

21-What The Victorious Will Inherit

Except for the first eleven chapters of the book of Genesis, the **Old Testament** tells us about **the formation**, **the marriage**, **the downfall** and **the divorce** of the nation of Israel (the Hebrew Theocracy). The Hebrew Theocracy was Jehovah's second authorized agency to publish the good news of salvation to the people of this world. We find in Exodus 19:1-11 (God's Word Translation) that two months after the Israelites left Egypt the Lord used Moses as a go-between to make an oral contract between Himself and the nation of Israel. They both agreed to the terms of the contract. The Living God kept His end of the oral contract but the Israelites violated or **dishonored the contract** to which they agreed. Why is that important to us in these last days before Jesus Christ returns for the "Catching Up"? Because every member of every scriptural church that has ever been established, agreed to the terms of an oral contract between themselves and Jesus Christ when they received scriptural baptism and became a member of the scriptural church that authorized their baptism!

*"¹ Two months after the Israelites left Egypt, they came to the desert of Sinai. ² Israel had moved from Rephidim and had come into the desert of Sinai. They had set up camp there in front of the mountain. ³ Then Moses went up the mountain to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain, "This is what you must say to the descendants of Jacob. Tell the Israelites, ⁴ 'You have seen for yourselves what I did to Egypt and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to my mountain. ⁵ **If you carefully obey me and are faithful to the terms of my promise**, then out of all the nations **you will be my own special possession**, even though the whole world is mine. ⁶ **You will be my kingdom of priests and my holy nation.**' These are the words you must speak to the Israelites." ⁷ So Moses went down and called for the leaders of the people. He repeated to them all the words that the LORD had commanded him. ⁸ **All the people answered together, "We will do everything the LORD has said."** So Moses brought their answer back to the LORD. ⁹ The LORD said to Moses, "I am coming to you in a storm cloud so that the people will hear me speaking with you and will always believe you." Moses told the LORD what the people had said. ¹⁰ So the LORD said to Moses, "Go to the people, and tell them they have two days to get ready. They must set themselves apart as holy. Have them wash their clothes ¹¹ and be ready by the day after tomorrow. On that day the LORD will come down on Mount Sinai as all the people watch." That was the Lord's second authorized agency. If you would like to know about the first authorized agency, you may read the paper, "Are The People Of The O. T.*

Saved", on our website, <http://www.bayourouge.net>. Because the nation of Israel continued to violate or **dishonor the contract** to which they agreed, the Lord finally had to declare the contract null and void. .

Hosea 1:2-11 (King James Version)- " ² The beginning of the word of the LORD by Hosea. And the LORD said to Hosea, Go, take unto thee a wife of whoredoms and children of whoredoms: for the land hath committed great whoredom, departing from the LORD. ³ So he went and took Gomer the daughter of Diblaim; which conceived, and bare him a son. ⁴ And the LORD said unto him, Call his name Jezreel (**God will sow or scatter or disperse**); for yet a little while, and I will avenge the blood of Jezreel upon the house of Jehu, and will cause to cease the kingdom of the house of Israel. ⁵ And it shall come to pass at that day, that I will break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezreel. ⁶ And she conceived again, and bare a daughter. And God said unto him, Call her name Loruhamah (**I will have mercy and compassion no more**): for I will no more have mercy upon the house of Israel; but I will utterly take them away. ⁷ But I will have mercy upon the house of Judah, and will save them by the LORD their God, and will not save them by bow, nor by sword, nor by battle, by horses, nor by horsemen. ⁸ Now when she had weaned Loruhamah, she conceived, and bare a son. ⁹ Then said God, Call his name Loammi (**Not my people**): for ye are not my people, and I will not be your God. ¹⁰ Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be as the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured nor numbered; and it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, Ye are not my people, there it shall be said unto them, Ye are the sons of the living God. ¹¹ Then shall the children of Judah and the children of Israel be gathered together, and appoint themselves one head, and they shall come up out of the land: for great shall be the day of Jezreel."

Hosea 4:6 (King James Version)-" ⁶ My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that **thou shalt be no priest to me**: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children."

Hosea 5:15 (King James Version)-"¹⁵ I will go and return to my place, till they acknowledge their offence, and seek my face: in their affliction they will seek me early."

Hosea 9:15 (King James Version)-"¹⁵ All their wickedness is in Gilgal: for there I hated them: for the wickedness of their doings I will drive them out of mine house, I will love them no more: all their princes are revolvers."

Ezekiel recorded in chapter eight that one day the Lord appeared to him and said basically, "Ezekiel, come and see why I am going to do what I am about to do". **Ezekiel 8:6-18 (New American Bible-United States Conference of Catholic Bishops)-** " ⁶ Son of man, he asked me, do you see what they are doing? Do you see the great abominations that the house of Israel is practicing here, so that I must depart from my sanctuary? But you shall see still greater abominations! ⁷ Then he brought me to the entrance of the court, where I saw there was a hole in the wall. ⁸ Son of man, he ordered, dig through the wall. I dug through the wall and saw a door. ⁹ Enter, he said to me, and see the abominable evils which they are doing here. ¹⁰ I entered and saw that all around upon the wall were pictured the figures of all kinds of creeping things and loathsome beasts (all the idols of the house of Israel). ¹¹ Before these stood seventy of the elders of the house of Israel, among whom stood Jaazaniah, son of Shaphan, each of them with his censer in his hand, and the fragrance of the incense was rising upward. ¹² Then he said to me: Do you see, son of man, what each of these elders of the house of Israel is doing in his idol room? They think: "The LORD cannot see us; the LORD has forsaken the land." ¹³ He continued: You shall see still greater abominations that they are practicing. ¹⁴ Then he brought me to the entrance of the north gate of the temple, and I saw sitting there the women who were weeping for Tammuz. ¹⁵ Then he said to me: Do you see this, son of man? You shall see other abominations, greater than these! ¹⁶ Then he brought me into the inner court of the LORD'S house, and there at the door of the LORD'S temple, between the vestibule and the altar, were about twenty-five men with their backs to the LORD'S temple and their faces toward the east; they were bowing down to the sun (having an Ishtar sunrise service on Ishtar day). ¹⁷ Do you see, son of man? he asked me. Is it such a trivial matter for the house of Judah to do the abominable things they have done here--for they have filled the land with violence, and again and again they have provoked me--that now they must also put the branch to my nose? ¹⁸ Therefore I in turn will act furiously: I will not look upon them with pity nor will I show mercy." Ezekiel 8:6-18

Ezekiel 9:3 (Douay-Rheims Version, New Catholic Edition - " ³ And the glory of the Lord of Israel went up from the cherub, upon which he was, **to the threshold of the house:** and he called to the man that was clothed with linen, and had a writer's inkhorn at his loins." Ezekiel 9:3

Ezekiel 10:18-19 (*New American Bible-United States Conference of Catholic Bishops*)- ¹⁸ *And the glory of the Lord went forth from the threshold of the temple: and stood over the cherubims. ¹⁹ And the cherubims lifting up their wings, were raised from the earth before me: and as they went out, the wheels also followed: and it stood in the entry of the east gate of the house of the Lord: and the glory of the God of Israel was over them."*

Ezekiel 11:22-23(*New American Bible-United States Conference of Catholic Bishops*)- ²² *And the cherubims lifted up their wings, and the wheels with them: and the glory of the God of Israel was over them. ²³ And the glory of the Lord went up from the midst of the city, and stood over the mount that is on the east side of the city."* Please remember that it was on this same mountain that the church in Jerusalem met on the day of Pentecost and were immersed in the sevenfold power of the Holy Spirit or the glory of the Lord.

Almost all of the **New Testament**, describes (1) the life, the earthly ministry and the death of the promised Messiah and also (2) the formation and the early ministry of the future Bride of Jesus Christ, that is, **the institution** or composite of all the local, scriptural churches combined. The New Testament also contains the call, the terms of the contract, the organization, the training, the authorization, the commissioning and the empowering of another group to be His priests from the time of His earthly ministry to the time of the "Catching Up" (the Rapture). Those in that group were the third authorized agency to publish the good news of salvation to the people of this world.

The New Testament also tells us about the ministry of the restored Jewish Theocracy which will take place, sometime after that event we call "the Catching Up" (please see the valley of dry bones in Ezekiel, chapter 37). The New Testament also contains instructions sent to Jesus Christ's local, scriptural churches as well as the authorization of those saved ones (the friends of the Bridegroom) who are not a member of a local, scriptural church. ¹⁶ *"I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star."* ¹⁷ *(1) And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And (2) let him who hears say, "Come!" And (3) let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely."* Revelation 22:16-17 (*New King James Version*)

In Revelation, chapters 21 and 22, Jesus Christ revealed to John that a New Earth would be created where the saved will live for eternity. The New Earth will be a heavenly place but it will not be the Throne Room of the Living God that now exists (Revelation 4:1-14). **Please**

remember that sin has entered the Throne Room because Satan continues to visit there in order to accuse the saved (Revelation 12:10), so the Throne Room must also be destroyed as well as the οὐρανός (pronounced "oo-ran-os" in English). The Complete Word Study Dictionary tells us that the οὐρανός (pronounced "oo-ran-os" in English) is the over-arching, all-embracing canopy, beneath which is the earth and all that is therein. In this, not only do the fowl of the air fly (Matt. 6:26), but the clouds are suspended (Matt. 24:30; 26:64) and the rain is formed (James 5:18). Also the sun, moon and stars are placed in the same celestial expanse (Mark 13:25).

Where will the saved who are "caught up" go after that event that most people call "the Rapture"? The answer is, the Third Heaven. The saved will only be in the Third Heaven, the Throne Room of the Living God, during the seven years of the Great Tribulation. There are two notable events those who are "caught up" will attend. First we will appear before the Bama Seat or the Reward Seat and we will find out what rewards (if any) we will receive. Then, sometime during the seven years, we will attend the Marriage Supper of the Lamb as either part of the Bride of Christ or as a wedding guest like John the Baptist will be.

Then the saved will come back with Jesus Christ to live on a reconstructed earth during Jesus Christ's Millennial reign. About 1,000 years later, (a) the present Throne Room of God and (b) the οὐρανός (pronounced "oo-ran-os" in English) will be destroyed by fire. Peter, described the destruction in 2nd Peter 3:8-15, " ⁸ *But there is one thing, dear friends, which you must not forget. With the Lord one day resembles a thousand years and a thousand years resemble one day.* ⁹ *The Lord is not slow in fulfilling His promise, in the sense in which some men speak of slowness. But He bears patiently with you, His desire being that no one should perish but that all should come to repentance.* ¹⁰ *The day of the Lord will come like a thief—it will be a day on which the heavens will pass away with a rushing noise, the elements be destroyed in the fierce heat, and the earth and all the works of man be utterly burnt up.* ¹¹ *Since all these things are thus pre-destined to dissolution, what sort of men ought you to be found to be in all holy living and godly conduct,* ¹² *eagerly looking forward to the coming of the day of God, by reason of which the heavens, all ablaze, will be destroyed, and the elements will melt in the fierce heat?* ¹³ *But in accordance with His promise we are expecting new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness will dwell.* ¹⁴ *Therefore, dear friends, since you have these expectations, earnestly seek to be found in His presence, free from blemish or reproach, in*

peace.¹⁵ *And always regard the patient forbearance of our Lord as salvation, as our dear brother Paul also has written to you in virtue of the wisdom granted to him."*

The wedding guests will find themselves witnesses at the White Throne Judgment and the members of Christ's Bride will find themselves judges at the White Throne Judgment. Paul wrote to **the members of Christ's local, scriptural, New Testament churches** and admonished, "¹ *Is anyone of you who has a case against another daring to be going to law before those who are unrighteous and not before the saints? Or, do you not all know that the saints shall judge the world system? And in view of the fact that the world system is being judged by you, are you those who are unfit to sit on the tribunal of a judge where trifling affairs are judged? **Do you not know that we shall sit in judgment upon angels, to say nothing at all of judging the affairs of this life?** Therefore, if you may be having courts, those who are least esteemed and of the most humble station **in the local assembly**, seat these on the judge's bench. I am saying this to you with a view to arousing your sense of shame. Is it thus, that you do not have one **among you** who is wise, who will be able to arbitrate between brother and brother? But brother goes to law with brother, and this before unbelievers. Nay! It is already a total defeat for you, having lawsuits with one another. Why do you not permit yourselves rather to be wronged? Why do you not permit yourselves rather to be defrauded? But, as for yourselves, you are committing wrong, and you are defrauding, and doing this to brethren. Or do you not know that unrighteous individuals **will not inherit God's kingdom**? Stop being deceived; neither fornicators nor idolaters nor adulterers nor those who are of a voluptuous nature, given to the gratification of sensual, immoral appetites, neither men who are guilty of sexual intercourse with members of their own sex, nor thieves, nor those who are always greedy to have more than they possess, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, **shall inherit God's kingdom**. And these things you were, certain ones of you. But you bathed yourselves clean, but you were set apart for God, but you were made righteous in the Name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God." 1 Corinthians 6:1-11 (Wuest New Testament: An Expanded Translation)*

God's kingdom that is referred to in 1 Corinthians 6:1-11 (printed above) is **not** the Family of God (the Kingdom of the Saved) but rather, to the institution or composite of all the local, scriptural churches combined. **How do we know?** **Because it is still possible** for fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, those who are of a voluptuous nature, those who are given to the gratification of sensual, immoral appetites, men who are guilty of sexual intercourse with

members of their own sex, thieves, those who are always greedy to have more than they possess, drunkards, revilers, or extortionist to become members of the Family of God if they repent of their sins and ask Jesus Christ to pay their sin debt.

After the White Throne Judgment, the Lord will create a new over-arching, all-embracing οὐρανός (pronounced "oo-ran-os" in English). Beneath that new over-arching, all-embracing canopy will be the New Earth and all that will be therein. It is only after the creation of the New Earth that the **unoccupied** Holy City Jerusalem will come down just as Jesus Christ had promised the members of His local, scriptural, New Testament churches He would prepare for them. Jesus Christ gave this promise to His disciples while they were still in the upper room the night He was arrested. Please note that Jesus Christ knew what was about to happen but He did not invite the disciples of John the Baptist to be in the upper room with His disciples even though they were saved just as His disciples were saved! WHY? **No**, we do not intend to explain why because you should be able to figure that out for yourself through the leadership of the Holy Spirit!!! ASK HIM!!!

"¹ "Don't be troubled. Believe in God, and believe in me. ² My Father's house has many rooms. If that were not true, would I have told you that I'm going to prepare a place for you? ³ If I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again. Then I will bring you into my presence so that you will be where I am." John 14:1-3 (God's Word Translation)

*"²² After this Jesus and His disciples went into Judaea; and there He made a stay in company with them and baptized. ²³ And John too was baptizing at Aenon, near Salim, because there were many pools of water there; and people came and received baptism. ²⁴ (For John was not yet in prison.) ²⁵ As the result, a discussion having arisen on the part of John's disciples with a Jew about purification, ²⁶ they came to John and reported to him, "Rabbi, he who was with you on the other side of the Jordan and to whom you bore testimony is now baptizing, and great numbers of people are resorting to him." ²⁷ "A man cannot obtain anything," replied John, "unless it has been granted to him from Heaven. ²⁸ You yourselves can bear witness to my having said, 'I am not the Christ,' but 'I am His appointed forerunner.' ²⁹ He who has **the bride** is the bridegroom; and **the bridegroom's friend** who stands by his side and listens to him, rejoices heartily on account of the bridegroom's happiness. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete." John 3:22-29 (Weymouth New Testament)*

The Holy City Jerusalem will be where the Bride of Christ will live with Jesus Christ for eternity, surrounded by the other nations of saved people mentioned in the latter part of Revelation, chapter 21. Also, please note that the Bible teaches that the Holy City Jerusalem will have streets of gold. The Bible does not teach that there will be streets of gold outside the Holy City Jerusalem. " ¹ Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. ² I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴ 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.'" ⁵ He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶ He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. ⁷ Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children. ⁸ But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—they will be consigned to the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death." Revelation 21:1-8 (New International Version)

" ²¹ And the twelve gates are twelve pearls, each of the gates is a single pearl, and **the street of the city is pure gold, transparent as glass.** ²² I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory **into** it. ²⁵ Its **gates** will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶ People will bring **into** it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷ But nothing unclean **will enter it**, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life." Revelation 21:21-27 (New Revised Standard Version)

" ⁴ For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope." Romans 15:4 (New King James Version)

Yes, for some of us, the best is yet to come!

You are welcome to correspond with us.

Robert Tanner. The Living Water group on Face Book