ and quit treating one another as the person we used to be!

I'm going to have a sermon about **Rahab** and the other great women in Yeshua's lineage. I doubt you'll say – when you meet her in the resurrection – "Oh, you're Rahab the harlot". No, my family in God. ...No, she's Rahab the amazing woman of faith who became an ancestress of David – and then Messiah.

She changed, and we all have to change – if we are going to be in the kingdom of God, shining like the sun in full glory. But we MUST be overcomers. We MUST stop sinning. That's why we eat unleavened Bread – showing a change. This is why we wash feet, to acknowledge that Yeshua washed YOUR feet and you're clean.

So as we come to Passover season, we come soberly and gratefully for our high calling. We come humbly – realizing we have deserved death for our sins and yet He's calling us to be of His very own family. He offers His blood to cover ALL sin, all of it. We shouldn't be bringing up sins of long ago. We're not slanderers like Satan. My horrible sins require the same penalty for your sins, though maybe you don't see your sins as bad as mine. They all require the same payment: the blood of our Savior. When we drink of the cup at Passover, we are reminded of this. And so now we live for righteousness, not sin.

We become servants or slaves of righteousness (Romans 6:6-22) – but servants who WANT to please Him now. Read Romans 8:10-17 if you want more about how we are now indebted to live a new life.

So we come to Passover and drink of the Master's cup of wine. We also come to wash one another's feet – acknowledging what Master has already done. We see one another as new, as clean, as a new creation. Anything other than that, my brothers and sisters – is of the Devil. HE is the accuser of the brethren. Satan means "Adversary". "Devil" means "slanderer". So the Accuser who slanders – identifies who he and HIS family are. They are those who won't let people come together. They are those who think evil of one another and spread that evil slander. Children of the Highest, members of the house of Yehowah, we've been called to something much higher than that. We are children of the highest.

We also **come TOGETHER as one bread, as one body**... not the different factions we have today. We eat of the same bread, from the one bread at Passover to show our love and unity with one another and with Him. To remember we are parts of His one body and need one another. To remember we are to take Him in to our lives, HE is the Bread from heaven. In HIM we have oneness.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

May Yehowah bless you and keep you, and may His face SHINE when He thinks of you, and may He give you shalom, peace. And thus you shall place MY name on the children of Israel..." (and remember, if you are in Christ, you are part of spiritual Israel whether you are in Kenya, the Ukraine, China, or Britain!).

Until next time, this is Philip, your brother in our Messiah asking for blessings, peace and shalom to all of you as you walk in *His* light. Until next time.... Shalom and joy!

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(If you found this helpful and thought-provoking, let others know about this website and sermon. And I'd love to hear from you too. We all can use some encouragement.)