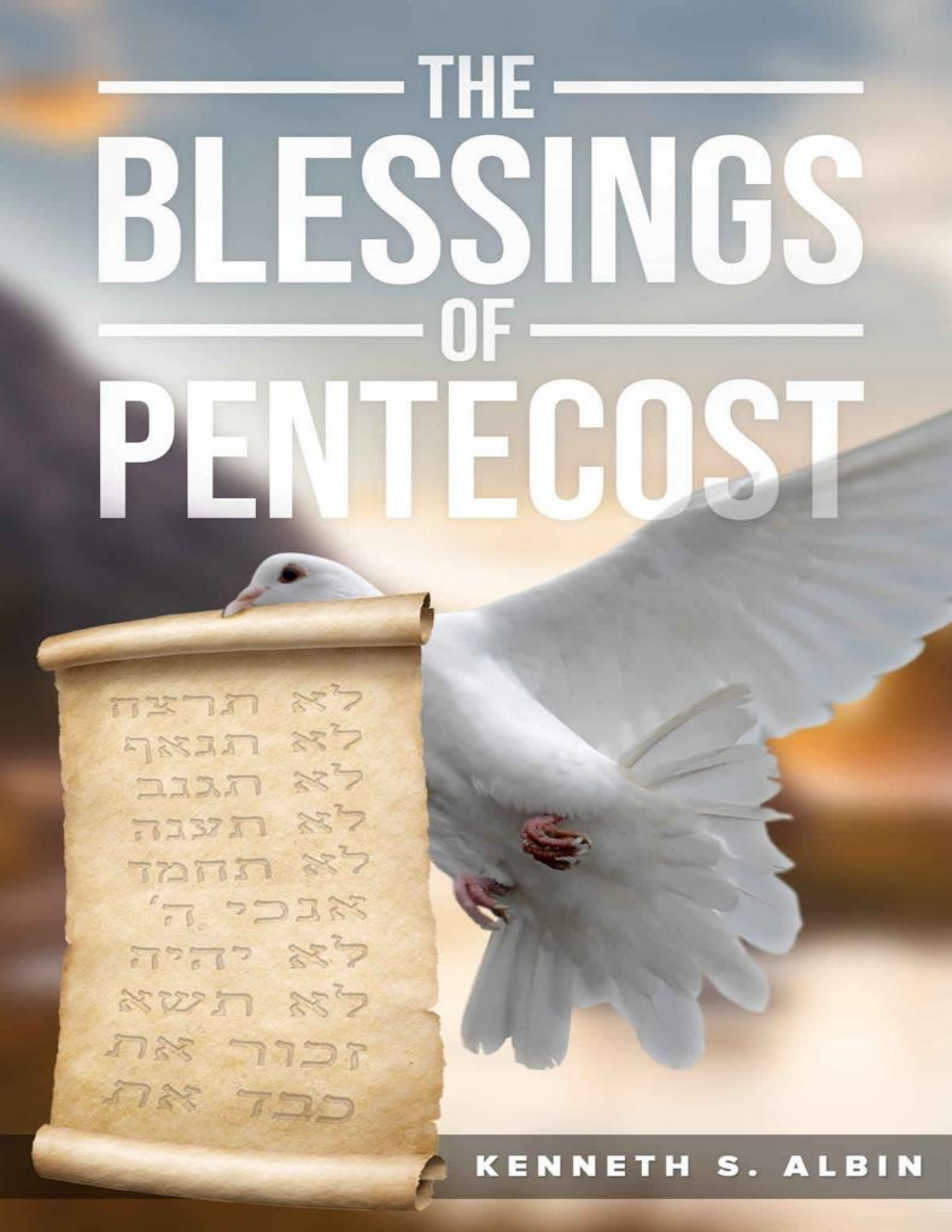
THE BLESSINGS OF PENTECOST



KENNETH S. ALBIN

THE BLESSINGS OF PENTECOST

How Christians Get to Celebrate & Receive its Abundant Blessings

By

Kenneth S. Albin

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For more information about Kenneth S. Albin

www.savethenations.com
www.hitthemarktorah.tv

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INTRODUCTION

You might be reading this book because, like me, you have been on a journey to learn more about the roots of the Christian Faith. Although I grew up in a conservative Jewish home as a child, went to Hebrew School for four years and was Bar Mitzvah at the age of thirteen, I never really understood the meaning or purpose of my Judaism.

When I was fifteen, a radical change took place in my life; I gave my life to Jesus as my Messiah and Lord. At the time I didn't connect at all the Jewishness of Jesus and what that really meant. I heard that Jesus came to save sinners and to die for the world, so that's what I did.

I knew from a child that God had some kind of call on my life, so when I married a preacher's daughter, I was on a track to become Christian pastor.

One year my wife made me go to Israel. I went kicking and screaming because I did not associate my Jesus and Christian walk with the land of the Bible. Needless to say, while on the plane, as I watched a video of Jewish men dancing, I began to cry uncontrollably as I felt a Voice say to me, "Ken, this is who you are and you will reach my people".

After my trip I began to be more open to my Hebraic Roots and began to look at the Bible a little differently. My eyes began to be opened, but it wasn't until just recently in 2017 that I began to do more than just talk about the roots of the faith. I began to live them, teach them and slowly transition my church into being open to the truth of the Word, regardless if we realized we had been doing things that were not right and out of lack of knowledge. The process is still going on as we have kept, for the first time, Hanukkah, Purim, Passover, First Fruits, Unleavened Bread, and we just counted down to Pentecost.

When we celebrate these as Bible-believing, Holy Spirit-led, faith-filled

Christians, we don’t make, force or make anyone feel uncomfortable for not doing them. We simply tell our people that we don’t have to do these things; we get to do them because God, in His mercy and grace, has grafted us in to the one Tree. We are Abraham’s seed by faith in Jesus and get all the blessings and benefits of the covenant God has made with the House of Israel and the House of Judah.

If you want to know more about these, please read my book, “Hacked: The Hebrew Christian”. It will give you a great foundation of what Jesus came for and what your true identity and inheritance is because of what He did!

As we begin our study of Pentecost, many of you might be familiar with the day of Pentecost in the book of Acts. Many in the Christian Church simply see that day as when the Holy Spirit came to empower the disciples, but they don’t know the real significance of this special time as taught from the insight of our Hebraic roots.

As you read this, take the time to meditate on the Scriptures and allow the Spirit of Pentecost to move upon you and stir you into deeper waters. Ask the Holy Spirit to teach you and guide you into all truth. He has something more for you. He wants to be your Teacher and Guide, so learn to lean back and rest as you trust Him to carry you on the river of His love.

Thank you for taking time to read. I believe the Holy Spirit will take these words and make them life and revelation to you in Yeshua-Jesus’ name. Amen!

CHAPTER ONE:

Pentecost is a Time of Process

In our springtime, there are four appointed feasts of the Lord. They are known as God's moedim. They are special times God has put in His divine calendar from the beginning of creation to meet with His people.

God has set aside time to meet with us, but we must be intentional and set our calendars to sync with His.

If the God of the universe thought so much of me as to set a time in His schedule to see me, than I want to be available, willing and ready to meet with Him, too. You see, the blessing of God is conditional. We can't do what we want, when we want and then expect God to bless what we are doing. I love the statement, "God, don't bless what I am doing, but let me be a part of what You are blessing!"

I heard that growing up from my wife's grandfather who we called "Papa Woody". He loved Jesus and won so many souls with his genuine heart and simple gospel, "God is a good God and He wants to bless you"

One key to being in God's blessings is being in alignment with His Word. I have been praying for two years about being in Divine Alignment with God's Divine Assignment. God's calendar is something He has already set in motion in His sovereignty. When we by faith and in the right spirit just show up, the blessings will flow!

Did you know that on the first Pentecost at Mount Sinai, God gave those mixed multitude His Torah law & instructions? That's right! All who were there heard God speak as the fire was present along with God's voice. It was a powerful time, but unfortunately many who received the Word did not want to hear God for themselves much longer. They instead told Moses to go up for

them and “Whatever God says we will do.” In the Hebrew understanding, they actually were saying a good thing: “Hey God, before You even tell us what You are going to say, we will obey it!” But because the hearts of the people were not right, they could not actually do what they told God.

Pentecost is the English term for the Hebrew word *Shavuot*. Both mean “the number fifty”. This celebration is also called the feast of the first fruit of wheat, feast of weeks and feast of harvest. Try not to be confused. It’s all the same holiday.

One thing that is unique about Pentecost is that it kind of serves as a bridge between Passover, which marks a new spiritual year, and continues to connect the season until the day of Pentecost, which concludes the spring feasts of the Lord. This is the fourth and the middle of the seven feasts, which include the three latter feasts that will come in the fall.

From the time of the first fruit offering, or the resurrection of Jesus, and the day of Pentecost, there are 50 days. Biblically these days are divided into seven weeks of seven days plus one. On the first fruits an offering of barley was given to the Lord. This feast and appointed time was confirmed by the resurrection of Jesus who rose three days after Passover on the first fruits of the barley harvest.

The barley harvest has to do with the unleavened bread feast, while wheat is for the harvest of first fruits during Pentecost. Both have unique meanings.

Barley is a food commonly given to animals and it has the connotation that, in man, our lower passions and desires must be given back to God so He can empower us to live by His Spirit and not our fleshly desires. Jesus overcame every temptation and was our example that every one of us can overcome though Him.

Hebrews 4:15-16

For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all *points* tempted as *we are, yet* without sin. [16] Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

James 1:13-15

Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am tempted by God”; for God cannot

be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. [14] But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. [15] Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.

Hebrews 2:18 WNT

For inasmuch as He has Himself felt the pain of temptation and trial, He is also able instantly to help those who are tempted and tried.

On Passover we are born again and come out of the darkness and slavery of Egypt. During the Feast of Unleavened Bread our sin like Christ; it is buried to have no more dominion over us.

Colossians 1:13-14

He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed *us* into the kingdom of the Son of His love, [14] in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

1 Peter 1:22-25

Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever.

Passover is more than just the ending of slavery; it is an invitation to worship God in spirit and in truth. As we countdown from the first fruit of barley to Pentecost, there are seven Sabbaths and fifty days. It is during this time that we will be on God's growth plan. We will be in a time of preparation and process. This is God's plan and His idea. All you have to do is make it personal by faith, and when this season comes, just show up!

Leviticus 23:15-16

And you shall count for yourselves from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering (first fruits): seven Sabbaths shall be completed. [16] Count fifty days to the day after the seventh Sabbath; then you shall offer a new grain offering to the Lord.

The "new grain" is the first fruit offering of the wheat harvest. In this Scripture, we see that we are to count for ourselves these 50 days or seven

Sabbaths! Why is the counting so important for us? If seven is the number of completion, rest and perfection, could it be possible that the seven Sabbaths point to something in the future? You better believe it does! We will look at this later. For now I want you to see the journey from Passover to Pentecost is to prepare you for God's living Word and His Holy Spirit.

The Torah (God's instructions on how to live) was given on Pentecost to Moses. On the Day of Pentecost in the book of Acts, God will take that Word and do something that had never been done until that day. The Jews call the fifty days "the counting of the Omer", which is a dry measurement. It is not really about counting a measure of wheat, but the process of preparation for receiving God's instructions and His living Torah.

Philippians 2:12-16 TLV

Therefore, my loved ones, just as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now even more in my absence—work out your salvation with fear and trembling. 13 For the One working in you is God—both to will and to work for His good pleasure. 14 Do everything without grumbling or arguing, 15 so that you might be blameless and innocent, children of God in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation Among them you shine as lights in the world, 16 holding fast to the word of life, so that I may boast in the day of Messiah that I did not run or labor in vain.

During the time from Passover to Pentecost, we are to count each day as a day we draw closer to God and further away from the world. These 50 days are a time of preparation, purification and process. We must be aware during this time that it is very possible and likely you will be tempted to go back to the ways and food of Egypt.

Exodus 15:22-25

So Moses brought Israel from the Red Sea; then they went out into the Wilderness of Shur. And they went three days in the wilderness and found no water. 23 Now when they came to Marah, they could not drink the waters of Marah, for they *were* bitter. Therefore the name of it was called Marah24 And the people complained against Moses, saying, "What shall we drink?" 25 So he cried out to the Lord, and the Lord showed him a tree. When he cast *it* into the waters, the waters were made sweet.

The tree is symbolic of the cross that heals the bitter waters and gives us

sweet water to sustain us. It is during that time that God told Israel to keep His commandments so that even the diseases of Egypt are healed. “For I *am* the Lord who heals you.””

Now look what happens after just one month in the wilderness.

Exodus 16:2-3

Then the whole congregation of the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. 3 And the children of Israel said to them, “Oh, that we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat *and* when we ate bread to the full! For you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

When the people complained God was merciful and sent them manna from heaven to eat.

Exodus 16:4-5, 35-37

Then the Lord said to Moses, “Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you. And the people shall go out and gather a certain quota every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in My law or not. 5 And it shall be on the sixth day that they shall prepare what they bring in, and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily. 35 And the children of Israel ate manna forty years, until they came to an inhabited land; they ate manna until they came to the border of the land of Canaan. 36 Now an omer *is* one-tenth of an ephah.

The countdown from Passover to Pentecost is where you are reminded it is God who will sustain and provide for you whether you are in the wilderness or the Promised Land.

In the wilderness the children of Israel did not provide for themselves, for they were carried and nurtured by God Himself. Unfortunately, the children of Israel, like many of us at times, were not grateful and appreciative of the blessings. They wanted more and they were longing for the comforts of Egypt since they had become accustomed to their ways.

During the preparation purification, process we must learn not to complain, but be thankful for the One who is our Passover redemption, and also to the One who will continue to work His will and pleasure in us.

Exodus 17: 3-7

And the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses, and said, "Why *is* it you have brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?"[4] So Moses cried out to the Lord, saying, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me!" [5] And the Lord said to Moses, "Go on before the people, and take with you some of the elders of Israel. Also take in your hand your rod with which you struck the river, and go. [6] Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock in Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it, that the people may drink." And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel. [7] So he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah because of the contention of the children of Israel, and because they tempted the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

Can you see that even though Israel came out of Egypt, Egypt was still in them? Egypt was alive and well and Egypt's culture was still manifesting itself by not believing in the One who redeemed them and continued to give them miracles. This is why we are in a process, we are delivered from sin through the blood of Jesus, but the ways of Egypt and the world are still imbedded in us. We must get free of its mindsets and culture.

Massah: testing, temptation

Massah has to do with the barley, which depicts the temptation of man to be like a beast or live like an animal that does not submit or have a spirit. Temptation is yielded to by the soul and flesh. Jesus told His disciples not to yield to temptation, but to pray it through!

Matthew 26:41

Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed *is* willing, but the flesh *is* weak

Massah is also a physical desert place. Jesus was tempted in the desert and we will also be tempted while in our desert and dry places of life.

Meribah: Strife, contention, murmuring

Meribah was a desert place where water came out of the rock when Moses struck the rock in obedience to God's command. *Meribah* reminds us that

on our journey through the desert of life, Jesus is our Living Water! *Living water* has to do with Pentecost. The *living water* has to do with the Holy Spirit who took a more active role on the earth when He came into the upper room on the day of Pentecost in the book of Acts. We will take a look at this *living water* in Pentecost a little later.

Psalm 106:32-33 GNT—

At the springs of Meribah the people made the Lord angry,
and Moses was in trouble on their account. 33 They made him so bitter that he spoke without stopping to think.

Psalm 106 actually says "the waters of Meribah, Meribah"; another double of two words signifying that the temptation of strife and contention was multiplied exponentially. Moses rebelled against God's commandment because he allowed that strife and contention to dominate his flesh.

This Scripture unveils Moses heart and motivation for striking the rock when God told him to speak to it. He was so bitter he did not think with his head, but allowed the lower nature of his emotions and feelings to rule him rather than God's instructions. He missed the mark so greatly it forfeited him entrance to the Promised Land.

It seems Moses allowed his heel to get over his head and we must understand, during the countdown of the seven Sabbaths and seven weeks, we must allow God to process and refine us so we don't allow the temptation to overcome us.

Numbers 27:14 TLV

For in the wilderness of Zin during the strife of the community, you both rebelled against My Word instead of honoring Me as holy at the waters before their eyes." (These were the waters of Meribah at Kadesh in the wilderness of Zin.)

Moses was never allowed into the Promised Land because of this sin of rebellion. He would see the Promised Land with only his eyes. This is because during the process he allowed the rebellion of the people to contaminate him. He did not fully obey God. When he was told to speak to the rock for the water to flow, instead, in his anger, he struck it twice.

His actions had to do with Christ on the cross that would only be punished only one time for our sin, not twice. Because of Jesus the process we are in is not one of beating, but speaking and hearing the instructions as the way to life and blessing. The Torah is not so much a law as it is a way to hit the mark in life. It is God's instructions that bring life, health and good to the people He loves.

When you begin a countdown to Pentecost, you begin a journey to not allow the enemy to have a legal right for you to surrender what God has purposed for you! These fifty days of counting to Pentecost are days of purification, preparation and process. It is a time when you are continuing to get the systems of the world and spiritual Egypt out of your mind and heart. This is also a season where you will be tempted, like Israel, and like Jesus who overcame by declaring what was already written.

When you are in the process of the countdown to Pentecost, the enemy might, at times, seem like he is on your heels, but remember that Jesus crushed Satan's head with His heels and defeated the enemy.

With any temptation God has promised a way to escape and be victorious. Temptation is only an indicator that God has victory for us, His people, and the ones He has engraved on His hands.

Now let the countdown begin!

Joshua 14:14-15ESV

"Now therefore fear the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. 15 And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

Make your confession to be like Joshua, "But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." The real Pentecost begins fifty days earlier from the time of Jesus' resurrection and the offering of the barley as a first fruit.

As we continue, we will begin to weave many Scriptures together from both testaments so you can see that the Pentecost in the book of Acts was not an ending, but a new beginning.

Please make sure you say “yes” to being in process. This is a specific season. Even though you might say we are always in process, the countdown of the fifty days and seven Sabbaths have special significance. Let’s continue.

CHAPTER ONE:

Personal or Small Group Study

"God, don't _____ what I am doing, but let me be a part of what You are _____!"

One key to being in God's blessings is being in _____ with His _____.

The barley harvest has to do with the unleavened bread feast, while _____ is for the harvest of first fruits during _____.

James 1:13-15

Let no one say when he is _____, "I am _____ by God"; for God cannot be _____ by evil, nor does He Himself _____anyone.

During the time from Passover to Pentecost, we are to count each day as a day we draw _____ to God and further away from the _____. These 50 days are a time of _____, purification and _____.

The tree is _____ of the cross that heals the _____ waters and gives us _____ water to sustain us.

The countdown from Passover to Pentecost is where you are reminded it is God who will _____and _____ for you whether you are in the _____ or the _____ Land.

The _____ is not so much a law as it is a way to _____ the mark in life. It is God's _____that bring _____, _____ and _____ to the people He loves.

What are some things that the enemy will use to make you bitter and miss mark that God has for you? Please describe a time you know this happened to you.

_____

When you begin a countdown to Pentecost, you begin a journey to not allow the enemy to have a _____ right for you to _____ what God has _____ for you!

Joshua 14:14 ESV

Put away the _____ that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and _____ the Lord.

“But as for _____ and my house, we will _____ the Lord.”

CHAPTER TWO:

The Countdown Begins!

I want to give you a brief understanding of what the Sabbath is and why we count seven Sabbaths until Pentecost. One of the most obvious reasons we count the Sabbaths is because ultimately the Sabbath is the seventh day, but it actually means "to cease or to rest". It is the finished cycle of creation and God's invitation to rest and be refreshed with Him.

Exodus 23:12

"Six days do your work, but on the seventh day do not work, so that your ox and your donkey may rest, and so that the slave born in your household and the foreigner living among you may be refreshed.

Exodus 31:13

"Speak also to the children of Israel, saying: 'Surely My Sabbaths you shall keep, for it *is* a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that *you* may know that I *am* the Lord who sanctifies you.

Exodus 31:17

It *is* a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever; for *in* six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed.'"

The word for refreshed in Hebrew is *niphal* which means "to be refreshed". It actually means "to take a breath or to refresh oneself".

Exodus 20:8-12 NKJV

"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. **9** Six days you shall labor and do all your work, **10** but the seventh day *is* the Sabbath of the Lord your God. *In it* you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who *is* within your gates. **11** For *in* six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea,

and all that *is* in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.

Notice the Lord blessed the Sabbath day for all of mankind before there was any Israel.

Nehemiah 9:13-14

"You came down also on Mount Sinai, And spoke with them from heaven, And gave them just ordinances and true laws, Good statutes and commandments. **14** You made known to them Your holy Sabbath, And commanded them precepts, statutes and laws, By the hand of Moses Your servant.

Strangers and foreigners who join to Israel would keep the Sabbath and receive great blessing. This was a type of what happens when Gentiles accept Yeshua-Jesus and become children of God. The blessing of being "better than sons and daughters" has to with the greater blessing of being in Christ and the better covenant because of Him.

Isaiah 56:3-8

Do not let the son of the foreigner Who has joined himself to the Lord Speak, saying, "The Lord has utterly separated me from His people"; Nor let the eunuch say, "Here I am, a dry tree." **4** For thus says the Lord: "To the eunuchs who keep My Sabbaths, And choose what pleases Me, And hold fast My covenant, **5** Even to them I will give in My house And within My walls a place and a name Better than that of sons and daughters; I will give them[a] an everlasting name That shall not be cut off. **6** "Also the sons of the foreigner Who join themselves to the Lord, to serve Him, And to love the name of the Lord, to be His servants— Everyone who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, And holds fast My covenant— **7** Even them I will bring to My holy mountain, And make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices *Will be* accepted on My altar; For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations." **8** The Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, says, "Yet I will gather to him *Others* besides those who are gathered to him."

Jesus referenced the Sabbath would be in effect at the beginning of the tribulation:

Matthew 24:20 AMP

Pray that your flight [from persecution and suffering] will not be in winter, or

on a Sabbath [when Jewish laws prohibit travel].

Isaiah 66:22-23

"For as the new heavens and the new earth Which I will make shall remain before Me," says the Lord, "So shall your descendants and your name remain. **23** And it shall come to pass *That* from one New Moon to another, And from one Sabbath to another, All flesh shall come to worship before Me," says the Lord.

In the New Testament we will find that many of Jesus' miracles were done on the Sabbath and the church met on the Sabbath. Why? There is a special blessing that God has appointed for that day.

Leviticus 19:30 NKJV

'You shall keep My Sabbaths and reverence My sanctuary: I *am* the Lord.

Leviticus 23:3A

'Six days shall work be done, but the seventh day *is* a Sabbath of solemn rest, a holy convocation.

Convocation: something called out, i.e. a public meeting (the act, the persons, or the place); also a rehearsal:—assembly, calling, convocation, reading.

- Root meaning: To summon, to invite, to call, appoint or commission.

- Sabbath is a time for God's people to gather and assemble together.

2 Chronicles 8:12

Then Solomon offered burnt offerings to the Lord on the altar of the Lord which he had built in front of the porch [of the temple], 13 a certain number every day, offering them up as Moses commanded for the Sabbaths, the New Moons, and the three annual feasts—the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the Feast of Weeks, and the Feast of Booths (Tabernacles).

- Offerings to the Lord were given on the Sabbath.

1 Corinthians 16:12 Jubilee 2000

Each first (*one, certain*) sabbath let each one of you set aside in store, as God has prospered him, that there be no collections when I come.

- First could also mean on “one” Sabbath or “certain” Sabbath

- We are to worship God and be thankful on Sabbath

Psalm 92:1 NKJV

A Song for the Sabbath day. *It is* good to give thanks to the LORD, And to sing praises to Your name, O Most High

Luke 13:13-16 AMP

Then He laid His hands on her; and immediately she stood erect again and she *began* glorifying *and* praising God. 14 But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, *began* saying to the crowd in response, “There are six days in which work ought to be done; so come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day.” 15 But the Lord replied to him, “You hypocrites (play-actors, pretenders)! Does not each one of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the stall and lead it away to water it? 16 And this woman, a daughter (descendant) of Abraham whom Satan has bound for eighteen long years, should she not have been released from this bond on the Sabbath day?”

- According to Jesus, the Sabbath is a day you can expect healing and deliverance from satanic bondage!

Isaiah 58:13-14 WEB

“If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on my holy day and call the Sabbath a delight, and the holy of Yahweh honorable and shall honor it, not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking your own words: 14 then you shall delight yourself in Yahweh; and I will make you to ride on the high places of the earth; and I will feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father:” for Yahweh’s mouth has spoken it.

There are so many blessings when we honor the Sabbath, they are almost

too numerable to name. It is the seventh day that God has set aside for us to meet with Him, with His people and for us to be refreshed, restored and healed. Thank God now for His Sabbath! He made the Sabbath to bless you!

As we begin the countdown we can now get the concept of Sabbath as the seventh day and that Pentecost is a counting of seven times seven. We are to count for ourselves seven Sabbaths! Then on the day after the seventh Sabbath we can offer God the first fruit of the appointed new season of harvest of wheat.

Leviticus 23:15-17

‘And you shall count for yourselves from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering: seven Sabbaths shall be completed. **16** Count fifty days to the day after the seventh Sabbath; then you shall offer a new grain offering to the Lord. **17** You shall bring from your dwellings two wave *loaves* of two-tenths *of an ephah*. They shall be of fine flour; they shall be baked with leaven. *They are* the firstfruits to the Lord.

Exodus 16:36 (An omer is one-tenth of an ephah.)

This fine flour is not barley, but wheat. The wheat is used to make two loaves of bread that are leavened. This seems very strange. We just finished the Feast of Unleavened Bread where all leaven is removed from the houses of God’s covenant people. Now we are counting to Pentecost and God is asking for the priest to wave two loaves of leavened bread before the Lord. What could this mean?

An omer is one tenth of an ephah. So, two tenths of an ephah is two omers. Each bread is equivalent to two omers in weight! “Two omers” is “two tenths” or a double tithe. This could be one interpretation of first fruits; a double tithe.

When Israel was in sin (pride), which manifests as rebellion, idolatry and apathy, they had become “leavened bread”. This is the only time in the Bible that leaven is to be used in the meal offerings. Only on Pentecost because on Pentecost God will deal with the two houses, Ezekiel’s two sticks, which are the two leavened and sinful houses of Judah and Israel. Both houses were rebellious and disobeyed God. Judah went into Babylonian captivity for seventy years and they still were not doing right.

Israel, the Northern Kingdom, was taken captive by the Assyrians and never returned back to their land. They became as was prophesied by Moses and the Prophets; they would be scattered and lost sheep swallowed up by the Gentile nations.

The two loaves are symbolic of the two Houses of Israel and the House of Judah who both sinned against God and needed to understand that God must have the first and the best of everything. This is why we have first fruit offerings; so God's people would be reminded that the first, best and choicest of everything must always be given back to the Creator and King of the universe.

These two loaves could also represent just two of the tribes of Israel; the two who stood in faith as leaders while the other ten leaders gave a bad report. Judah and Ephraim believed God's Word and wanted to possess the land. Caleb and Joshua will come to represent the two houses of Israel; Caleb from Judah and Joshua from Ephraim.

Unfortunately, the other ten tribes will cause the leaven of sin to contaminate all of them so they could not possess the Promised Land. Instead they were sentenced to forty years in the wilderness for their unbelief and leaven.

Finally, the two loaves of bread can also represent the Gentiles who swallowed up the scattered and rebellious Israel, Jesus of the House of Judah and Messiah Jesus who becomes leavened bread to save and redeem the lost sheep.

Leviticus 23:19-21ESV

And you shall offer one male goat for a sin offering, and two male lambs a year old as a sacrifice of peace offerings. **20** And the priest shall wave them with the bread of the first fruits as a wave offering before the Lord, with the two lambs. They shall be holy to the Lord for the priest. **21** And you shall make a proclamation on the same day. You shall hold a holy convocation. You shall not do any ordinary work. It is a statute forever in all your dwelling places throughout your generations.

On a normal Sabbath they would bake twelve loaves of bread, which represented all the twelve tribes of Israel, but on Pentecost they had to do something different. They would bake two loaves of leavened bread and wave these two loaves along with the blood of the peace offerings before the Lord. Perhaps God was saying, "I will use the blood of my Son to bring peace (shalom) back to the two houses and they shall become one again."

There is an interesting story in the Bible about the first king. Actually, it takes place before Saul becomes king, but is the only other time we can find

leaven found in bread in the Bible.

1 Samuel 10: 1-10

Then Samuel took a flask of oil and poured *it* on his head, and kissed him and said: "*Is it* not because the Lord has anointed you commander over His inheritance? **2** When you have departed from me today, you will find two men by Rachel's tomb in the territory of Benjamin at Zelzah; and they will say to you, 'The donkeys which you went to look for have been found. And now your father has ceased caring about the donkeys and is worrying about you, saying, "What shall I do about my son?"' **3** Then you shall go on forward from there and come to the terebinth tree of Tabor. There three men going up to God at Bethel will meet you, one carrying three young goats, another carrying three loaves of bread, and another carrying a skin of wine. **4** And they will greet you and give you two *loaves* of bread, which you shall receive from their hands. **5** After that you shall come to the hill of God where the Philistine garrison *is.* And it will happen, when you have come there to the city, that you will meet a group of prophets coming down from the high place with a stringed instrument, a tambourine, a flute, and a harp before them; and they will be prophesying. 6 Then the Spirit of the Lord will come upon you, and you will prophesy with them and be turned into another man. **7** And let it be, when these signs come to you, *that* you do as the occasion demands; for God *is* with you. **8** You shall go down before me to Gilgal; and surely I will come down to you to offer burnt offerings *and* make sacrifices of peace offerings. Seven days you shall wait, till I come to you and show you what you should do." **9** So it was, when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, that God gave him another heart; and all those signs came to pass that day. **10** When they came there to the hill, there was a group of prophets to meet him; then the Spirit of God came upon him, and he prophesied among them.

The prophets were traveling to Bethel (House of God), the place that Jacob had a vision of the ladder to heaven (Jesus). He made a vow for the seven blessings. This is also the same place Abraham builds the first altar to the Lord and calls on the name of Yahweh for the first time. Could we now look at this Scripture in light of Pentecost?

On Pentecost there will be two loaves waved. Saul is given two loaves of the three that the prophets had. They have three loaves, wine and three young goats. Goats, cattle or sheep could be used for the offerings, especially sin

(Exodus 12:5).

On Pentecost, a burnt offering is to be given to the Lord with the waving of the loaves. Wine is also used in the Pentecost offering (Leviticus 23:18). On Pentecost you have three goats or one goat and two lambs.

- The goat was for sin (offering)

- The two lambs were for peace. (offering)

This corresponds to the instructions God gave to His people in Leviticus concerning the Pentecost offerings.

Leviticus 23:19-21ESV

And you shall offer one male goat for a sin offering, and two male lambs a year old as a sacrifice of peace offerings. **20** And the priest shall wave them with the bread of the first fruits as a wave offering before the Lord, with the two lambs. They shall be holy to the Lord for the priest. **21** And you shall make a proclamation on the same day. You shall hold a holy convocation. You shall not do any ordinary work. It is a statute forever in all your dwelling places throughout your generations.

The spiritual journey from Passover to Pentecost is a counting of 50 days or seven weeks of Sabbaths. A journey is defined by a process of preparation and process of renewal. The journey is to be individual, but also connected to the congregation and church. We are to count the days and the weeks to our receiving God's instructions and His Spirit.

Leviticus 23:15-16

'And you shall count for yourselves from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering (first fruits): seven Sabbaths shall be completed. **16** Count fifty days to the day after the seventh Sabbath; then you shall offer a new grain offering to the Lord.

The new grain offering will be of wheat, and the wheat harvest will have to do with the harvest of souls. Don't forget we start counting on the day of the first fruit of the barley and end the count with a wave offering of the wheat.

We are to count the days and we are to also count the Sabbath weeks. Fifty is the number of Jubilee! Jubilee represents God resetting your time, giving you back your inheritance in every way!

Fifty shekels of silver is the value of the barley. Silver has to do with righteousness, which, like silver, must go through a process to be purified.

Psalm 12:6 YLT

Sayings of Jehovah are pure sayings; Silver tried in a furnace of earth refined sevenfold.

Psalm 66:10 JB2000

For thou, O God, hast proved us; thou hast refined us as silver is refined.

Leviticus 27:16

‘If a man dedicates to the Lord *part* of a field of his possession, then your valuation shall be according to the seed for it. A homer of barley seed *shall be valued* at fifty shekels of silver.

An omer is a measure of weight equaling 1/10 of an ephah. An ephah is a dry measure that weighs about 1 bushel or about 33 liters.

If we are to count the omer for 50 days, then since the omer is one tenth of an ephah, in 50 days we will have five ephahs counted from the first fruit of the barley to the first fruit of wheat at Pentecost.

Five is the number of grace and is the 5th letter of the Hebrew alphabet “hey”. It also represents God’s Breath, Spirit or Life. This is the letter God added to the names of Abram and Sarai when they came into covenant with Yahweh.

Remember that an omer of barley is valued at fifty shekels of silver.

$$5 \times 10 = 50$$

Ten is the number for divine order, completed cycle, measure, or group (congregation), whether for good or evil, blessing or judgment. A tenth part represents the whole in a tithe.

So we can see that ten also represents a complete congregation, body, or kingdom, whether good or evil. There are the Ten Commandments, ten

judgments upon Egypt, ten spies who gave an evil report and ten Northern tribes given to Jeroboam.

What happens when we put five and ten together? We are putting grace and judgment together, which is God's way, and part of the gospel message. (*Spirit & truth John 4:24*).

Matthew 23:23 NLT

"What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are careful to tithe even the tiniest income from your herb gardens,-but you ignore the more important aspects of the law—justice, mercy, and faith. You should tithe, yes, but do not neglect the more important things.

When you countdown the Sabbaths and days, you can expect a time where you will see justice, mercy and faith all working together in the process, bringing you into alignment with God's plans and purposes for you. Don't be discouraged, for you will be refined like silver during this time and your best is yet to come!

CHAPTER TWO:

Personal or Small Group Study

Exodus 23:12

"Six days do your work, but on the _____ day do not work, so that your ox and your donkey may _____, and so that the slave born in your household and the foreigner living among you may be _____.

The word for _____ in Hebrew is *niphal* which means "to be _____". It actually means "to take a _____ or to _____ oneself".

The root word for *convocation* is: To _____ to invite, to call, appoint or commission.

_____ is a time for God's people to gather and _____ together.

2 Chronicles 8:12

Then Solomon offered burnt offerings to the Lord on the altar of the Lord which he had built in front of the porch [of the temple], 13 a certain number every day, offering them up as Moses commanded for the _____, the New Moons, and the _____ annual _____the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the Feast of Weeks (Pentecost), and the Feast of Booths (Tabernacles).

Psalm 92:1 NKJV

A Song for the _____ day. *It is* good to give thanks to the LORD, And to sing praises to Your name, O Most High

According to Jesus, the Sabbath is a day you can expect _____

and deliverance from _____ bondage!

During the feast of Pentecost, two leavened loaves of bread are waved. Give some of the significance of bread being leavened and what the two loaves can represent?

_____

The spiritual journey from Passover to Pentecost is a counting of _____ days or seven weeks of _____. A journey is defined by a process of _____ and process of _____.

Leviticus 23:15-16

'And you shall count for yourselves from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering (first fruits): _____ Sabbaths shall be completed. **16** Count _____ days to the day after the _____ Sabbath; then you shall offer a new grain offering to the Lord.

What was the new grain offering? _____

_____ is God's _____ your time, giving you back your _____ in every way! Fifty shekels of silver is the value of the _____.

Psalm 66:10 JB2000

For thou, O God, hast proved us; thou hast _____ us as _____is refined.

Five is the number of _____ and is the 5th letter of the Hebrew alphabet "hey". It also represents God's _____, Spirit or Life.

_____ is the number for divine _____, completed cycle, measure, or group (congregation) whether for good or evil, blessing or judgment.

When you countdown the Sabbaths and days, you can expect a time where you will see _____, _____ and _____ all working together in the process, bringing you into alignment with God's plans and purposes for you.

CHAPTER THREE:

What Time is It?

Let's assume that we are now in the countdown to Pentecost of the seven weeks or Sabbaths. We will be counting for fifty days. What can we expect during this time? As we are in a time of process, we need to really examine our lives in light of God's holy Word? How are we measuring up to God's standards and His Torah? Are we hitting the mark?

Acts 3:19-21 NKJV

Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, **20** and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before, **21** whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began.

Could the counting of the days and weeks between Passover and Pentecost help our being proactive and sensitive to our spiritual growth? Is it possible that God knew we would get so busy with life that He would pre-program set days and times to draw close to Him? I believe God has these set times, not to keep something from us or to burden us, but to get something *to* us and bless us.

We must be aware that during these times of drawing close to God, that the enemy knows about these times and has something quite different for us than blessings. Could God also know that during certain seasons there could and would be greater challenges, temptations and also demonic activity?

Don't let that scare you. For every good thing God has planned, Satan has an opposite. For every blessing, Satan wants you to curse yourself so you don't receive God's blessings. This is how the prophet Balaam was used by Balak to cause God's people to disobey by joining and marrying with the people of the land. Satan used God's Word against them and they essentially cursed

themselves and missed out on God's best.

So how can we cooperate with God during these fifty days of being like silver; processed, purified and prepared for what the Lord has for us individually and as a people so we don't step into the traps of the enemy?

- *BE AWARE THAT IT IS DURING THIS TIME THAT KINGS GO OUT TO BATTLE!*

- *BE AWARE THAT IT IS DURING THIS TIME YOU ARE TEMPTED TO BE LIKE KING DAVID AND STAY HOME AND REST WHEN IT IS REALLY TIME TO GET THE SPOILS OF WAR*

- *BE AWARE THIS IS A TIME WHEN JUSTICE AND JUDGMENT WILL BE CARRIED OUT, BUT ALWAYS CONNECTED TO MERCY, FAITH & GRACE.*

God's Word is full of wisdom and warnings so we don't miss our season of blessing and miracles. What time is it? This is a season when kings go to war! You have been made a king, but remember that Jesus is the King of kings! We must learn how to connect with His power to overcome and release our faith as, what I like to call, God's triplets or the Torah's triplets of judgment, mercy and faith, to work in our favor.

2 Samuel 21:1-10 NET

During David's reign there was a famine for three consecutive years. So David inquired of the Lord. The Lord said, "It is because of Saul and his bloodstained family, because he murdered the Gibeonites." **2** So the king summoned the Gibeonites and spoke with them. (Now the Gibeonites were not descendants of Israel; they were a remnant of the Amorites. The Israelites had made a promise to them, but Saul tried to kill them because of his zeal for the people of Israel and Judah.) **3** David said to the Gibeonites, "What can I do for you, and how can I make amends so that you will bless the Lord's inheritance?" **4** The Gibeonites said to him, "We have no claim to silver or gold from Saul or from his family, nor would we be justified in putting to death anyone in Israel."

David asked, “What then are you asking me to do for you?” **5** They replied to the king, “As for this man who exterminated us and who schemed against us so that we were destroyed and left without status throughout all the borders of Israel — **6** let seven of his male descendants be turned over to us, and we will execute them before the Lord in Gibeah of Saul, who was the Lord’s chosen one.” The king replied, “I will turn them over.” **7** The king had mercy on Mephibosheth son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, in light of the Lord’s oath that had been taken between David and Jonathan son of Saul. **8** So the king took Armoni and Mephibosheth, the two sons of Aiah’s daughter Rizpah whom she had born to Saul, and the five sons of Saul’s daughter Merab whom she had born to Adriel the son of Barzillai the Meholathite. **9** He turned them over to the Gibeonites, and they executed them on a hill before the Lord. The seven of them died together; they were put to death during harvest time—during the first days of the beginning of the barley harvest. **10** Rizpah the daughter of Aiah took sackcloth and spread it out for herself on a rock. From the beginning of the harvest until the rain fell on them, she did not allow the birds of the air to feed on them by day, nor the wild animals by night.

The *seven* in Hebrew is actually seven-fold or seven times seven. The seven sons of Saul died as one united offering to repay the Gibeonites for the injustice done to them and also to heal the famine in the land.

You will see God’s triplets beginning to work in this story as Rizpah begins to release faith and cries for mercy and justice for her sons who are left unburied and in dishonor for the birds and the beasts to devour.

The season is during the barley harvest and takes place during what would be the fifty days between the first fruits of the barley and Pentecost. She would have been fighting the birds and the beasts of the field during the seven Sabbaths and fifty days.

Although she lost her sons because justice was carried out, her unrelenting faith got the attention of King David who did something about her injustice. This is so prophetic. During this season our King Jesus will move because we are unrelenting and releasing our faith for justice and mercy to prevail, and it will because He will do something for us!

Proverbs 6:31CEV

And thieves who get caught must pay back seven times what was stolen and lose everything.

When you countdown towards Pentecost it will be a season when Kings go to battle. Temptation will come, but if you stay in faith and obedience, you will see your victory!

During the seven weeks, we at our church take the seven qualities of faith that Peter talks about and we focus on each one for a week. This way we are being proactive in feeding ourselves with God's Word and not focusing on the battle or temptations to come, but rather the victory that God has already provided for all His children in His holy Word.

What if, each week of our journey, we built upon our faith with these seven qualities and characteristics of the Christian life?

2 Peter 1:3-9 PT

Everything we could ever need for life and complete devotion to God has already been deposited in us by his divine power. *For all this was lavished upon us* through the rich experience of knowing him who has called us by name and invited us to come to him through a glorious manifestation of his goodness. 4 As a result of this, he has given you magnificent promises that are beyond all price, so that through *the power of* these tremendous promises you can experience partnership with the divine nature, by which you have escaped the corrupt desires that are of the world. 5 So devote yourselves to lavishly supplementing your faith with goodness and to goodness add understanding, 6 and to understanding add the strength of self-control, and to self-control add patient endurance, and to patient endurance add godliness 7 and to godliness add mercy toward your brothers and sisters, and to mercy toward others add unending love.8 Since these virtues are already *planted* deep within and you possess them in abundant supply they will keep you from being inactive or fruitless in your pursuit of knowing Jesus Christ more intimately. 9 But if anyone lacks these things, he is blind, constantly closing his eyes to the mysteries of our faith and forgetting *his innocence*—for his past sins have been washed away.

Keep pursuing and pressing in for all God has for you. The Pentecost journey is filled with justice, mercy and faith.

Luke 24:44-48PT

Then he said to them, "Don't you remember the words that I spoke to you when I was still with you? I told you that everything written about me would be

fulfilled, including all the prophecies from the law of Moses through the Psalms and the writings of the prophets—that they would all find their fulfillment." 45 He *supernaturally unlocked their understanding* to receive the revelation of the Scriptures, 46 then said to them, "Everything that has happened fulfills what was prophesied of me. Christ, the Messiah, was destined to suffer and rise from the dead on the third day.47 Now you must go into all the nations and preach repentance and forgiveness of sins so that they will turn to me. Start right here in Jerusalem. 48 For you are my witnesses and have seen for yourselves all that has transpired. 49 And I will send the fulfillment of the Father's promise to you. So stay here in the city until the mighty power of heaven falls upon you and wraps around you." 50 Jesus led his disciples out to Bethany. He lifted his hands over them and blessed them in his love. 51 While he was still speaking out words of love and blessing, *he floated off the ground into the sky*, ascending into heaven before their very eyes! 52 And all they could do was worship him. Overwhelmed and ecstatic with joy, they made their way back to Jerusalem. 53 Every day they went to the temple, praising and worshiping God.

We have talked about how we are in fifty days of process, preparation and purification. Now we will learn that the power to receive the Word is inherent in the promise itself. No word or promise comes without the ability to perform it. The power of God's Word is when the Holy Spirit is moving on it. You can see this in the book of Genesis where the Holy Spirit was brooding or hovering over the waters and then God spoke and the power to perform the Word was released. Whenever and whatever God says will always have the power by the Holy Spirit to perform what God has spoken.

A quick review of the spring season: The first month of the Hebrew Calendar is called Nisan. Passover is on the 14th of Nisan. Unleavened bread is on the 15th through the 21st. The First Fruits of the barley harvest is on the 16th.

Jesus, as the Passover Lamb, would die and be crucified on the Passover and then, just before sunset of that same day, just before the Feast of Unleavened Bread begins, Jesus would be buried. He would be raised on the First Fruits of the Barley Harvest as the First Fruit of the Father.

The 50-day, seven-week countdown begins on the first day after Unleavened Bread, which is also the day of the first fruit offering. (Leviticus 23:16). This is also the same day Jesus was resurrected as the first born Son who overcame the power of death and hell. The countdown to Pentecost connects a

period of seven weeks or seven Sabbaths that are to be counted in anticipation of Pentecost.

Moses gave all twelve tribes of Israel the Torah which means instruction and to hit the mark.

Exodus 19:1-7NKJV

In the third month after the children of Israel had gone out of the land of Egypt, on the same day, they came *to* the Wilderness of Sinai. **2** For they had departed from Rephidim, had come *to* the Wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness. So Israel camped there before the mountain. **3** And Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel: **4** 'You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and *how* I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Myself. **5** Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth *is* Mine. **6** And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These *are* the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel." **7** So Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before them all these words which the Lord commanded him. **8** Then all the people answered together and said, "All that the Lord has spoken we will do." So Moses brought back the words of the people to the Lord.

The people were reminded that it was God who delivered them and carried them on eagle's wings to bring them to Him. They were given instructions to obey God's voice and keep His covenant, as they were to be a special treasure above all other people. The goal was for them to all become a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.

Moses gave the Word to the people and the people responded that they would obey all the Lord has spoken, even before He speaks it. God gave the Word to His people knowing that in the promise is the ability for the word to be received and lived.

Isaiah 55:11 NKJV

So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper *in the thing* for which I sent it.

Psalm 119:89-91NKJV

Forever, O Lord, Your word is settled in heaven. **90** Your faithfulness *endures* to all generations; You established the earth, and it abides. **91** They continue this day according to Your ordinances, For all *are* Your servants.

Settled: to set, to put, and to place

Psalm 89:30-37 NKJV

"If his sons forsake My law And do not walk in My judgments,**31** If they break My statutes And do not keep My commandments,**32** Then I will punish their transgression with the rod, And their iniquity with stripes. **33** Nevertheless My lovingkindness I will not utterly take from him, Nor allow My faithfulness to fail. **34** My covenant I will not break, Nor alter the word that has gone out of My lips. **35** Once I have sworn by My holiness; I will not lie to David: **36** His seed shall endure forever, And his throne as the sun before Me; **37** It shall be established forever like the moon, Even *like* the faithful witness in the sky." *Selah*

- "When God speaks it is settled!" "God said it, that settles it, whether I believe it or not!" ***Papa Woody***

This is why it is so important that we know what God said. Hosea points out that God's people are actually destroyed for the lack of knowledge of God's Word.

Hebrews 8:8-12 NKJV

Because finding fault with them, He says: "Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah— **9** not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they did not continue in My covenant, and I disregarded them, says the Lord. **10** For this *is* the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws (*Torah*) in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. **11** None of them shall teach his neighbor, and none his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of

them. **12** For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more."

On Pentecost, the same appointed day we are in the process of counting towards, the Lord took this promise, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, confirmed this very Word, which was a prophetic utterance from Jeremiah almost 600 years before the time of Christ. God promised to write the Torah on the hearts of the people.

The promise of the new or renewed covenant was given specifically to the house of Israel because they were the ones who had been divorced from the covenant due to the sins of Jeroboam who caused Israel to worship idols, install false priests, institute fabricated holidays and worshipped & married the forbidden people and the gods of nations.

The house of Judah also were to receive the covenant, but not in the same way. Because of David they had not been divorced, but instead would be the ones God would use to bring back the scattered lost sheep of the house of Israel and also the Gentile nations where they were scattered.

The good news (*gospel mystery*) is that even the Gentiles (those not born of Jewish descent) will be grafted-in with Israel into a covenant relationship with God. The promise to "write the Torah upon their hearts" will be given to whosoever will call on the name of the Lord and believe in Jesus, who is the High Priest and King of the kingdom!

Why is the writing of the Torah on our hearts so important? Why is it something that Jesus told the disciples to wait on? Let's see if the Scriptures will give us some insight.

Leviticus 18:1-5 NKJV

Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, **2** "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'I am the Lord your God. **3** According to the doings of the land of Egypt, where you dwelt, you shall not do; and according to the doings of the land of Canaan, where I am bringing you, you shall not do; nor shall you walk in their ordinances. **4** You shall observe My judgments and keep My ordinances, to walk in them: I *am* the Lord your God. **5** You shall therefore keep My statutes and My judgments, which if a man does, he shall live by them: I *am* the Lord.

So remember, in the Word is the power, so when God told them they would live if they keep His Word, or Torah, He was telling them the power would be in the Torah to perform and back up the promises. This was God's intention from the beginning. In God's instructions the power of the Holy Spirit will be present! Hallelujah!

Nehemiah 9:29-31

And testified against them, That You might bring them back to Your law (*Torah*). Yet they acted proudly, And did not heed Your commandments, But sinned against Your judgments, **'**Which if a man does, he shall live by them. And they shrugged their shoulders, Stiffened their necks, And would not hear.**30** Yet for many years You had patience with them, And testified against them by Your Spirit in Your prophets. Yet they would not listen; Therefore You gave them into the hand of the peoples of the lands.

Ezekiel 20:10-11 NKJV

"Therefore I made them go out of the land of Egypt and brought them into the wilderness. **11** And I gave them My statutes and showed them My judgments, 'which, *if* a man does, he shall live by them.'

Before the Holy Spirit came to write the Word on the hearts of the believers on Pentecost, it was impossible for anyone but Jesus to keep these commandments. The house of Israel rebelled greatly against the Word, which was to bring life, and instead it brought them death in their disobedience. You will see this theme over and over in the Bible; blessings and life come by obedience and curses and death come from rebellion. Please don't ever look at the commandments or God's Word as a burden. It is always a blessing when you obey it.

Ezekiel 20:18-32

"But I said to their children in the wilderness, 'Do not walk in the statutes of your fathers, nor observe their judgments, nor defile yourselves with their idols. **19** I *am* the Lord your God: Walk in My statutes, keep My judgments, and do them; **20** hallow My Sabbaths, and they will be a sign between Me and you, that you may know that I *am* the Lord your God. **21** "Notwithstanding, the children rebelled against Me; they did not walk in My statutes, and were not careful to observe My judgments, **'**which, *if* a man does, he shall live by them'; but they profaned My Sabbaths. Then I said I would pour out My fury on them and fulfill My anger against them in the wilderness. **22** Nevertheless I withdrew

My hand and acted for My name's sake, that it should not be profaned in the sight of the Gentiles, in whose sight I had brought them out. **23** Also I raised My hand in an oath to those in the wilderness, that I would scatter them among the Gentiles and disperse them throughout the countries**,** **24** because they had not executed My judgments, but had despised My statutes, profaned My Sabbaths, and their eyes were fixed on their fathers' idols.**25** "Therefore I also gave them up to statutes *that were* not good, and judgments by which they could not live; **26** and I pronounced them unclean because of their ritual gifts, in that they caused all their firstborn to pass through *the fire,* that I might make them desolate and that they might know that I am the Lord."' **27** "Therefore, son of man, speak to the house of Israel, and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God: "In this too your fathers have blasphemed Me, by being unfaithful to Me. **28** When I brought them into the land *concerning* which I had raised My hand in an oath to give them, and they saw all the high hills and all the thick trees, there they offered their sacrifices and provoked Me with their offerings. There they also sent up their sweet aroma and poured out their drink offerings. **29** Then I said to them, 'What *is* this high place to which you go?' So its name is called Bamah to this day."' **30** Therefore say to the house of Israel, 'Thus says the Lord God: "Are you defiling yourselves in the manner of your fathers, and committing harlotry according to their abominations? **31** For when you offer your gifts and make your sons pass through the fire, you defile yourselves with all your idols, even to this day. So shall I be inquired of by you, O house of Israel? *As* I live," says the Lord God, "I will not be inquired of by you**.** **32** What you have in your mind shall never be, when you say, 'We will be like the Gentiles, like the families in other countries, serving wood and stone.'

The House of Israel had broken their marriage vow and was unfaithful to the Lord who brought them out of Egypt. Remember it was all of Israel who said, "Whatever the Lord speaks, we will do." Obviously, they did not obey God like they promised, but actually did the very opposite!

Because of God's mercy, He will find a way to bring Israel back from being scattered as sheep among the Gentiles. God's plan will be a mystery, especially keeping it hidden from the adversary Satan. God will write the Word on the hearts of the people, for only through the power of the Holy Spirit will it be possible to truly live in the light of God's Word. This is why the day of Pentecost in the book of Acts is so important, for it wasn't an ending, but an invitation to a new beginning.

The Holy Spirit needed a heart that was born again so He could take God's promises and Word and write them on a new heart. A radical change will take place after this day. There will be so many blessings, so many miracles that the least in the kingdom will be greater than the greatest prophet of the first covenant.

The House of Israel was in rebellion to God's instructions and wanted to be like other nations who worshipped manmade idols. How could these be the same people who were with Moses on the mountain, who saw God's fire and wind and received the life of God's Word? It seems that without a new heart, the power that is in the Word has no place to work from. This must be why Jesus told His disciples the parable of the sower who only saw good results when the Word was sown on a good heart and produced a harvest.

CHAPTER THREE:

Personal or Small Group Study

What time is it? This is a _____ when kings go to_____!

It is during this time that _____ go out to battle!

We are not to stay home, but go to _____ and get the _____ of the battle.

This is a time when _____ and _____ will be carried out, but always connect _____, _____ and _____.

List the seven attributes of 2 Peter Chapter one that can be focused on to build our faith during this prophetic season.

_____, _____, _____,

_____, _____, _____,

_____.

So remember, in the Word is the _____, so when God told them they would live if they keep His Word, or Torah, He was telling them the power would be in the _____ to perform and back up the _____.

Ezekiel 20:10-11 NKJV

“Therefore I made them go out of the land of Egypt and brought them into the wilderness. **11** And I gave them My statutes and showed them My judgments, ‘which, *if* a man _____, he shall _____ by them.’

Before the Holy Spirit came to write the word on the _____ of the believers on _____, it was impossible for anyone but _____to keep these commandments.

The Word of God is never a _____, but always a _____ to those who obey it.

Ezekiel 20:31c-32

As I live," says the Lord God, "I will not be inquired of by you. 32 What you have in your _____ shall never be, when you say, 'We will be like the _____, like the families in other countries, serving _____ and _____.'

On Pentecost, God will _____ the Word on the _____ of the people, for only through the power of the _____ _____ will it be possible to truly live in the _____ of God's Word.

As you read this chapter what are some of the hindrances today to seeing the power of God's word manifest in the lives of God's people? Does the church still have the tendencies to want to be like the nations of the world? Please give some of your thoughts.

_____

CHAPTER FOUR:

Jesus Made a Promise He Would Not Break!

It is now time we look at Jesus and what He said that pointed to Pentecost and the giving of the Holy Spirit who would write God's Word on the hearts of the believers, but that would not be all. In the book of Acts we will see so many aspects of the Holy Spirit coming on Pentecost. We will see the wind, the fire, the water, the new wine and a mighty power that could not be tamed. So what did Jesus say about this fourth feast of the Lord? Let's look at what happened before the resurrection first, and then what He said before His ascension to the throne.

Pentecost is the fourth and final of the spring feasts. All have something prophetically to do with Jesus' first coming as the Suffering Servant, our Passover Lamb and our Kinsman Redeemer. Remember, Jesus died on the Passover, was buried on the same day, just before sunset, before the Feast of Unleavened Bread, rose on the day of the First Fruits of the Barley and will give the Holy Spirit on the 50th day, known as Pentecost.

Jesus talked much about the Holy Spirit and why He needed to leave so the Holy Spirit could take a more active role on the earth. According to Jesus, the Holy Spirit's coming would give us a new advantage. The Holy Spirit coming on the day of Pentecost would literally be a game changer. The Greater One would come and empower the disciples and they would have the advantage and overcome as "more than conquerors".

John 16: 5-16 NKJV

"But now I am going to the one who sent me. Yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' 6 But because I have told you this, sorrow has filled your hearts. 7 However, I'm telling you the truth. It's for your advantage that I'm going away, because if I don't go away, the Helper won't come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. 8 When he comes, he will convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment— 9 of sin, because they don't believe in me;10 of

righteousness, because I’m going to the Father and you will no longer see me; 11 and of judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged “I still have a lot to say to you, but you cannot bear it now. 13 Yet when the Spirit of Truth comes, he’ll guide you into all truth. He won’t speak on his own accord, but he’ll speak whatever he hears and will declare to you the things that are to come. 14 He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. 15 All that the Father has is mine. That is why I said, ‘He will take what is mine and declare it to you.’ 16 In a little while you will no longer see me, then in a little while you will see me again.”

So, we see Jesus telling His disciples to not be sorrowful when He leaves, but glad because He is only leaving them physically. The same Presence would now be in them and upon them by the Holy Spirit, but they must be obedient and in faith. They must choose to be where He wants them when the Spirit comes.

John 14:19-26

“A little while longer and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live also. 20 At that day you will know that I *am* in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you. 21 He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.” 22 Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, “Lord, how is it that You will manifest Yourself to us, and not to the world?” 23 Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. 24 He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father’s who sent Me. 25 “These things I have spoken to you while being present with you. 26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

The Holy Spirit, when He comes, will be just like Jesus. He will continue to teach them, remind them and bring them in to the destiny and future like Jesus did.

Also notice in this passage, Jesus talks about keeping the commandments. These are not exclusive commandments, but the same commandments given by God from the very beginning. The keeping of the commandments were never a means to salvation, but by our obedience to them it is evidence that we walk by

faith and love. Love fulfilling the law does not mean you don't keep the law, but the contrary. The proof of love is the keeping of the commandments.

The commandments, or the Word, are God's love letter and invitation for us into a marriage covenant. The proof of love is that both parties in marriage honor are faithful in their hearts and actions. This fulfilling is not a one-time thing. Just like in natural marriage, we fulfill our vows sometimes daily.

We need to start thinking of the word *fulfill* as "confirmation and evidence of something that is eternal and everlasting" and not as meaning "ending or completion". Jesus is the fulfillment of the Sabbath rest. Does that mean we don't celebrate the day God said to celebrate as an ordinance forever?

Jesus fulfilled Isaiah 53 as the innocent Lamb that was wounded, bruised, chastised and punished for us. Does that mean we don't celebrate Passover anymore because Jesus fulfilled the Passover? Jesus is our Passover, but Paul teaches us to keep and celebrate the feast!

Jesus is our Sabbath Rest. He is the Unleavened Bread & the First Fruits of the many sons. This is good news and all a confirmation of what the Word of God, by the mouth of His prophets, spoke about. The fulfillment of Scripture doesn't end it, but reveals it prophetically again and again.

When we talk about *fulfilling*, we need to see Jesus' fulfillment of Scripture as the fullest expression or spiritual goal, but not a permanent ending. Another way to look at the word *fulfilled* is "to fill up to the brim, to cram full, to execute, to ratify, to accomplish, to be obeyed, as it should be". It also means "to carry out into effect or realization".

A marriage vow is fulfilled, not just one time, but continually. Celebrating with anniversaries, faithfulness, intimacy, gifts, honor, trust and commitment does this many times over. It is fulfilled with serving one another, in sharing a meal together and even in sexual intercourse. Again, the fulfillment is not a one-time completion, but an extension and confirmation of the vows of marriage made on the wedding day.

Matthew 5: 17-20 NKJV

Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. **18** For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is

fulfilled. **19** Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches *them,* he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. **20** For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds *the righteousness* of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.

To "break "or "destroy "the law meant that you loosened someone from the authority and obligation of God's Word and loosed them so they are not bound to keep it. This has reference to the bonds of marriage and divorce. Jesus said explicitly that He did not come to loose people from Torah's instruction, because as the Living Torah and Word, Jesus knew that the Word brings life and light. The breaking of the commandments brings death and darkness. Jesus will give the Holy Spirit and the Spirit of Jesus will be active in the life of all disciples to help them fulfill their marriage vows.

This teaching is actually found in Ephesians chapter five when the Apostle Paul talks about the natural marriage between a man and woman and then switches into the supernatural marriage between Christ and His church. The profound truth of our marriage to Christ is part of the true and real gospel that connects the house of Israel, who broke their marriage vows and was not worthy of redemption, being called back through mercy and the blood of Jesus that satisfied the curse of divorce by the death of the husband.

Israel would now be free from the law and curse of divorce and marry the resurrected Jesus. This is explained in Romans chapter seven and is the greatest love story in the Bible! The Holy Spirit, according to Jesus, will make all this possible, as He is the one who creates the new heart so He can dwell there.

Take a look at this judgment upon Israel and the promise of the Holy Spirit by the prophet Ezekiel.

Ezekiel 11:14-20 NKJV

Again the word of the Lord came to me, saying, **15** "Son of man, your brethren, your relatives, your countrymen, and all the house of Israel in its entirety, *are* those about whom the inhabitants of Jerusalem have said, 'Get far away from the Lord; this land has been given to us as a possession.' **16** Therefore say, 'Thus says the Lord God: "Although I have cast them far off among the Gentiles, and although I have scattered them among the countries, yet I shall be a little sanctuary for them in the countries where they have gone."' **17** Therefore

say, ‘Thus says the Lord God: “I will gather you from the peoples, assemble you from the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel.”’ **18** And they will go there, and they will take away all its detestable things and all its abominations from there. **19** Then I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within them, and take the stony heart out of their flesh, and give them a heart of flesh, **20** that they may walk in My statutes and keep My judgments and do them; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God.

The reason for the scattering was because of rebellion to God’s Word, His Torah instruction. The people chose death because they did not have the Holy Spirit activation in their lives like we do. The good news is when they got their new heart and restoration it opened the door for all the Gentiles to have a new heart and spirit as well.

The Holy Spirit will help you do what you cannot do in your own strength. (Zechariah 7:8-15)

Always remember that obedience to the Word of God is not a means of salvation or self-righteousness; it is a response to what only the blood of Jesus and His grace can do. Now we have been given a circumcised and changed heart that only by the power of the Holy Spirit can obey, not to be made righteous, but because the Lord has become our righteousness.

Trusting in the good deeds of the flesh will never be accepted before a holy God. Don’t get caught in the trap of the devil that keeps you bound and always chasing the carrot like a horse. The good things that God has prepared for you to walk in are only accomplished with the Holy Spirit’s help and not in your own strength.

John 16:5-15

“But now I go away to Him who sent Me, and none of you asks Me, ‘Where are You going?’ **6** But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. **7** Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. **8** And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: **9** of sin, because they do not believe in Me; **10** of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; **11** of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. **12** “I still have

many things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now. **13** However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own *authority,* but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. **14** He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare *it* to you. **15** All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare *it* to you.

Titus 2:11-12 NCV

That is the way we should live, because God's grace that can save everyone has come. **12** It teaches us not to live against God nor to do the evil things the world wants to do. Instead, that grace teaches us to live in the present age in a wise and right way and in a way that shows we serve God.

Grace is not just unmerited, underserved, or unearned favor; it is also a teacher on how to "hit the mark" in life! When you really receive grace through repentance and faith in Jesus, you won't respond in pride and rebellion, but in humility, hearing and obedience. Let the Holy Spirit, who is the Spirit of grace teach you how to follow and obey Jesus, not as a means of salvation, but to be in Divine Alignment with your Divine Assignment.

GRACE IS A TEACHER, JUST LIKE THE HOLY SPIRIT, WHO IS THE SPIRIT OF GRACE.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS OUR TEACHER OF WHAT IS GOOD, ACCEPTABLE AND PLEASING TO GOD.

Hebrews 10:28-29 TLV

Anyone who rejected the *Torah* of Moses dies without compassion on the word of two or three witnesses. **29** How much more severe do you think the punishment will be for the one who has trampled *Ben-Elohim* (son of God) underfoot, and has regarded as unholy the blood of the covenant by which he was made holy, and has insulted the Spirit of grace?

1 Peter 1:2 GW

God the Father knew you long ago and chose you to live holy lives with the Spirit's help so that you are obedient to Jesus Christ and are sprinkled with his blood. May good will and peace fill your lives!

Acts 5:29-32

But Peter and the *other* apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God

rather than men. **30** The God of our fathers raised up Jesus whom you murdered by hanging on a tree. **31** Him God has exalted to His right hand *to be* Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. **32** And we are His witnesses to these things, and *so* also *is* the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him."

Now look at what Jesus said after He rose about why the disciples must obey by going to Jerusalem and wait to receive the Holy Spirit. We must never think that grace gives us the right not to obey. Instead, it gives us the power to confirm and fulfill God's Word in and for our lives.

Acts 2:2-8 PT

Just before he ascended into heaven, he left instructions for the apostles he had chosen by the Holy Spirit.[3] After the sufferings of his cross, Jesus appeared alive *many times* to these same apostles over a forty-day period. Jesus proved to them with many convincing signs that he had been resurrected. During these encounters, he taught them the truths of God's kingdom realm [4] and shared meals with them. Jesus instructed them, "Don't leave Jerusalem, but wait here until you receive the gift I told you about, the gift the Father has promised. [5] For John baptized you in water, but in a few days from now you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit!" [6] Every time they were gathered together, they asked Jesus, "Lord, is it the time now for you to free Israel and restore our kingdom?"[7] He answered, "The Father is the one who sets the fixed dates and the times of their fulfillment. You are not permitted to know the timing of all that he has prepared by his own authority. [8] But I promise you this—the Holy Spirit will come upon you and you will be filled with power. And you will be my messengers to Jerusalem, throughout Judea, the distant provinces —even to the remotest places on earth!"

Jesus made a promise that He would send the Holy Spirit and He would not break what He spoke. The empowerment of what was about to come would not come at just any time, it would come on a certain and appointed day. A day God had set on His calendar thousands of years before.

CHAPTER FOUR:

Personal or Small Group Study

According to Jesus, the Holy Spirit's coming would give us a new _____.

The Greater One would come and _____ the disciples and they would have the advantage and _____ as "more than _____".

John 16:13

Yet when the Spirit of _____ comes, he'll _____ you into all _____. He won't speak on his own accord, but he'll speak whatever he _____ and will declare to you the _____ that are to _____.

Explain a time in your life that the Holy Spirit gave you the advantage or showed you something you couldn't know without Him.

_____

John 16:7

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

So, we see Jesus telling His disciples to not be _____ when He leaves, but glad because He is only leaving them _____.

We need to start thinking of the word _____ as "_____ and evidence of something that is eternal and everlasting" and not as meaning "ending or _____".

Ezekiel 11:19 -20

Then I will give them one _____, and I will put a new spirit

within them, and take the _____ heart out of their flesh, and give them a _____ of flesh, **20** that they may walk in My _____ and keep My _____ and do them; and they shall be My _____, and I will be their _____.

Titus 2:11-12 NCV

That is the way we should live, because God's _____ that can save _____ has come. **12** It _____us not to live against God nor to do the evil things the _____ wants to do. Instead, that _____ teaches us to live in the present age in a wise and right way and in a way that shows we _____ God.

Let the Holy Spirit, who is the Spirit of _____ teach you how to follow and obey Jesus, not as a means of salvation, but to be in Divine _____with your Divine _____.

What has the Holy Spirit and grace been teaching you lately?

_____

Now look at what Jesus said after He rose about why the disciples must _____ by going to Jerusalem and _____to receive the Holy Spirit. We must never think that _____ gives us the right not to _____. Instead it gives us the power to _____ and _____ God's Word in and for our lives.

CHAPTER FIVE:

The Restoration

The Pentecost blessing is perhaps the greatest of all blessings because it reconnects and establishes a covenant relationship with the God of Abraham back to those who had the covenant in the first place. They had broken the covenant in their rebellion and idolatrous worship and did everything that God told them not to do; yet the Torah's triplets always make room for justice, mercy and faith.

Jeremiah 31:31-34

"Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah— **32** not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day *that* I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them says the Lord. **33** But this *is* the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My law (Torah) in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. **34** No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."

Pentecost is known by many names. Pentecost is a Greek word meaning "fifty". Shavuot is the Hebrew name of the fourth or center of seven appointed feasts. The golden menorah in the Temple had seven lamps; each represent one of the feasts and the seven Spirits of God.

Since Pentecost is the center or fourth feast it corresponds to the center lamp of the menorah, which is the Spirit of the Lord. This is found in Isaiah chapter eleven and talks about Messiah having the seven Spirits of Yahweh.

Other common names are Feast of Weeks, Feast of Harvest, First Fruits of Wheat or Feast of Latter First Fruits. It is the countdown of seven Sabbaths or fifty days from the day of the First Fruits of the Barley harvest. This is also when Jesus was raised from the dead. He was crucified on Passover, buried just before the Feast of Unleavened Bread and rose to life on the Feast of First Fruits.

God has spoken that we are to count seven Sabbaths of weeks or fifty days and then another offering of first fruits of the wheat harvest is to be given to the Lord.

Three of these feasts are know as “pilgrim” or “foot feasts”. They are times where the men are expected to come to Jerusalem and celebrate. The families may also be present, but the men are to come as the remnant or representative.

The fourth or center feast corresponds to the center of the seven branches and light known as the Golden Menorah, or candlesticks that was in the Temple court known as the Holy Place. All the branches of the Menorah were formed to flow from one center branch. The Menorah had ornaments that made it look like a tree with leaves and fruit.

The center of the menorah represents Spirit of the Lord. According to Isaiah 11:1 These are the seven Spirits of the Lord.

Isaiah 11:1-2

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. **2** The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him— the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord— **3** and he will delight in the fear of the Lord. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; **4** but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked. **5** Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

Since we know the Holy Spirit is poured out in the book of Acts on the day of Pentecost, it should not be surprising that the centerpiece of what is happening revolves around the Spirit of the Lord.

Acts 2:1-2 TLV

When the day of *Shavuot* had come, they were all together in one

place. **2** Suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. **3** And tongues like fire spreading out appeared to them and settled on each one of them. **4** They were all filled with the *Ruach ha-Kodesh* and began to speak in other tongues as the *Ruach* enabled them to speak out.

Ruach is the Hebrew word for "spirit, breath or wind". The root of the word means "to breathe, to blow". The root word also means "to smell what is pleasing or acceptable", and "to be quick to perceive".

Genesis 1:2 TLV

Now the earth was chaos and waste, darkness was on the surface of the deep, and the *Ruach Elohim* was hovering upon the surface of the water

God's plan was to have a relationship with man with His Spirit always present. The Holy Spirit was moving and hovering before God spoke Creation into existence. We must always remember that the Spirit is moving even if we don't see or perceive Him in our natural realm.

Genesis 3:8

And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the *cool* (Ruach) of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence (*paniym-face*) of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

The Holy Spirit was in the Garden of Eden, helping man experience the Voice (Word) of the Lord and the Face (Presence) of the Lord. Moses also asked God to see His face and His glory.

Exodus 33:14-23 TLV

"My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest," He answered.

15 But then he said to Him, "If Your presence does not go with me, don't let us go up from here! **16** For how would it be known that I or your people have found favor in Your sight? Isn't it because You go with us, that distinguishes us from all the people on the face of the earth?" **17** *Adonai* answered Moses, "I will also do what you have said, for you have found favor in My sight, and I know you by name." **18** Then he said, "Please, show me Your glory!" **19** So He said, "I will cause all My goodness to pass before you, and call out the Name of *Adonai* before you. I will be gracious toward whom I will be gracious, and I will show mercy on whom I will be merciful." **20** But He also said, "You cannot

see My face, for no man can see Me and live." **21** Then *Adonai* said, "See, a place near Me—you will stand on the rock. **22** While My glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and cover you with My hand, until I have passed by. **23** Then I will take away My hand, and you will see My back, but My face will not be seen."

Something happened from the expulsion of Adam and Eve in the Garden that prohibited mankind from the intimacy he enjoyed with God in the beginning. In the Garden, Adam and Eve sinned by listening to the serpent rather than God's Word. In the Garden there was a forfeiting of the intimacy with God because of sin. The closeness of God's Spirit they were accustomed to would not remain. The Ruach that lit their spirit and inner man was no longer present. Adam and Eve had spiritually died and passed that death through the bloodline to all mankind.

Romans 5:12

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned.

Proverbs 20:27

The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord, searching all the inward parts of the belly.

Psalm 18:28

For thou wilt light my candle: the Lord my God will enlighten my darkness.

What will the candle be lit with? It will be the fire of the Holy Spirit.

Joel 2:23

Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the Lord your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first *month.*

The former rain in Israel is actually not during the springtime, but would be in our fall, about the time of September or October, during the harvest of the fruit and grapes, during the beginning of their calendar year of Rosh HaShana and the Feast of Tabernacles.

Former or Early Rain:

Mowreh - An archer; also teacher or teaching; also the early rain: —(early)

rain.

Remember Jesus said that when the Spirit would come, He would teach you.

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of the Lord, but He is also the Spirit of the Torah. You cannot hit the mark without Him.

The former rain or *mowreh* in the Hebrew is also the same root word for Torah, which is *yara* and means “to throw, to instruct, to point or aim, to hit the mark”. This is so prophetically powerful; all pointing to how the Holy Spirit will write the Torah on our hearts to help us continually hit the mark in life.

Joel 2:23-29

And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. **25** And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpiller, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you. **26** And ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, that hath dealt wondrously with you: and my people shall never be ashamed. **27** And ye shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the Lord your God, and none else: and my people shall never be ashamed. **28** And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: **29** And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.

What are those days that the prophet Joel is pointing to? They are pointing to the time when Messiah would come and the people would obey and hear Him like Moses had foretold.

Galatians 4:4-7

But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. 6 And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, “Abba, Father!” 7 Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

Acts 3:19-21

Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, **20** and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before**21** whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began.

What needed to be restored from the beginning? What was man's relationship with God in the Garden? There is a hint in the Scripture where it says "the times of restoration of all things". The power of Pentecost does not just restore the time or things you lost on your earthly journey, but gives us back what Adam and Eve lost in the Garden.

Times: *chronos* is a space of time either long or short. It does not refer to the set times or Moedim. New Testament equivalent Greek word is *Kairos*.

Acts 1:7-8

And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times (chronos) or seasons (Kairos) which the Father has put in His own authority. 8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Mein Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

The times (chronos) and seasons (kairos) of God cannot be understood or discerned without the Holy Spirit. Pentecost is a Kairos and appointed set time, but the Holy Spirit also helps you walk obediently and in sync with God's will during all our times and seasons. The Holy Spirit will never align or lead you astray from God's Divine will.

1 Corinthians 1:7-16

But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden ***wisdom*** which God ordained before the ages for our glory, **8** which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. **9** But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him. **10** But God has revealed *them* to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. **11** For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. **12** Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. **13** These things we also speak, not in words which

man’s wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. **14** But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know *them* ,because they are spiritually discerned. **15** But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is *rightly* judged by no one. **16** For “who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

So what is God restoring during Pentecost? He is bringing God’s presence that Adam and Eve had in the Garden back to man. The Holy Spirit will now be present with man at all times, and not just with man, but according to Jesus, He will be in all those who humble themselves and receive Him as a Gift of grace.

But wait; there is more restoration, for in Pentecost we see the restoration of the House of Israel. They had lost their covenant blessing, inheritance and identity, but on the day of Pentecost God will restore to them all of this and still more!

There is an actual ceremony that was done on Pentecost involving two loaves of leavened bread, one kid of the goats for a sin offering and two lambs for the peace offering. On Pentecost, two loaves of leavened bread must be waved together with the blood of the two lambs for the Peace offering. *Peace* in the Hebrew is the word “Shalom” which represents wholeness, health, and prosperity. A good saying about shalom is: “nothing missing, nothing lost, nothing broken and all restored!”

Why is there leaven (sin, pride) in the two loaves of bread? It was because the two loaves are symbolic of both Houses of Israel who were full of pride, manifesting in rebellion, stubbornness, apathy and great sin. The Pentecost blessing of restoration will cause the same Word that was moving on the first Pentecost from the Mount Sinai to being engraved on the hearts of the House of Israel who had become divorced and cut off from God’s Tree. Thank God for His mercy, who on Pentecost, restores the covenant blessing and inheritance that was lost.

Ezekiel 36:26

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

Ezekiel 11:14-19 NKJV

Again the word of the Lord came to me, saying, **15** “Son of man, your brethren, your relatives, your countrymen, and all the house of Israel in its entirety, *are* those about whom the inhabitants of Jerusalem have said, ‘Get far away from the Lord; this land has been given to us as a possession.’ **16** Therefore say, ‘Thus says the Lord God: “Although I have cast them far off among the Gentiles, and although I have scattered them among the countries, yet I shall be a little sanctuary for them in the countries where they have gone.”’ **17** Therefore say, ‘Thus says the Lord God: “I will gather you from the peoples, assemble you from the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel.”’ **18** And they will go there, and they will take away all its detestable things and all its abominations from there. **19** Then I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within them and take the stony heart out of their flesh, and give them a heart of flesh, 20 that they may walk in My statutes and keep My judgments and do them; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God.

God had promised a restoration and mercy, but the mystery was hidden and no one could see it until the fullness of times. God promises them a new heart and the removal of the stony heart, which represented idolatry.

Now in the book of Ezekiel we find one of the most powerful visions where God shows Ezekiel an army of flesh and bones, but so dry and with no breath or spirit. Let’s look at it.

Ezekiel 37:11-14

Then He said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They indeed say, ‘Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!’ **12** Therefore prophesy and say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord God: “Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. **13** Then you shall know that I *am* the Lord, when I have opened your graves, O My people, and brought you up from your graves. **14** I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken *it* and performed *it*,” says the Lord.’ ”

Afterwards, God tells Him to take two sticks, one for Judah and one for Ephraim, which represents the House of Israel, and join them together. This is right after the “valley of dry bones”, where God tells Ezekiel that the House of Israel says, “We are cut off!” This is so powerful because it corresponds to the

tree in Romans chapter eleven that has the branches of the House of Israel cut off because of their unbelief, but also their cutting off made room for the Gentiles to be grafted in to the root of Abraham and Jesus.

The two sticks that Ezekiel saw were Judah and Ephraim. Ephraim is the adopted son of Israel and the natural second-born of Joseph in Egypt. Israel gives Ephraim a blessing and tells him that in him is the fullness of the Gentiles or Nations. So when we see the two sticks together, they also represent Jesus from Judah, and Ephraim, which is also representative of Gentiles who were grafted in to an inheritance and blessing that they could never legally obtain until mercy and grace came through Jesus.

The one stick is the union of Jew and Gentile in Messiah, now “one new man”.



Ezekiel 37:18-19 NKJV

“And when the children of your people speak to you, saying, ‘Will you not show us what you *mean* by these?’— **19** say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord God: “Surely I will take the stick of Joseph, which *is* in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel, his companions; and I will join them with it, with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they will be one in My hand.”

The two sticks represent and correspond to the two leavened pieces of bread

(wheat) that God commanded to be offered up with two kids or goats for a Peace offering at Pentecost. Wheat can be symbolic of people and the harvest of souls. The two sticks became joined together as part of one tree.

When anyone who was a Jew or Gentile accepts Jesus, they are joined together as one in Jesus. The whole stick in God's hand also represents the Tree of Life and the Root of the father of faith, Abraham, who was promised that, in His seed all the families of the earth would be blessed.

The promise God gave to Abraham would be confirmed and fulfilled on Pentecost. Now, whoever will call on the name of the Lord Jesus will be saved. *Yeshua* actually means "salvation" in the Hebrew language.

Salvation=Yeshua, the Hebrew name of Jesus

Ezekiel 37 :21-24

"Then say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God: "Surely I will take the children of Israel from among the nations, wherever they have gone, and will gather them from every side and bring them into their own land; **22** and I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king over them all; they shall no longer be two nations, nor shall they ever be divided into two kingdoms again. **23** They shall not defile themselves anymore with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with any of their transgressions; but I will deliver them from all their dwelling places in which they have sinned, and will cleanse them. Then they shall be My people, and I will be their God. **24** "David My servant *shall be* king over them, and they shall all have one shepherd; they shall also walk in My judgments and observe My statutes, and do them.

When Jesus talked about a kingdom divided against itself, could He have been inferring to the divided kingdoms that He would one day hold in His hand as one? Jesus was the King that Ezekiel was prophetically speaking about. The restoration of the two Houses into one is what happens in marriage. The two become one new or whole person, and let no one ever separate that spiritual and physical union.

God is all about restoration! When you repent and return to the stronghold, He will restore double! That means right now if you or anyone draws near to God, we have the promise that He will receive us and restore double of what was

lost, stolen or abandoned.

Zechariah 9:12

Return to the stronghold, You prisoners of hope. Even today I declare *That* I will restore double to you.

The greatest miracle of restoration will be salvation of the House of Israel and the door of grace that has now been opened to the Gentiles as well.

Isaiah 49:6 NIV

He says: "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation (*Yeshua*) may reach to the ends of the earth."

God would not just bring Israel and Judah back, but He would bring Yeshua-Jesus to be a light to the Nations!

Romans 10:10-12 GNT

For it is by our faith that we are put right with God; it is by our confession that we are saved. **11** The scripture says, “Whoever believes in him will not be disappointed.” **12** This includes everyone, because there is no difference between Jews and Gentiles; God is the same Lord of all and richly blesses all who call to him.

CHAPTER FIVE:

Personal or Small Group Study

Pentecost is known by many names. Pentecost is a Greek word meaning _____. *Shavuot* is the Hebrew name of the fourth or _____ of seven appointed feasts.

The Holy Spirit is the _____ of the Lord, but He is also the Spirit of the _____. You cannot hit the _____ without Him.

The times (_____) and seasons (_____) of God cannot be understood or _____without the Holy Spirit.

Explain what needed to be restored from the beginning?

_____

Jeremiah 31:33

But this *is* the covenant that I will make with the house of _____ after those days, says the Lord: I will put My law (_____) in their minds, and write it on their _____; and I will be their God, and they shall be My _____.

Proverbs 20:27

The spirit of man is the _____ of the Lord, searching all the inward parts of the belly.

Psalm 18:28

For thou wilt light my _____: the Lord my God will enlighten my darkness.

What will the candle be lit with? The _____ of the Holy Spirit.

The former _____ or *mowreh* in the Hebrew is also the same root word

for _____. Which is _____ “to throw, to instruct, to point or aim, to hit the mark”.

Galatians 4:4

But when the _____ of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, [5] to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the _____ as sons.

Salvation=_____ the Hebrew name of Jesus

Wheat can be symbolic of _____ and the harvest of _____. The two sticks became _____ together as part of _____ tree.

What does the joining of the two sticks and two leavened loaves really mean?

_____

Zechariah 9:12

Return to the _____, You prisoners of hope.
Even today I declare *That* I will restore _____ to you.

Ezekiel 37: 21-22

“Then say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord God: “Surely I will take the children of Israel from among the _____, wherever they have gone, and will gather them from every side and bring them into their own land; **22** and I will make them one _____ in the land, on the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king over them all; they shall no longer be _____ nations, nor shall they ever be _____ into two kingdoms again.

The greatest miracle of _____ will be _____ of the House of Israel and the door of _____ that has now been opened to the _____as well.

Isaiah 49:6 NIV

He says: "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of _____ I have kept. I will also make you a light for the _____, that my salvation (_____) may reach to the ends of the earth."

CHAPTER SIX:

The Fire!

Did you know there are over five hundred references to *fire* in the Bible?

Fire in the Hebrew language is: (Esh) meaning burning, fiery, fire, flaming, hot.

Acts 2:1-4 NKJV

When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. **2** And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. **3** Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and *one* sat upon each of them. **4** And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Matthew3: 7-17 NKJV

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, 9 and do not think to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as *our* father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. 10 And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 12 His winnowing fan *is* in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. 14 And John *tried to* prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?" 15 But Jesus answered and said to

him, “Permit *it to be so* now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he allowed Him. 16 When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. 17 And suddenly a voice *came* from heaven, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

Three times in this Scripture is a reference to fire. One is the baptism of the Holy Spirit and Fire. The other two have to do with fire that will burn up a tree that does not bear good fruit and also the chaff that is separated from the wheat during the process of threshing. It also will be burned with unquenchable fire.

John has a Scriptural reference for his strong preaching. But where can we see it? John says that God is going to thoroughly cleanse the ground where the wheat has been threshed out. Now, after the threshing, the cleansing cannot happen without fire.

Fire has the power to purify. If you want to purify water, you boil it. If you want to purify gold or silver, it is purified though the process of fire. The impurities will rise to the surface when fire is present. Even the fire of revival brings impurities to light.

Malachi 3:1-4 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. **2** But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner’s fire and like launderer’s soap [which removes impurities and uncleanness]. **3** He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and He will purify the sons of Levi [the priests], and refine them like gold and silver, so that they may present to the Lord [grain] offerings in righteousness. **4** Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in ancient years.

When John preaches, he is preaching from this text in Malachi. In this context Jesus comes to be baptized by John as a joint act of obedience between the one baptizing, John, and Jesus. After Jesus is baptized, the heavens are open and the Spirit, like a dove, rested on Jesus. God also speaks from heaven with a

voice that all hear, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

So what are some of the things we can learn from this story? Fire can also be manifested to either burn up what is not pleasing, not good or not fruitful. We see this in the reference to the tree and to what is not wheat.

Fire can be manifested as acceptance or rejection. When the Holy Spirit baptizes with fire, God is pleased and He is accepting what is being offered or presented to Him. So when Jesus is baptized, we see the Holy Spirit coming down upon Jesus and accepting Him. God’s voice is heard declaring His pleasure and love for Jesus and His offering of obedience.

So, what is fire and what does it do? Why, on the day of Pentecost, do we see that fire manifested so it rests, not just on the group, but also on each person so that each person has his own fire upon his life?

The first mention of fire is when God, like a burning torch, passed between what Abram offered to God in obedience to His voice. So, if the father of our faith had an encounter with fire, should we not, as Abraham’s descendants and seed, also expect to encounter fire? Are we not heirs according to the promise?

Did you know that God made a promise to Abram concerning his descendants’ inheritance only after the fire accepted Abram’s sacrifice of worship and obedience?

Genesis 15:17-18 DR

And it came to pass when the sun had gone down, and it was dark, that behold, there was a smoking furnace, and a flame of fire which passed between those pieces. 18 On the same day Jehovah made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates;

After the fire passed, God spoke and made a covenant with him promising Abraham’s seed the land from the river of Egypt to the Euphrates. (Genesis 15:17-21) All the land of those nations was promised only after the fire had accepted and passed in between the pieces.

We can see that the fire is receiving the sacrifices as an offering that is being accepted because Abram gave it with obedience and faith. This is very important, as the fire will deem what is offered as acceptable and pleasing or not.

The fire will confirm God's pleasure and acceptance.

The second mention of the word *fire* in the Bible is when God rained fire upon Sodom and Gomorrah in judgment. (Genesis 19:24) So the execution of judgment is a part of what the fire does.

Deuteronomy 9:3 NKJV

Therefore understand today that the Lord your God *is* He who goes over before you *as* a consuming fire. He will destroy them and bring them down before you; so you shall drive them out and destroy them quickly, as the Lord has said to you.

Three times the Scriptures say that God is a consuming fire! When God fulfilled His promise to deliver Israel from Egypt, He sent Moses, but not until he had an encounter with the fire. Now let's see what else we can glean and learn about fire from this story.

Exodus 3: 1-4 NET

Now Moses was shepherding the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the desert and came to the mountain of God, to Horeb. **2** The angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire from within a bush. He looked—and the bush was ablaze with fire, but it was not being consumed! **3** So Moses thought, "I will turn aside to see this amazing sight. Why does the bush not burn up?" **4** When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to look, God called to him from within the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!" And Moses said, "Here I am.

Moses has an encounter with the fire; we see the flames of fire on a bush that is not consumed. The fire is upon the bush. After Moses turns aside to see, God's voice is heard as He speaks to Moses.

God reveals to Moses three things through the encounter with the fire.

- **God's Name**
- **God's Plan**
- **God's Power**

Can you see these things on the day of Pentecost, too? Can you see how on the Day of Pentecost, the fire sat on each person like a bush that wasn't

consumed? The fire of the Lord was upon those believers in the Upper Room. God was putting His name on them, giving His plan to save and His power to free the people.

When God wanted to bring divine alignment to Israel who was disobedient, He called a man named Gideon. He, too, had an encounter with the fire.

God had sent a prophet who told them the reason for their problems was their disobedience. Gideon is threshing wheat in a winepress to hide it from Midian, who would come at harvest time. God reveals Himself to Gideon as Yahweh Gibbor and told Gideon that he was a force of power and would defeat the Midianites as one man.

Gibbor: strong, mighty, warrior, valiant, champion

Midian actually means “to bring contention or strife”. Midian is also a descendant of Abraham through his wife Keturah. This is the land where Moses fled when he ran from Egypt and Pharaoh and married the daughter of Jethro, known as the priest of Midian. (Exodus 3:1) In Exodus 18 we see Jethro converting to the God of Moses after seeing all the good God had done for Israel.

To confirm this encounter, Gideon wanted a sign. The angel gave him instructions on what offering to bring; it was a young goat and unleavened bread. The goat was to be put in a basket and the broth in a pot.

Judges 6:20-21 LB

The Angel said to him, “Place the meat and the bread upon that rock over there, and pour the broth over it.” When Gideon had followed these instructions, **21** the Angel touched the meat and bread with his staff, and fire flamed up from the rock and consumed them! And suddenly the Angel was gone!

Judges 6:24NLT

And Gideon built an altar to the LORD there and named it Yahweh-Shalom (which means "the LORD is peace").

Remember that on Pentecost a Peace offering was also to be given to the Lord. The fire is used again as acceptance do the same three things that it did when Moses saw the fire in the burning bush.

God reveals to Gideon three things through the encounter with the fire. The fire will confirm to Gideon His name, His plan and His power, just like He did with Abraham and Moses.

- **God's Name**
- **God's Plan**
- **God's Power**

Can you see how you and I need an encounter with God's fire? You can expect this encounter because God will confirm and reconfirm His Word over and over to those who will simply come to Him with childlike faith and obedience. Can you see how the day of Pentecost was a day that the fire would give attention to God's Name, God's Plan & God's Power?

Nehemiah 9:19-20 NET

"Due to your great compassion you did not abandon them in the desert. The pillar of cloud did not stop guiding them in the path by day, nor did the pillar of fire stop illuminating for them by night the path on which they should travel. **20** You imparted your good Spirit to instruct them. You did not withhold your manna from their mouths; you provided water for their thirst.

- *A cloud of fire led Israel in the wilderness by night*

- *The fire illuminates and gives direction for the path to be travelled.*

Numbers 9:21-22 LB

Sometimes the fire-cloud stayed only during the night and moved on the next morning. But day or night, when it moved, the people broke camp and followed. **22** If the Cloud stayed above the Tabernacle two days, a month, or a year, that is how long the people of Israel stayed; but as soon as it moved, they moved.

- *We need the fire to light the path for our journey here on the earth.*

Hebrews 1:7

And of the angels He says: “Who makes His angels spirits And His ministers a flame of fire.

The 120 who were present on the day of Pentecost went out and began to be flames of fire. This was what John the Baptizer preached and now it was happening on the day of Pentecost to those who were in the Upper Room. It didn’t stop there, for after that door opened, the Holy Spirit would bring a fire that could not be quenched.

Matthew 3:11B
He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

God reveals three things when we encounter the fire: God’s Name, God’s Plan & God’s Power.

The fire is for cleansing and purification. The fire will be a sign of God’s acceptance or rejection. The fire will be a light to illuminate your path through the darkness of the world.

We have a promise of being baptized with the Holy Spirit and fire. It was not just made by the prophet John, but also by Jesus, Himself. He will be the One sending the fire and the power of the Holy Spirit to those who will position themselves to receive it.

Luke 24:49 ISV
I am sending to you what my Father promised, so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Clothed: sink into, put on
(Eng., "endue"), signifies "to enter into, get into," as into clothes, "to put on

Luke 24:49-52 NKJV
Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem- until you are endued with power from on high.” 50 And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. 51 Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven. 52 And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, 53 and were continually in the temple praising an blessing God. Amen.

Power: The Greek word *dynamis*: which means “inherent power, ability, and miraculous power, capable, resources”

From on high: is signifying another realm or governing authority, (it is not talking about physical height, but spiritual).

Acts 1:4-8 NKJV

And being assembled together with *them,* He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, “which,” *He said,* “you have heard from Me; **5** for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” **6** Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” **7** And He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. **8** But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Baptized *baptizo*: to dip repeatedly, to immerse, to submerge (of vessels sunk) to cleanse by dipping or submerging, to wash, to make clean with water, to wash one's self, bathe to overwhelm

[1]“The clearest example that shows the meaning of baptizo is a text from the Greek poet and physician Nicander, who lived about 200 B.C. It is a recipe for making pickles and is helpful because it uses both words. Nicander says that in order to make a pickle, the vegetable should first be 'dipped' (bapto) into boiling water and then 'baptised' (baptizo) in the vinegar solution. Both verbs concern the immersing of vegetables in a solution. But the first is temporary. The second, the act of baptising the vegetable, produces a permanent change.”

Deuteronomy 4:24

“For the LORD your God *is* a consuming fire, a jealous God.

Exodus 34:14

(for you shall worship no other god, for the Lord, whose name *is* Jealous *(qanna, qanna'), is* a jealous God),

Worship only the Mighty God Yahweh whose name is Jealous, Jealous Mighty God! This shows us how we are God’s possessions and His love causes Him to be jealous for us!

On the day of Pentecost, God was separating His people unto Himself. He was writing the living Torah upon their hearts, thus marking and identifying them as His own by the Holy Spirit. The people were being engraved on their hearts the way the Torah was engraved on tablets of stone.

Ezekiel 36:26 NKJV

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

The Holy Spirit puts His seal and marks you as God's possession.

2 Corinthians 1:22 NLT

He has put his brand upon us—his mark of ownership—and given us his Holy Spirit in our hearts as guarantee that we belong to him and as the first installment of all that he is going to give us.

Ephesians 1:13-14, 4:30

And because of what Christ did, all you others too, who heard the Good News about how to be saved, and trusted Christ, were marked as belonging to Christ by the Holy Spirit, who long ago had been promised to all of us Christians. **14** His presence within us is God's guarantee that he really will give us all that he promised; and the Spirit's seal upon us means that God has already purchased us and that he guarantees to bring us to himself. This is just one more reason for us to praise our glorious God. **30** Don't cause the Holy Spirit sorrow by the way you live. Remember, he is the one who marks you to be present on that day when salvation from sin will be complete

The Holy Spirit is the confirmation that God is working in you, with you, for you, through you and accepts you! Water baptism is to confirm our spiritual baptism. Say with me now: "I don't belong to the world. I belong to the One who purchased and marked me by giving me the Holy Spirit. I have been accepted by God's fire and the proof is His Holy Spirit in me."

When the Holy Spirit and fire came on Pentecost, fifty days after Jesus' resurrection, it was an acceptance of the 120 and giving them a power that was authorized from another realm. They were being given the power of the Kingdom.

When you accept Jesus and receive the Holy Spirit, you are marked and engraved with God's Word and you are accepted in Jesus and are the beloved of

the Lord. If God's fire has accepted you, isn't it time you accept what grace and mercy has so abundantly given to you? You could never earn or merit the fire and God's acceptance. The fire is another proof that Jesus will not ever go back on His promises. What He has spoken and done is forever.

Acts 2:1-4 NLT

On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place. 2Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. 3Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. 4And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.

The only way to wrap your mind around what happened on this appointed day is you will have to compare it to when Moses gave to Israel the written Word on stone at Mount Sinai. On the first Pentecost, God gave His Torah instruction and His Ten Commandments. On that day you can really see the same things happening as in the book of Acts.

Deuteronomy 5:4

The Lord talked with you face to face on the mountain from the midst of the fire.

Exodus 19:16-19

Then it came to pass on the third day, in the morning, that there were thunderings and lightnings, and a thick cloud on the mountain; and the sound of the trumpet was very loud, so that all the people who *were* in the camp trembled. **17** And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. **18** Now Mount Sinai *was* completely in smoke, because the Lord descended upon it in fire. Its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked greatly. **19** And when the blast of the trumpet sounded long and became louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him by voice.

Some Rabbis believed that the thundering of God's voice was heard throughout the world and divided and split up into seventy languages to the seventy nations of the earth. (Deuteronomy 32:8, Exodus 1:1-5)

The Rabbis also expound on this text in Exodus when the Torah was given;

that the children of Israel didn't just hear God's voice speak through the fire, but saw the sound waves as they emerged from God's mouth. They pictured them as a fiery substance that traveled around the camp and to each individual asking each one if they accepted the commandment and would obey it. Finally, they saw the fiery substance engrave each commandment on the two tablets of stone.

Deuteronomy 5:23-29 NKJV

"So it was, when you heard the voice from the midst of the darkness, while the mountain was burning with fire, that you came near to me, all the heads of your tribes and your elders. **24** And you said: 'Surely the Lord our God has shown us His glory and His greatness, and we have heard His voice from the midst of the fire. We have seen this day that God speaks with man; yet he *still* lives. **25** Now therefore, why should we die? For this great fire will consume us; if we hear the voice of the Lord our God anymore, then we shall die. **26** For who *is there* of all flesh who has heard the voice of the living God speaking from the midst of the fire, as we *have,* and lived? **27** You go near and hear all that the Lord our God may say, and tell us all that the Lord our God says to you, and we will hear and do *it.*' **28** "Then the Lord heard the voice of your words when you spoke to me, and the Lord said to me: 'I have heard the voice of the words of this people which they have spoken to you. They are right *in* all that they have spoken. **29** Oh, that they had such a heart in them that they would fear Me and always keep all My commandments, that it might be well with them and with their children forever!

They told God, in essence that, "We will do what you say before we even hear it." The problem was not with what they said, but their heart wasn't capable of doing what they spoke. It is only by the Holy Spirit and the fire that you can have the heart and faith to please God.

The offerings and sacrifices of bulls and goats could not make the heart right. This is why Jesus told His disciples to wait for the Holy Spirit.

It would take Jesus dying on Passover, being buried just before the Feast of Unleavened Bread, raised from hell on First fruits of Barley. 50 days later, on Pentecost, Jesus will give the Holy Spirit to make the heart new! When Jesus is in your heart it means that the Holy Spirit is in your heart!

On the First Shavuot or Pentecost, God's Word is written on stone with His finger. In Acts chapter two on Shavuot or Pentecost, after Jesus rose, the living

Word is written on the hearts of those present by the Holy Spirit.

The greatest miracle of Pentecost is the miracle of salvation and the new birth. Before the Holy Spirit came, the Temple would be a place the people could go and possibly experience God's presence, but after Pentecost the people themselves will become temples of the Holy Spirit. This changes everything because access to God goes from someone on the outside to God on the inside! Thank God now for your Pentecost blessing of having the Holy Spirit dwell in you. The Scriptures are full of this revelation and teaching.

After the day of Pentecost a radical change happened to the early followers of Jesus who received the Holy Spirit. Each one became a temple and a house for the Spirit of God to dwell, fill & work through.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 NKJV

Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? **20** For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

1 Corinthians 3:16

Do you not know that you are the temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you?

Romans 8:9 NKJV

But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.

- The Holy Spirit will empower disciples of Jesus in a way that no system can fully control.

1 Corinthians 1213 GNT

In the same way, all of us, whether Jews or Gentiles, whether slaves or free, have been baptized into the one body by the same Spirit, and we have all been given the one Spirit to drink.

> **TO DRINK**: Figuratively, to receive into the soul what serves to refresh strengthen, nourish it unto life eternal to give to drink, to furnish drink to water, irrigate (plants, fields etc.) Metaphor. to imbue, saturate one's mind

We have been learning about Pentecost and how on Pentecost, we see the wind of the Spirit, the New Wine, the Living Water like a springing fountain in the believers. We also see the fire that manifests God's Name, affirmation of our purpose, and His power to fulfill our Divine mission.

The fire is also a fire of purification, and acceptance as an offering of the first fruits of the wheat (souls). We see the flames of fire rest on each believer and as they glorify God in a heavenly language and tongue. Afterward they go into the city and speak by the Holy Spirit and communicate to each nation in their native tongues.

At the tower of Babel, God scattered the nations and divided their languages (Genesis 11). In Acts chapter two God gathers the Nations to hear the gospel in their native tongues. The Holy Spirit baptizes into one body, by one Spirit.

The fire is also a manifestation of something else.

Psalm 29:7 NKJV

The voice (sound) of the Lord divides the flames of fire.

The sound in the Upper Room was God's voice, like the one Adam heard in the beginning. Remember, the restoration goes back to the beginning of man's creation and the fall by Adam and Eve in the Garden.

Genesis 3:8-10 NKJV

And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool (Ruach) of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. **9** Then the Lord God called to Adam and said to him, "Where *are* you?" **10** So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself."

When Adam and Eve sinned, they hid and covered themselves from the Spirit and the sound of God's voice. This is man's natural tendency; to cover and hide from the Presence and voice of God when they sin.

The blood of Jesus received by grace is the only thing we need to cover our sin. That is why God clothed them with skins and covered them in the Garden right from the beginning. He was showing them the promise of true restoration.

God wants His sheep to know and hear His voice and follow and trust Him completely. This is why we need the Spirit and voice of God; it divides the flames of fire.

Divide: to dig, cleave, divide, hew, make, cut out, dig out, cut down, quarry, hewer, mason, engrave

The voice and the Holy Spirit's fire also will engrave and seals us.

2 Corinthians 1:20-22

For all the promises of God in Him *are* Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us. **21** Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us *is* God, **22** who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

Ephesians 1:13-14

In Him you also *trusted,* after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, **14** who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

Sealed: To stamp (with a signet or private mark) for security or preservation (literally or figuratively); by implication, to keep secret, to attest:—(set a, set to) seal up, stop.

Look now and see another meaning of the fire in the Upper Room. It is the love of Jesus; the same fire that is in His eyes in the book of Revelation is the fire of God's everlasting love for you and His beloved Bride.

Song of Solomon 8: 6-7 LB

"Seal me in your heart with permanent betrothal, for love is strong as death, and jealousy is as cruel as Sheol. It flashes fire, the very flame of Jehovah. **7** Many waters cannot quench the flame of love, neither can the floods drown it. If a man tried to buy it with everything he owned, he couldn't do it."

Nothing can quench God's love for you! It is His love and fire that has marked you as His very own. I believe God will restore all back to man, but we must believe, obey and have faith.

CHAPTER SIX:

Personal or Small Group Study

Acts 2:3

Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of _____, and *one* sat upon each of them. **4** And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to _____ with other tongues, as the _____ gave them utterance.

Matthew 3:11

"I indeed _____ you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will _____ you with the Holy Spirit and _____"

Fire can be manifested as _____ or _____.

When anyone encounters the fire, what three things will be encountered?

_____

_____

_____

Luke 24:49 ISV

I am sending to you what my Father promised, so stay here in the city until you have been _____ with _____ from on high."

Deuteronomy 4:24

"For the LORD your God *is* a _____ _____, a jealous God.

Please describe the first time *fire* in the Bible is used?

_____

It is only by the Holy Spirit and the _____ that you can have the _____ and faith to please God. The offerings and sacrifices of bulls

and goats could not make the _____right. This is why Jesus told His disciples to _____ for the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is the _____ that is God, working in you, with you, for you, through you and _____ you!

When you accept Jesus and receive the Holy Spirit, you are _____ and _____ with God's Word and you are accepted in Jesus and are the beloved of the Lord.

On the first Pentecost, God gave His _____ instruction and His Ten _____.

On the day of Pentecost, God was _____ His people unto Himself. He was writing the _____Torah upon their hearts, thus marking and _____ them as His own by the Holy Spirit.

The people were being _____ on their _____ the way the _____ was engraved on tablets of stone.

2 Corinthians 1:22 NLT

He has put His _____ upon us—his mark of _____—and given us His Holy Spirit in our _____ as guarantee that we _____ to Him and as the first installment of all that He is going to give us.

What does it mean that God is jealous and you belong to Him?

_____

God wants His sheep to know and hear His _____ and follow and trust Him completely. This is why we need the _____ and voice of God; it _____the flames of fire.

The voice and the Holy Spirit's _____ also _____ and seals us.

CHAPTER SEVEN:

The Giving of the Holy Spirit

Shavuot or Pentecost is the day the Jewish or Hebrew people celebrate the giving of the Torah by God on Mount Sinai. God instructs us to count seven Sabbaths or weeks and then on the fiftieth day offer a new first fruit offering of wheat to the Lord.

A *Hebrew* is what Abraham was and it simply means “one who has crossed over”. This is what all believers in Jesus really are; we are Hebrew Christians because we have crossed over from death to life and darkness to light when we receive Jesus according to Romans chapter ten.

As we walk with the Lord and follow His appointed days, we will begin to see our restored identity and the inheritance He has planned for us. On Pentecost we receive the living Word, God’s Torah written on our hearts according to Jeremiah 31, the promise to those of the House of Judah and the House of Israel. It is the giving of the Holy Spirit that accomplishes this on Pentecost.

THE TORAH IS THE DIVINE WAY OF INSTRUCTION FOR LIFE, GOOD & BLESSING!

THE TORAH IS GOD’S WAY SO WE ALWAYS HIT THE MARK IN LIFE!

Jesus died on Passover, was buried just before the Feast of Unleavened Bread, rose on the Feast of First Fruits of the Barley harvest, and fifty days later He gave the Holy Spirit to live inside the hearts of the believers in the Upper Room.

In the upper room were 120 believers who were obedient to Jesus and were waiting to be clothed with power from on high. John spoke about One who would baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire.

Matthew 3:11 ISV

I am baptizing you with water as evidence of repentance, but the one who is coming after me is stronger than I am, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. It is he who will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire

The fire would consume the sacrifice of old. God Himself says He is a Consuming Fire. The 120 would have a fire that rested on each of them individually and as a people. On Pentecost, Jesus would give the greatest miracle of salvation and the new birth by marking us with the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 3:17

That **Christ** may **dwell** in your **hearts** through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love”

2 Corinthians 3:3 NLT

Clearly, you are a letter from Christ showing the result of our ministry among you. This "letter" is written not with pen and ink, but with the Spirit of the living God. It is carved not on tablets of stone, but on human hearts.

On the Day of Pentecost, the people would drink the living water of the Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 12:13 NKJV

For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.

The Day of Pentecost was a day of signs, wonders and great Joy! After the Holy Spirit was poured out in the Upper Room, they could not be contained. They took to the Temple and the streets and began to speak by the Holy Spirit the wonderful works of God. There was so much joy that the people thought they were all drunk with new wine, but it was only 9 in the morning! The people were not used to hearing about God in the native tongue of their homeland. God was demonstrating He wanted to be the “I Am” to every people of every language, in every place!

As Peter preached, the same thing that happened to the 120 began to happen to the ones who heard the message! The Holy Spirit fell on them, too! The people who heard them thought that they were drunk, but it was early in the morning and too early for that kind of wine. They, in fact were drunk, but on the new wine of the Holy Spirit.

ON THE DAY OF PENTECOST YOU WILL SEE THE WIND AND FIRE. FIRE WILL PURIFY, CONSUME OR PROVE WHAT GOD ACCEPTS.

THE WIND IS SYMBOLIC OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, BUT ALSO GOD'S BREATH OR LIFE.

THE SPIRIT OF GOD WILL REVIVE DEAD PEOPLE AND DEAD MEN'S BONES AS IN EZEKIEL CHAPTER 37.

But there is something else happening on the day of Pentecost that we can't see because it is happening on the inside of those 120 present. It is something that is not mentioned in the Acts account, but it is present and working; not on the outside, but internally. It is a well and a fountain that is flowing on the inside of each of the disciples.

John 7:37-39 NKJV

On the last day, that great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. **38** He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." **39** But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet *given,* because Jesus was not yet glorified.

Jesus said that if you are thirsty, come to Him and take a drink! After drinking of Jesus something will be deposited on the inside of you. There will be a river of living water. This is the water of the Holy Spirit. This is what was in the disciples; a mighty rushing river and well of the Spirit.

1 Corinthians 12:13 NIV

For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body--whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free--and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

Drink: watering, to irrigate, to drink, and to saturate

Water, according to Jesus, is in you like a fountain or a well. It is meant to provide water to you, but also to those who come in contact with your well. Drinking is not a one-time event; it is available for whenever you or anyone is thirsty!

Isaiah 55:1 NET

“Hey, all who are thirsty, come to the water! You who have no money, come!

Pentecost is an invitation to whoever is thirsty to come and partake of the water of life by the gift of grace. This is not just God’s heart, but also those who believe in Him and have been drinking the water and the new wine of the Spirit.

Isaiah 55:1 GW

"Listen! Whoever is thirsty, come to the water! Whoever has no money can come, buy, and eat! Come, buy wine and milk. You don't have to pay; it’s free!

Revelation 22:17 GW

The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" Let those who hear this say, "Come!" Let those who are thirsty come! Let those who want the water of life take it as a gift.

Mary is the mother of Jesus. She is there at the Upper Room and is receiving the same Living Water given to her by the Holy Spirit. She is Jesus’ mom, but she, too, needs to receive the Living Water that Jesus talked about in John chapter seven.

Acts 1:13-14 PT

Arriving there, they went into a large second-floor room *to pray* Those present were Peter, John, Jacob, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, Jacob (the son of Alpheus), Simon (the zealot), Judas (the son of Jacob), and a number of women, including Mary, Jesus’ mother. His brothers were there as well. All of them were united in prayer, gripped with one passion interceding night and day.

ONE ACCORD: [2]“One mind, one heart, one fiery passionate prayer & song this is so powerful! A unique Greek word, used Ten of its Twelve New Testament occurrences in the Book of Acts, helps us understand the uniqueness of the Christian community. Homothumadon is a compound of two words meaning to "rush along" and "in unison". The image is almost musical; a number of notes are sounded which, while different, harmonize in pitch and tone. As the instruments of a great concert under the direction of a concertmaster, so the Holy Spirit blends together the lives of members of Christ's church.”

There was fire, wind, and water all together in the Upper Room when the Holy Spirit came down and filled them and rested on each one of them including

the Mother of Jesus Mary! Jesus had told them to wait and they were obedient.

Acts 1:4-5 LB

In one of these meetings he told them not to leave Jerusalem until the Holy Spirit came upon them in fulfillment of the Father's promise, a matter he had previously discussed with them. **5** "John baptized you with water," he reminded them, "but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit in just a few days."

This Holy Spirit is for you and for your children too!

Acts 2:36-38

"Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah."**37** When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" **38** Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. **39** The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

The Shavuot Blessing began to be poured out on anyone who would receive the word about Jesus. Even though Pentecost was an appointed season and day and a fulfillment of many prophesies, a door had now been opened to "whosever will" to come and drink the water and the wine and experience a new beginning. Whenever Jesus and the gospel are preached, the Holy Spirit that came on Pentecost will keep coming and falling on those who hear the Word.

Acts 11:15-16 NET

Then as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as he did on us at the beginning. 16 And I remembered the word of the Lord, as he used to say, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.'

Acts 10:44-46 NET

While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell on all those who heard the message. 45 The circumcised believers who had accompanied Peter were greatly astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, 46 for they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God.

Acts 19:5-6

When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus, 6 and when Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they began to speak in tongues and to prophesy

Zephaniah 3:9

"For then I will restore to the peoples a pure language, That they all may call on the name of the LORD, To serve Him with one accord.

Can you see the one accord and the pure language as prophesied by Zephaniah? Can you see the same one accord and pure language in Acts chapter two?

Isaiah 28:11-12 NKJV

For with stammering (foreign) lips and another(different) tongue He will speak to this people, 12 To whom He said, "This *is* the rest *with which* You may cause the weary to rest," And, "This *is* the refreshing"; Yet they would not hear.

1 Corinthians 14:2 WNT

For he who speaks in an unknown tongue is not speaking to men, but to God; for no one understands him. Yet in the Spirit he is speaking secret truths. (*Secrets by the Spirit* ISV)

The hidden counsels and mysteries are being spoken to us when we receive the language of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit descends like fire with God's voice and His fiery love. The Holy Spirit will restore the communion that man lost in the Garden back to Yahweh God. We don't worship or seek the tongues, but receive the Giver of those gifts, the Holy Spirit. Don't be afraid receive Him and all that He wants to give you. If He promised this to His disciples it is because we need all He has to be able to fulfill God's plans.

1 Corinthians 14:15 NIV

So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my understanding; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my understanding

The Holy Spirit is an inward and available power for us to edify and build the inner spirit man up. The Holy Spirit coming on Pentecost will continue to lead and guide disciples throughout not only in the book of Acts but throughout our journey until Jesus comes for us.

Jude 1:20 NASB

But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith; praying in the Holy Spirit;

Many people don't understand that there is a uniqueness and difference in the manifestation of the Holy Spirit for communication between believers and God, and how the Spirit will give utterance to communicate the gospel in the language of the Nations. On the initial outpouring in the book of Acts, you will see two things happen almost simultaneously.

The first is the Holy Spirit and fire descending upon each believer like a tongue or flame of fire, this was not the gift or has anything to do with what happens next as the Spirit gives utterance to those present in a heavenly language. After they leave the Upper Room, the same Holy Spirit then begins to manifest Himself in known languages through those same people who had just communicated with God in the heavenly language. The empowerment came from the same Holy Spirit but was manifested differently one to commune with God and the other to speak and preach so that each Nation could understand the gospel in their own tongue.

This was a restoration of the tower of Babel and the confusing of languages and separation of Nations found in Genesis when Nimrod attempted to unite the people in one accord to build a tower to heaven.

Now, those in one accord saw a reversal of the confusion and saw God's shalom make one the language and the people that were divided.

The Holy Spirit will empower you with His Spirit and give you a communication that the devil cannot comprehend, and you can speak mysteries and pray in accordance with the Divine will of God in your Holy Spirit tongue. The same Holy Spirit will empower you to share and spread the gospel with power to any and every nation He sends you to!

CHAPTER SEVEN:

Personal or Small Group Study

The _____ is the Divine way of _____for life, good and blessing! The _____ is God's way so we always hit the mark in life!

What is the wind symbolic of?

_____

1 Corinthians 12:13 NKJV

For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.

Pentecost is an _____to whoever is _____ to come and partake of the water of life by the gift of grace. This is not just God's heart, but also those who believe in Him and have been drinking the new _____ and the _____ of the Spirit.

John 7:38

He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." **39** But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet *given,* because Jesus was not yet glorified.

Describe what the words "one accord" really mean when looking at the Greek Word: Homothumadon?

_____

Acts 10:44-46 NET

While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit _____ on all those who _____the message. 45 The circumcised believers who had accompanied Peter were greatly astonished that the _____ of the Holy

Spirit had been poured out even on the _____, 46 for they heard them speaking in _____and praising God.

What are some of the reason the Holy Spirit gives us tongues?

_____

Zephaniah 3:9

"For then I will _____ to the peoples a pure _____, That they all may _____ on the name of the LORD, To serve Him with one _____.

1 Corinthians 14:15 NIV

So what shall I do? I will _____with my spirit, but I will also pray with my understanding; I will _____ with my spirit, but I will also sing with my understanding.

Acts 2:38

Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you _____ receive the _____ of the Holy Spirit. **39** The promise is for _____ and your _____ and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will _____."

Please describe in detail what impact has the Holy Spirit had on your life?

_____

CONCLUSION:

THE END, NO NOT REALLY!

Acts 2:33

Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear. Jesus is the one who poured out the Holy Spirit and these blessings! The Pentecost blessing is so great we can never exhaust it. Jesus will continue to do and teach just like He did in the flesh, but now He does it though His people who have been empowered by His Spirit.

Hebrews 13:8

Jesus Christ *is* the same yesterday, today, and forever.

The greatest miracle is the miracle of salvation and the new birth that came to the Upper Room on the day of Pentecost. The hundred and twenty were the first fruits of the wheat harvest that God accepted with His fire. They were the prototype for you and me today who confess Jesus as Lord. I have listed some of the blessings of Pentecost, but there really are too many to count and they never will end. I have listed here just a few; see if you can remember some more of them.

- The Fire of purification and cleansing of the spiritual temples making them worthy to receive the Kingdom of God and the Holy Spirit

- The Holy Spirit coming to dwell and live inside of believers

- The Holy Spirit coming to rest upon and empower all disciples for ministry

- The Holy Spirit baptizing them with fire and accepting them as a first-fruit of the wheat harvest.

- An encounter with God's fire that makes God's name known, confirmation of the calling, plan and mission that is ours to walk out by faith and obedience

- The Living Water and New Wine of the Spirit springing up from the fountain in believers

- The believers receiving heavenly tongues for communication in the spirit realm as a gift.

- The Holy Spirit speaking though the believers in the language of the Nations so they would hear and understand the gospel message

- The believers receiving heavenly tongues for communication in the spirit realm for supernatural prayer & empowerment

- A restoration of years by joining of the House of Israel and the House of Judah back to God as their husband and to a new covenant as God writes His Torah Word on their new hearts by the Holy Spirit.

In Joel chapter two, prophesying about Pentecost it talks about restoring the years and what had been previously lost. The Pentecost Blessing is one of an abundance of wheat, new wine and oil. You will eat and be satisfied with God's abundance. God will pour our His Spirit upon all people! The Pentecost blessing

will be a resetting and restoration of years so you really don't ever forfeit or lose your destiny and purpose.

THE BLESSING OF PENTECOST IS FOR YOU!

On the day of Pentecost, Peter stood up to speak. He began to quote from the prophet Joel. It seems that the Holy Spirit upon those in the Upper Room caused people to question what they were hearing and seeing, thinking perhaps they were drunk with new wine.

Acts 2:14-18

But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words. **15** For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is *only* the third hour of the day. **16** But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: **17** 'And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams. **18** And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; And they shall prophesy.

Actually, they were correct though they said it mockingly; the people were drunk with the New Wine of the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 5:18 LB

Don't drink too much wine, for many evils lie along that path; be filled instead with the Holy Spirit and controlled by him.

Isaiah 65: 8

Thus says the Lord: "As the new wine is found in the cluster, And *one* says, 'Do not destroy it, For a blessing *is* in it,'

Mathew 9:17 NET

And no one pours new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the skins burst and the wine is spilled out and the skins are destroyed. Instead they put new wine into new wineskins and both are preserved."

On Pentecost, the new wineskins had arrived! Because of the work of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus, a new, redeemed and born again man

would be able to be a container that was worthy of the New Wine.

We are the redeemed, born again new people! Our species is of the Kingdom of God made up of those were Jew or Gentile, male and female, but in Jesus the emphasis is not on what you were or where you came from, but who He is and who you are in Him. Christ in You is the Hope of Glory. Our greatest identity is in what only the Holy Spirit can work in us.

Pentecost is a time where the first fruit of the wheat harvest would be given back to God. The first fruits is to be the choicest, best, finest and first part of the harvest given back to God as an offering of worship and praise for God's promised blessing of abundance as His covenant blessed people.

Proverbs 3:9-10NET

Honor the Lord from your wealth and from the first fruits of all your crops;
10 then your barns will be filled completely, and your vats will overflow with new wine.

Exodus 23:19ISV

"You are to bring the best of the first fruits of your soil to the house of the LORD your God

Deuteronomy 16:16-17 AMP [1]

"Three times a year all your males shall appear before the Lord your God in the place which He chooses, at the Feast of Unleavened Bread (Passover) and at the Feast of Weeks (Pentecost) and at the Feast of Booths (Tabernacles), and they shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed. **17** Every man shall give as he is able, in accordance with the blessing which the Lord your God has given you.

Acts 2:36-39 NKJV

"Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ." **37** Now when they heard *this,* they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men *and* brethren, what shall we do?" **38** Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. **39** For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

THE BLESSING OF PENTECOST IS FOR YOU!

Receive the Shavuot and Pentecost Blessing today! Let God consume you. Don't worry; you won't burn up because Jesus has accepted you! Let the Holy Spirit live and move in you and through you by faith. Learn how to yield to the Holy Spirit upon you. Let Him give you the pure language. It's a way to pray and sing in the Spirit and build up your faith and get refreshed again and again! Let God give you a generous and open hand and a good eye. This will position and posture you to be a conduit and flow of God's resources and blessings.

As you begin to keep this appointed day of the Lord, watch Him bring you into Divine Alignment with your Divine Assignment. You see, it's not really the end, but a new beginning through the Holy Spirit; all for the Glory of Jesus!

Numbers 6:24-27

"The Lord bless you and keep you; 25 The Lord make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you; 26 The Lord lift up His countenance upon And give you peace."' 27 "So they shall put My name on the children of Israel, and I will bless them."

Let's Pray!

Dear Jesus. I thank you right now for the Blessing and appointed time of Pentecost. Today I receive every thing you have to bring me in full alignment and agreement with your plans and purpose for my life. I exalt and lift up Jesus as Lord and King over every part of my being. I receive the fullness of your Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues so I can pray in in the Spirit and with the understanding. I receive my prayer language right now by faith. Thank you for writing the Word of God on my heart and allowing me to be a light that shines in the world for Your Kingdom, Power and Glory! I give you all my praise, thanksgiving and worship in Jesus Name, Amen!

About the Author

Kenneth “Ken” Albin was born in New York, but moved to Florida as a young seven-year-old. Shortly after moving, Ken’s parents were divorced, which left him deeply hurt for many years. During this time Ken, being Jewish, went to Hebrew school and Temple regularly. At the time of his thirteenth birthday and Bar Mitzvah, many confirmed a calling as a “rabbi” or “cantor” on his life.

It was soon after this that Ken’s grandparents met the Lord at a Full Gospel businessmen’s meeting. With momentum that came from above, Ken’s father, David accepted the Lord, Jesus as his Savior. Being moved by his father’s “born again” experience, Ken was now himself open to hear the message that so radically changed his dad’s life. In the summer of Ken’s sophomore year of high school, he gave his life to Jesus and his life was radically altered. He has been faithful to the house of God ever since. His mother, Racquel had also accepted Jesus and was now serving the Lord full time in Messianic ministry with her new husband, Rabbi Charles Kluge.

Ken has served in various areas of ministry including children’s ministry, youth ministry and music ministry. He also has served in both associate and senior pastor roles for over twenty years. He has earned his Bachelor of Theology from International Seminary and his Master’s Degree from Liberty University. He is also an accomplished singer/songwriter who has written over 100 songs. He loves to worship with the guitar and the keyboard.

Ken met his wife, Lisa at her grandfather’s church in Margate, Florida. They were married when Lisa was just eighteen years of age. Six years later they welcomed their only child, Brittney into the world. Today Brittney and her husband, A.J. serve with Ken and Lisa in ministry and have a beautiful daughter, Brielle.

Ken and Lisa founded Save the Nations Church along with a handful of

committed people who gathered in a home on September 17, 2006. God had put a vision in their hearts to reach the nations and bring light to a hurting world. Ken and Lisa currently serve as the overseeing pastors of the South Florida church campus in Broward County. As founders and pastors, they desire to inspire, instruct, resource and help people discover the destiny God has for them. The nations have become their home as together they travel to the nations, teaching, reviving and sharing the resources that help make influential disciples and bring people into appreciation of God's Torah, His "instructions."

Ken has always preached the word with the inspiration and revelation of the Holy Spirit. He has recently been on a journey to bring Christians into an understanding of the roots of their faith. "The Christian church has been hacked!" as Ken states in one of his latest books about restoring the inheritance and identity back to the church.

Presently, there are two international Save the Nations churches in Brazil: one in Rio and one in Marica'. Brazilian pastors, Diego and Kelly are doing an amazing work for God and great fruit is seen in that nation.

Ken has authored many books. All are available on Amazon. They are also being translated to Spanish, Portuguese and Russian languages.

BOOKS BY KENNETH S. ALBIN

YOU ARE BORN FOR THE EXTRAORDINARY

UPSIDE OF DOWN

THE MYSTERY OF THE CROWN

HACKED: THE HEBREW CHRISTIAN

CHRISTIANS GET TO CELEBRATE THE PASSOVER TOO!

NO MORE LEAVEN!

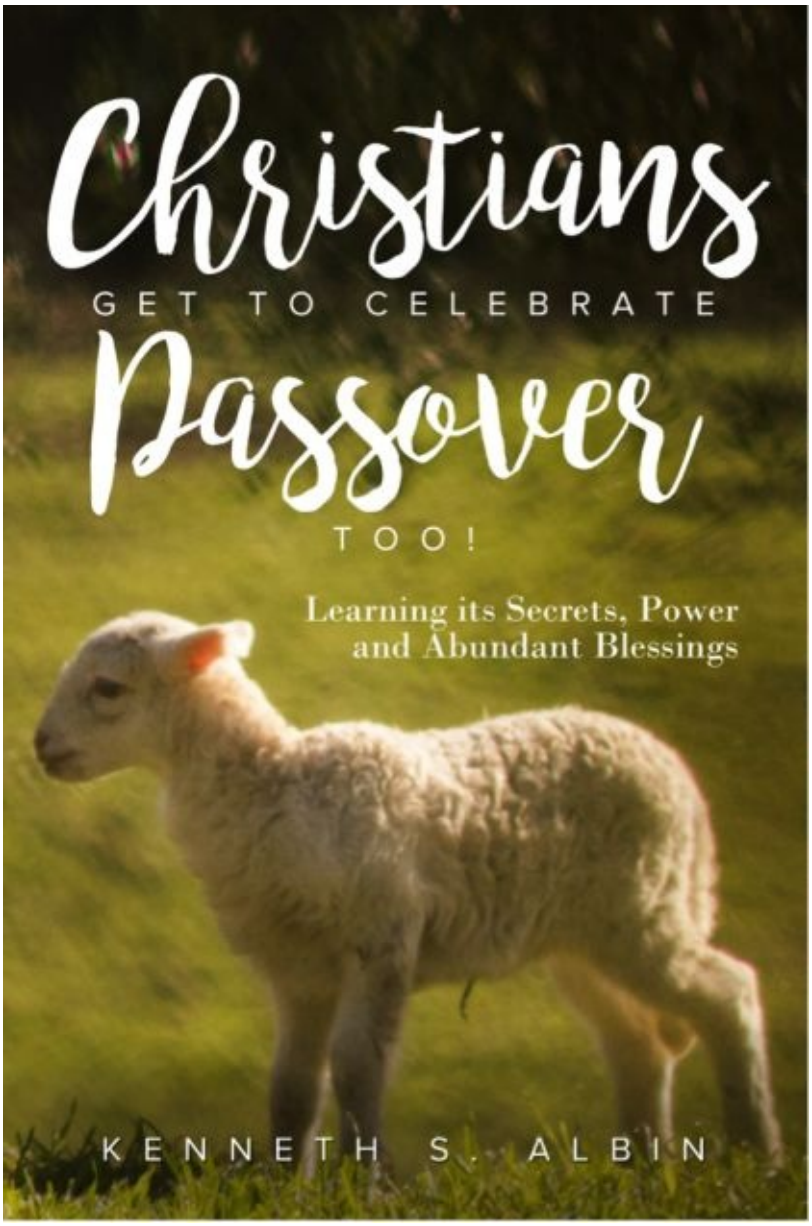
HANNUKAH AND PURIM ARE FOR CHRISTIANS TOO!

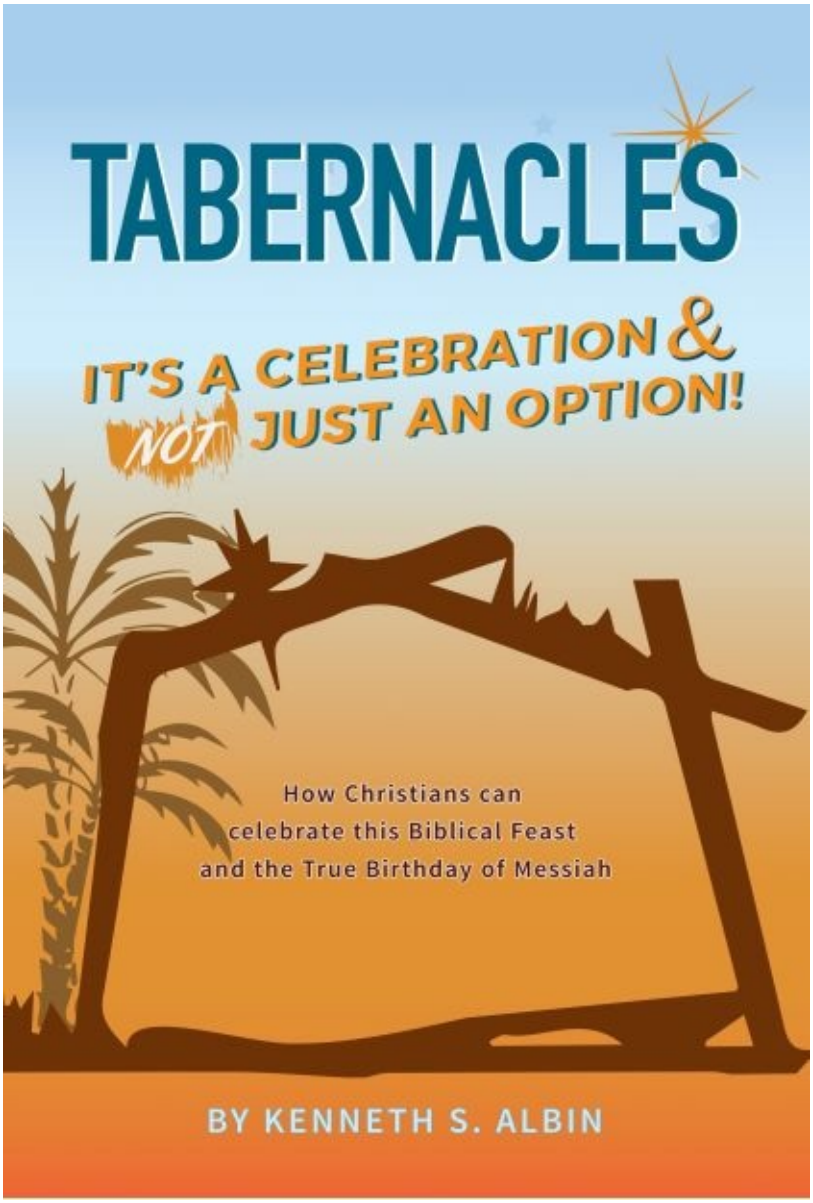
HIT THE MARK

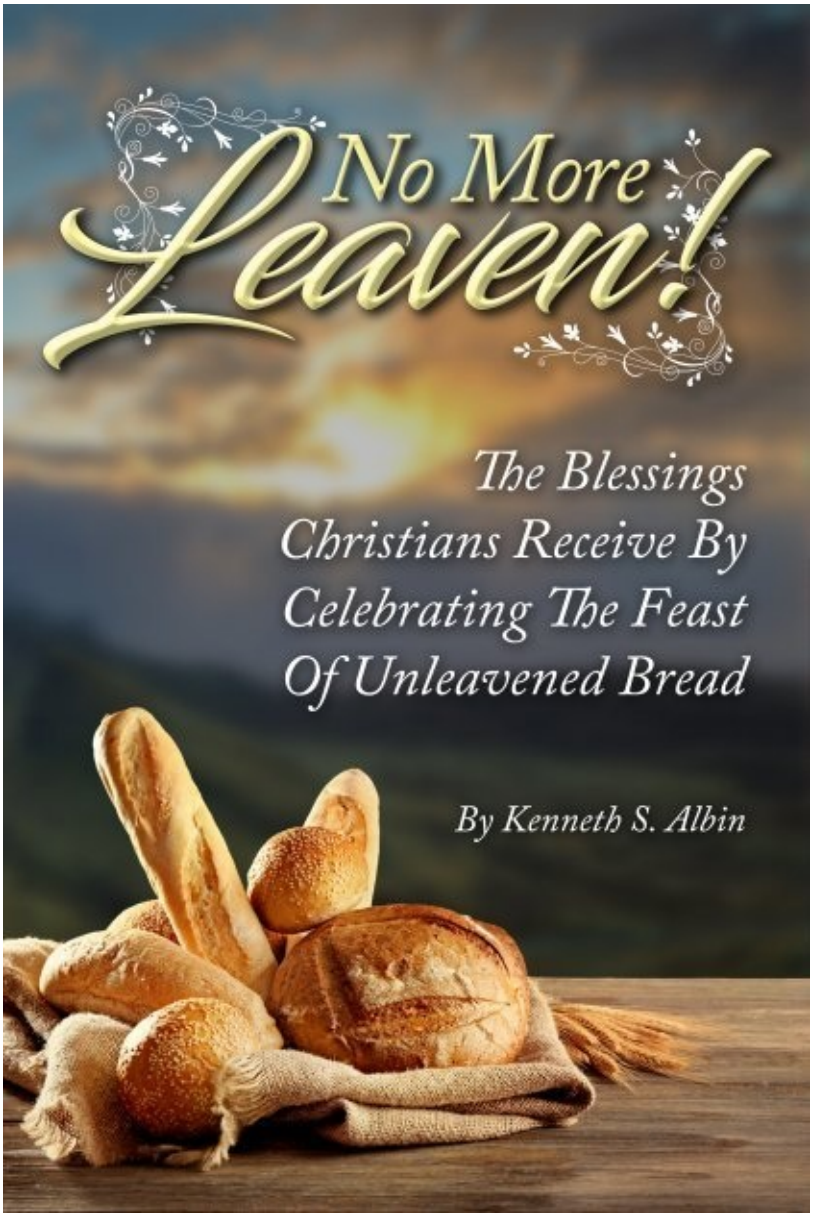
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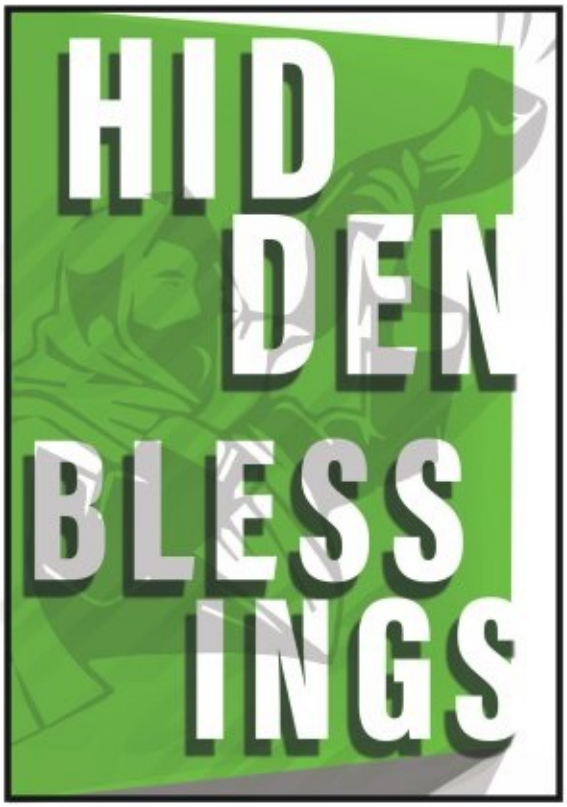
TABERNACLES ITS A CELEBRATION AND NOT JUST AN OPTION

Contact Information: for Ken & Lisa Albin
www.savethenations.com / www.hitthemarktorah.tv
info@savethenations.com


Christians
GET TO CELEBRATE
Passover
TOO!
Learning its Secrets, Power
and Abundant Blessings
KENNETH S. ALBIN


TABERNACLES
IT'S A CELEBRATION & NOT JUST AN OPTION!
How Christians can
celebrate this Biblical Feast
and the True Birthday of Messiah
BY KENNETH S. ALBIN

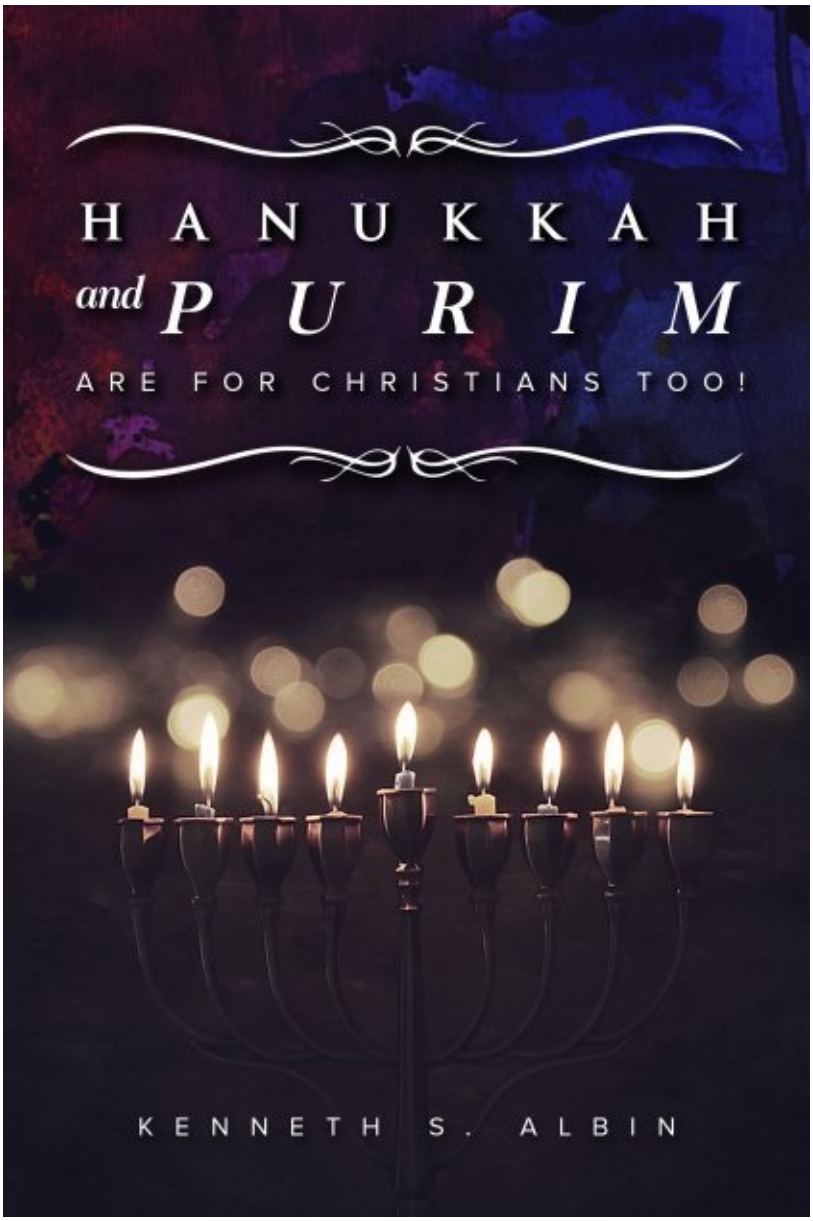

No More Leaven!
The Blessings Christians Receive By Celebrating The Feast Of Unleavened Bread
By Kenneth S. Albin



REVEALED

A Christian Understanding for Celebrating
the Biblical Holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur

BY KENNETH S. ALBIN


HANUKKAH
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ARE FOR CHRISTIANS TOO!
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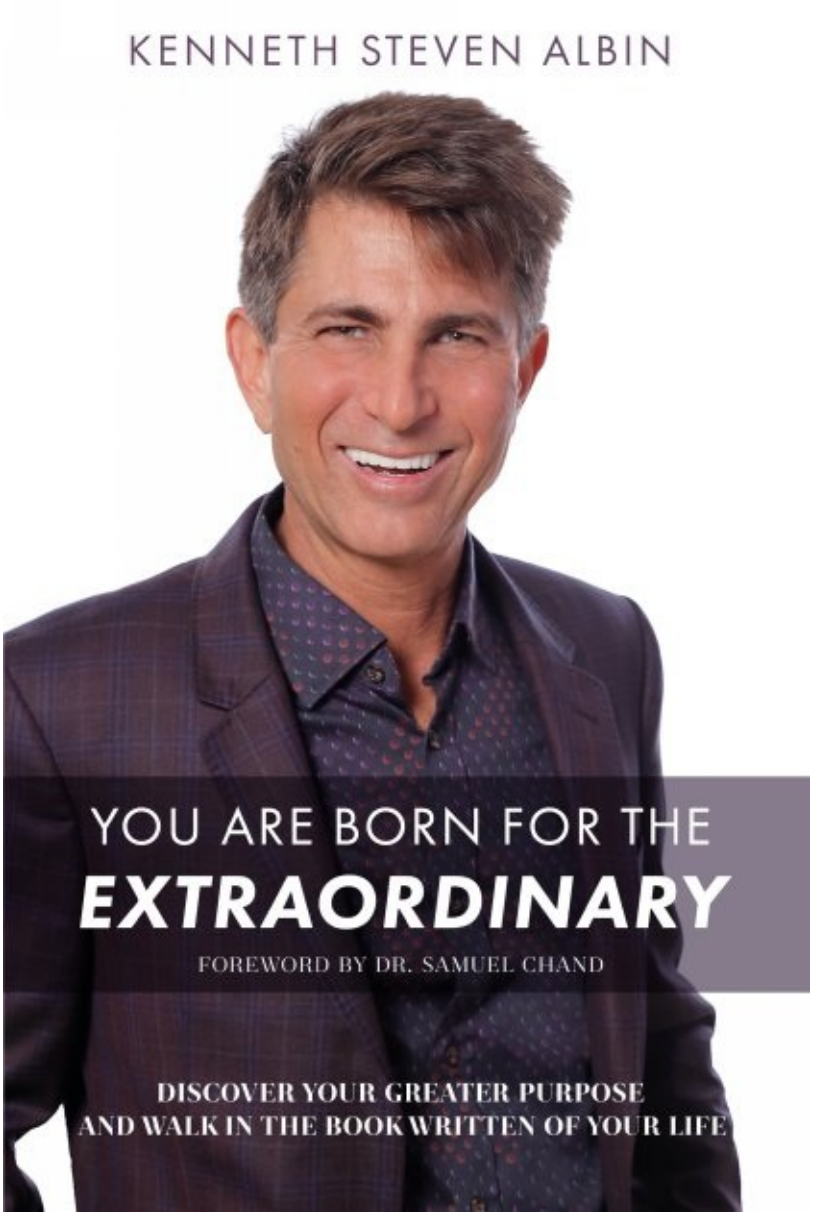
THE MYSTERY

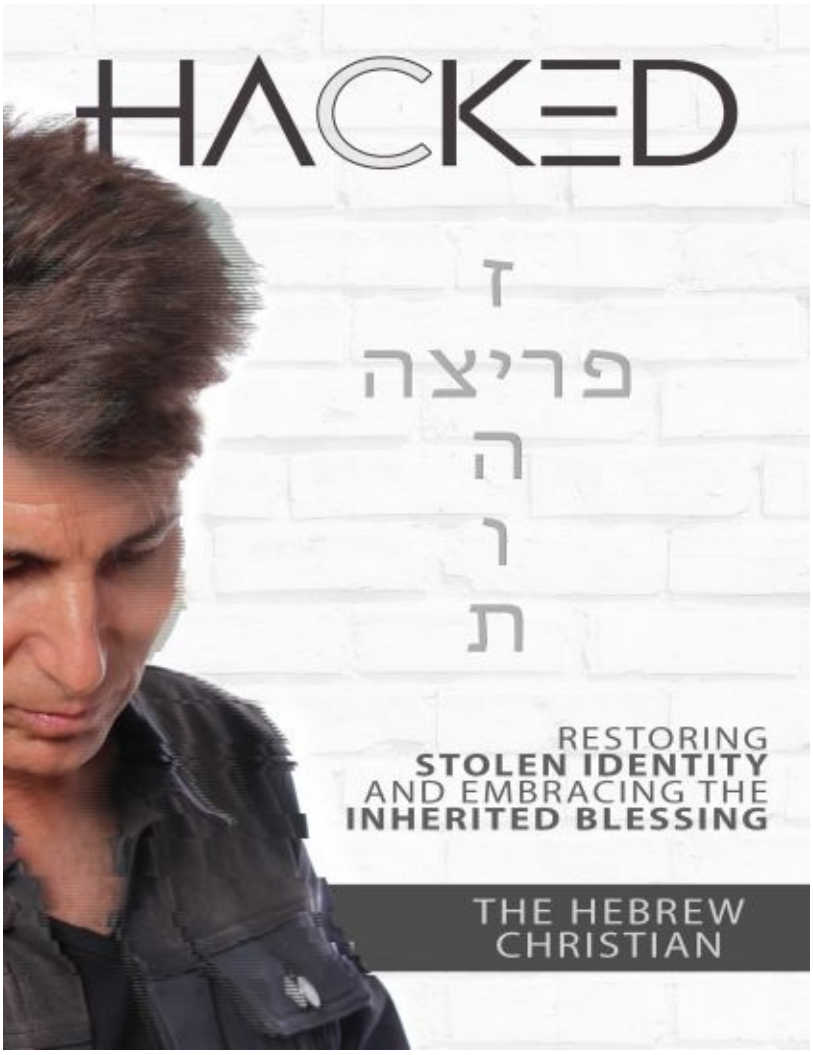


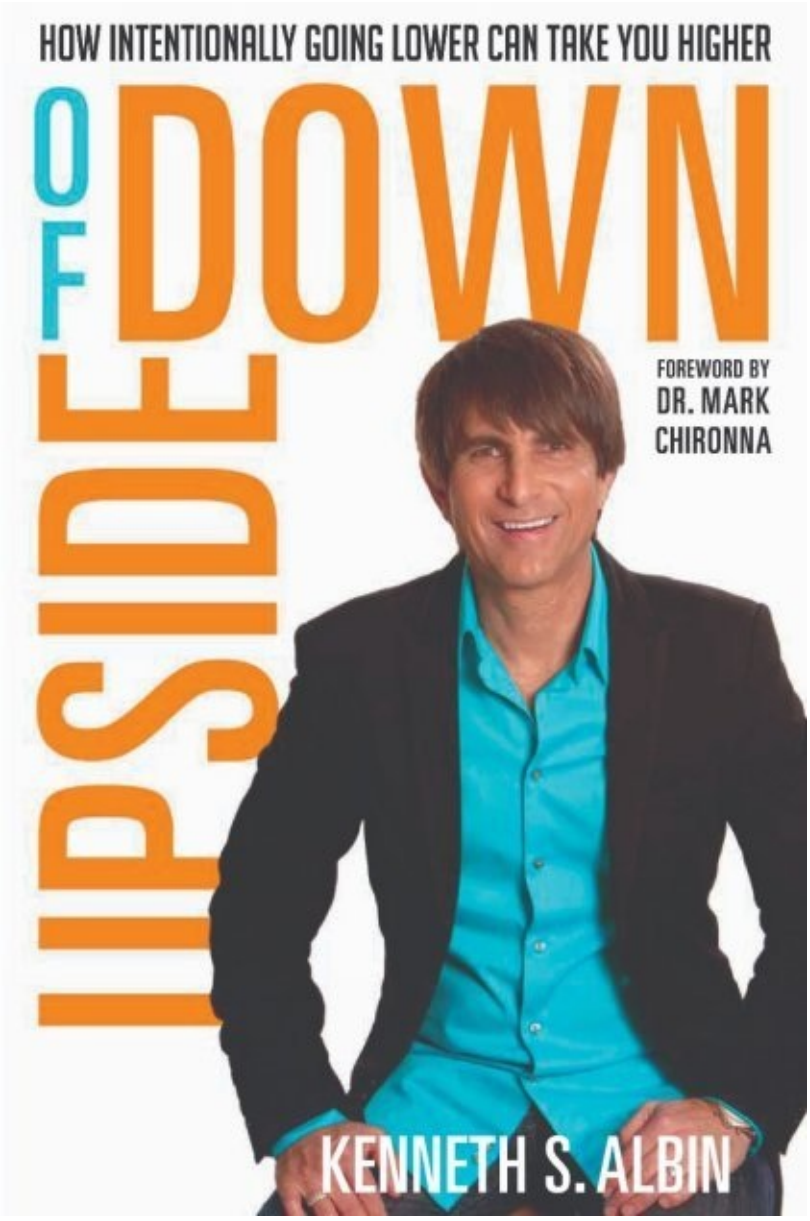
OF THE CROWN

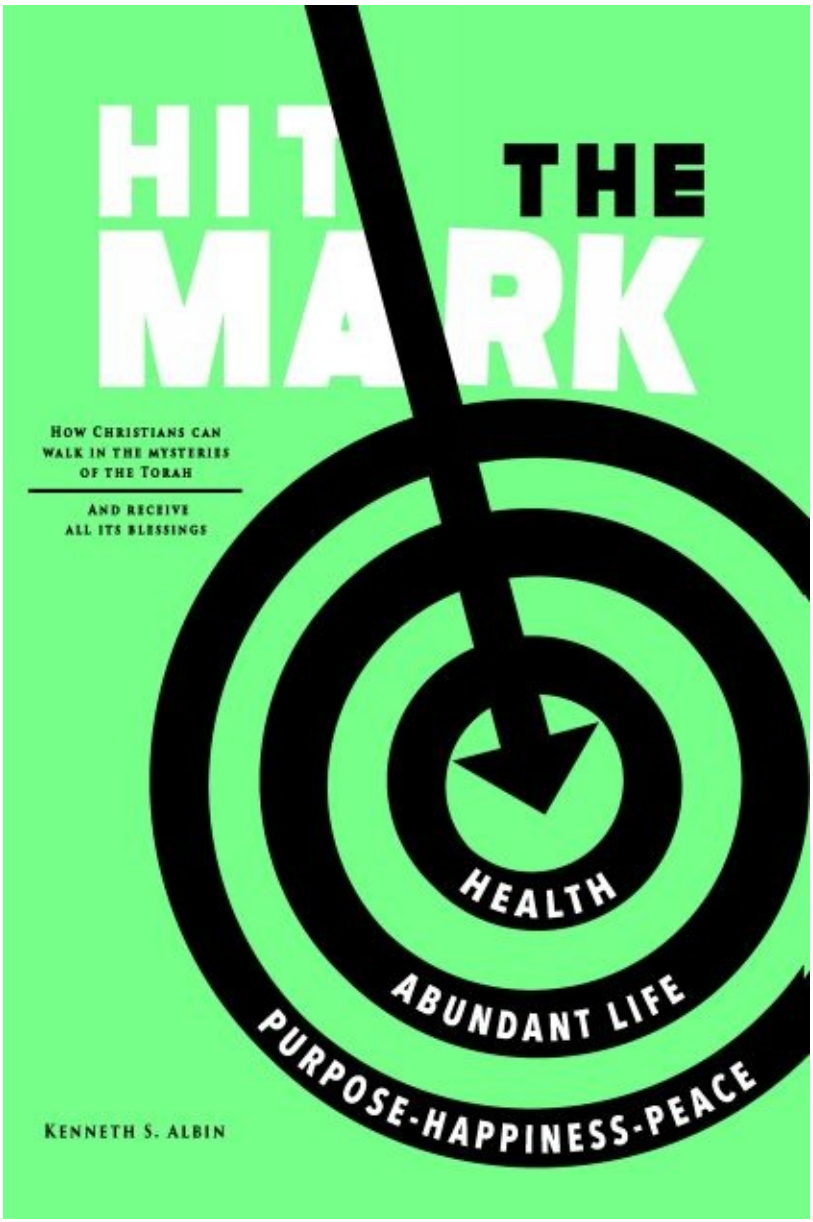
"WHY CHRIST HAD TO RECEIVE IT &
HOW ITS SECRETS CAN CHANGE YOUR WORLD."

FOREWORD BY TED SHUTTLESWORTH


KENNETH STEVEN ALBIN
YOU ARE BORN FOR THE
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FOREWORD BY DR. SAMUEL CHAND
DISCOVER YOUR GREATER PURPOSE
AND WALK IN THE BOOK WRITTEN OF YOUR LIFE


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[1] https://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?Strongs=G907&t=KJV

[2] https://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?Strongs=G3661&t=KJV