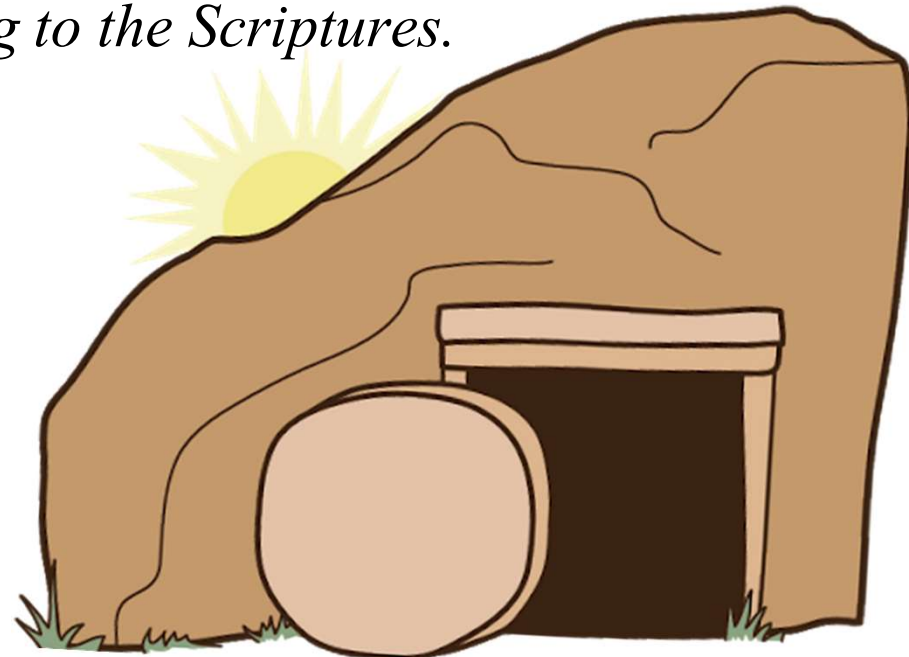


The Resurrection of the Dead.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.



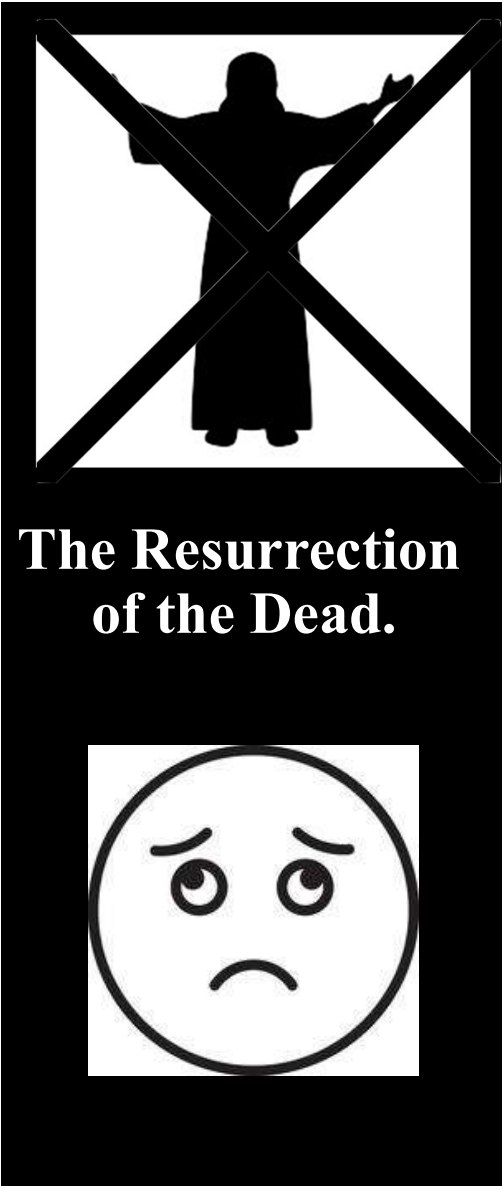
How important is the **RESURRECTION**?

**The doctrine of
resurrection from the
dead is vital.**



Hebrews 6:1-3.

Therefore, let us move beyond the elementary teachings about Christ and be taken forward to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death, and of faith in God, instruction about cleansing rites, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. And God permitting, we will do so.



1 Corinthians 15:12-14

But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?

If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised.

And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith.



The Resurrection of the Dead.

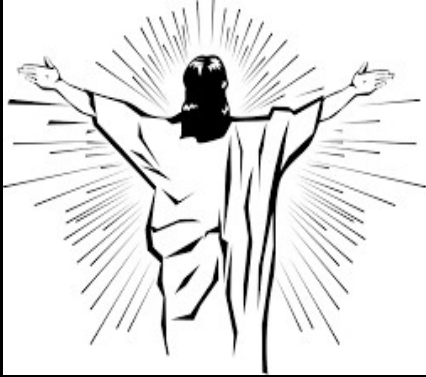


1 Corinthians 15:17-19.

And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.

Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost.

If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.



The Resurrection of the Dead.

1 Corinthians 15:19-23.

But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the Firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man.

*For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. But each in **turn: Christ, the Firstfruits;** then, when he comes, those who belong to him.*

The Feast of First Fruits.

Offering the First fruits

Leviticus 23:4-14.

The Lord said to Moses, Speak to the Israelites and say to them: When you enter the land, I am going to give you and you reap its harvest, bring to the priest a sheaf of the first grain you harvest.

He is to wave the sheaf before the Lord so it will be accepted on your behalf; the priest is to wave it on the day after the Sabbath. On the day you wave the sheaf, you must sacrifice as a burnt offering to the Lord a lamb a year old without defect, together with its grain offering of two-tenths of an ephah of the finest flour mixed with olive oil a food offering presented to the Lord, a pleasing aroma and its drink offering of a quarter of a hin of wine. You must not eat any bread, or roasted or new grain, until the very day you bring this offering to your God. This is to be a lasting ordinance for the generations to come, wherever you live.



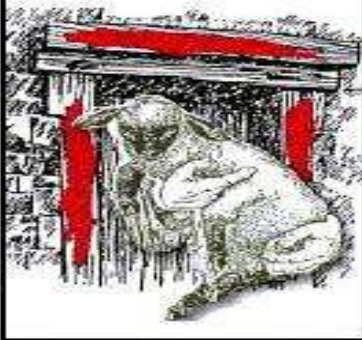

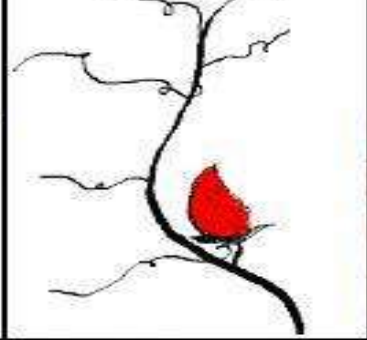




The Feast of First Fruits.

The Feast of First-fruits, on the 17th day of Nisan, was a celebration of the harvest, when a sheaf representing the very first of the harvest was waved before the Lord, as a symbolic gesture that dedicated the coming harvest to Him.

(This sheaf was likely to be barley, which was the first crop to ripen).



The Feast of First Fruits.

How and Why Feast was Celebrated	Passover	Unleavened Bread	Firstfruits	Pentecost or Feast of Harvest
				
<p>The Jews of Egypt were saved by the blood of a lamb on their door ways .</p>	<p>Jews were to eat pure unleavened bread for one week.</p>	<p>The firstfruits of the spring harvest were to be sacrificed as the temple</p>	<p>This feast marked the summer harvest when many crops were available</p>	
How God Fulfilled the Feast	FULFILLED	FULFILLED	FULFILLED	FULFILLED
	<p>Christ God's Lamb has been sacrificed</p>	<p>Christ has paid our sins, we are now clean of sin</p>	<p>Christ has risen the firstfruits</p>	<p>The Holy Spirit has been released</p>
	<p>Clean out old leaven... just as you are in fact unleavened</p>			

PROPHETIC FULFILLMENT of the Feast First Fruits.

Jesus rose from the dead on the Feast of First-fruits.

The Apostle Paul said...

1 Corinthians 15:20,23.

*But now is Christ risen from the dead and become the **first fruits** of them that slept."...*

*"For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order, Christ the **first fruits**, afterward they that are Christ's at his coming."*





Jesus is referred to as First Fruits.

But He is also our High Priest, and as the High Priest waved a First Fruit offering before God, likewise Jesus presented the First Fruits of the 1st Resurrection to God.

1 Corinthians 15:20-23.

For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order, Christ the first fruits, afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

EPHESIANS 4:7-11.

*But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. This is why it says:
When he ascended on high, he took many captives and gave gifts to his people.*

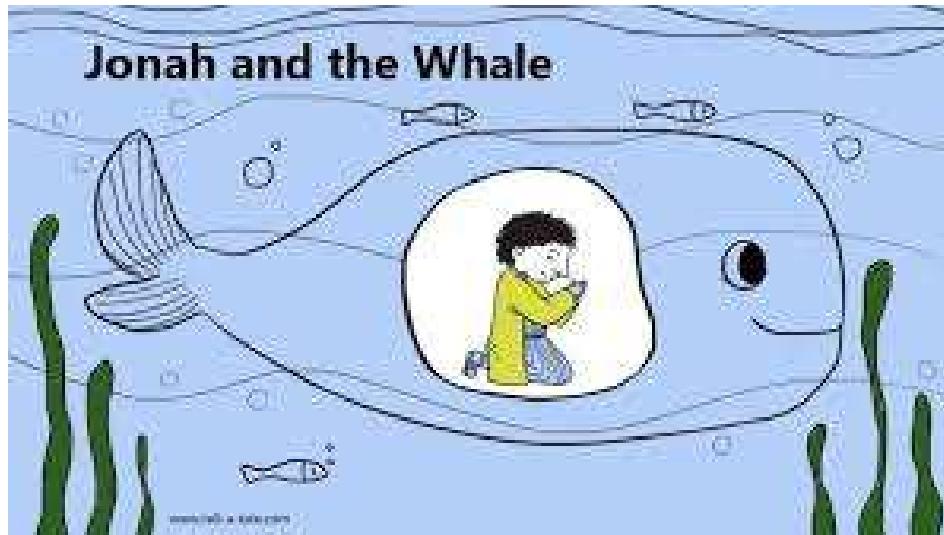
What does “he ascended” mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions?

*He who descended
is the very one who
ascended higher
than all the heavens,
in order to fill the
whole universe.*

*So Christ himself
gave the apostles,
the prophets, the evangelists,
the pastors and teachers,
to equip his people for works
of service, so that the body of
Christ may be built up.*



JESUS Descended



MATTHEW 12:40.

For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

JESUS Descended

***GOTQUESTIONS.ORG

***As Jesus neared death, He said, “[It is finished](#)” ([John 19:30](#)). His suffering in our place was completed. His soul/spirit went to hades (the place of the dead). Jesus did not go to “hell” or the suffering side of hades; He went to “Abraham’s side” or the blessed side of hades. Jesus’ suffering ended the moment He died. The payment for sin was paid. He then awaited the resurrection of His body and His return to glory in His ascension. Did Jesus go to hell? **No.** Did Jesus go to sheol/hades? **Yes.**

JESUS Descended

***GOTQUESTIONS.ORG

The clearest indication we have in Scripture of where Jesus was between His death and resurrection comes in His conversation on the cross with one of the thieves crucified next to Him. The believing thief asks to be remembered when Jesus comes into His kingdom (Luke 23:42), and Jesus replies, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise” (**verse 43**). So, after His death, Jesus went to the place of blessing where God is PARADISE. And that’s where the believing thief went, too.

Psalm 16:10.

You will not abandon my soul in Sheol,

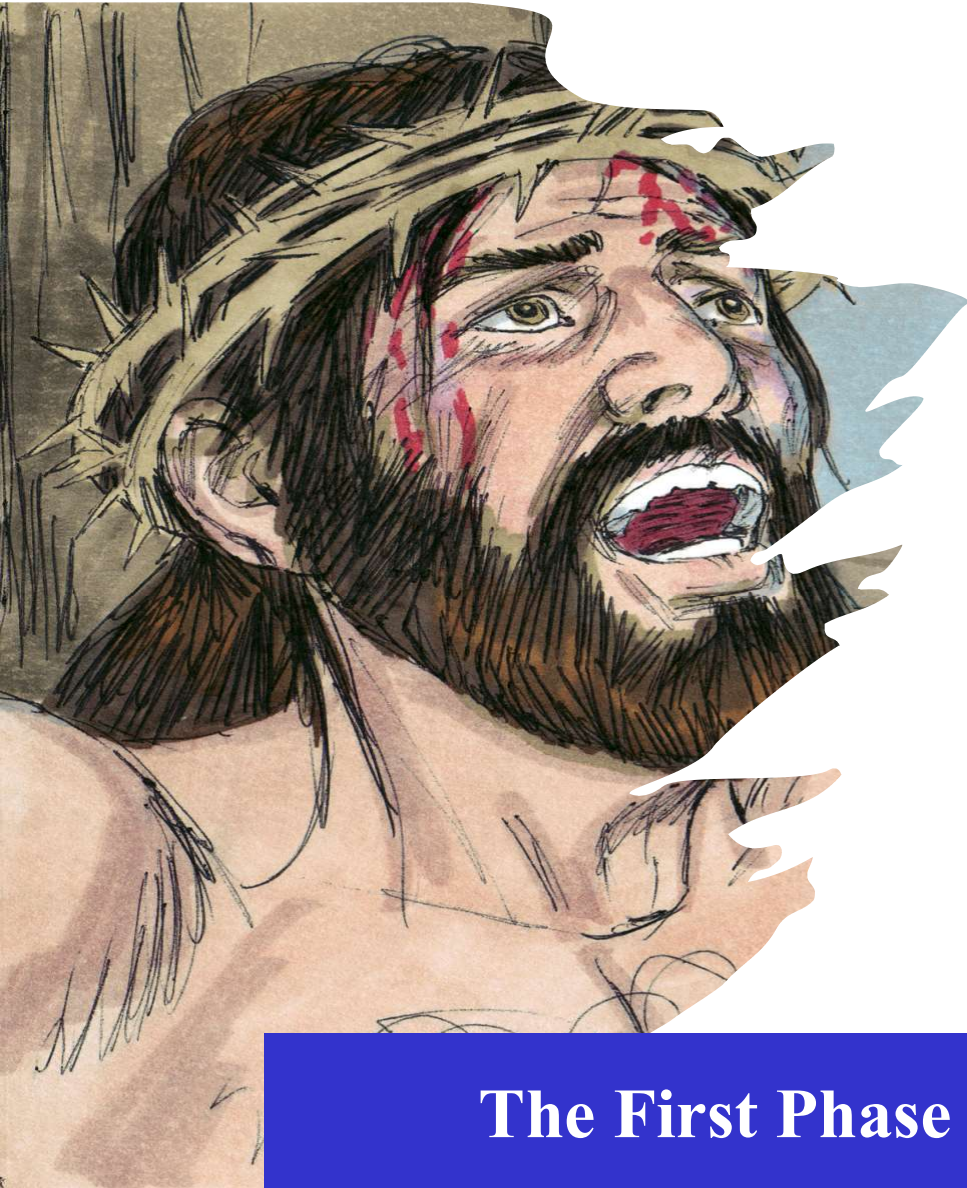
JESUS Descended (peter said on Pentecost)

Acts2:25-32.

For David says concerning him,

“I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; therefore, my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades or let your Holy One see corruption.

You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence. Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Being therefore a prophet and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses.



The prophetic aspect of the Feast of First Fruits.

Matthew 27:51-53.

And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.

The earth shook, the rocks split and the tombs broke open.

The bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life. They came out of the tombs after Jesus' resurrection and went into the holy city and appeared to many people.

The First Phase of the Jewish Harvest.

The First resurrection.

- a. The first fruits.**
Matthew 27:51-53.
- b. The main harvest.**
1 Thessalonians 4:13-17.
- c. The gleanings.**
Revelation 20:4-6.



The Jewish harvest has 3 phases.



The main harvest.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17.

For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.

Gleanings at harvest time were to be left for the poor.

Leviticus 19:9-10.

When you reap the harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest.

Do not go over your vineyard a second time or pick up the grapes that have fallen. Leave them for the poor and the foreigner. I am the Lord your God.



The Third Phase of the Jewish Harvest.



The Gleanings.

Revelation 20:4.

I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony about Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years.



Revelation 20:5-6.

**The
Gleanings.**

The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended.

This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy are those who share in the first resurrection.

The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years.

The First Resurrection

The Second Resurrection

Firstfruits

Stage 1

Stage 2

Stage 3

Harvest
1Thess4:
13-17

Gleanings
Rev20:4-6

Church Age

Tribulation

Millennium

Resurrection
of the
Unrighteous &
Great White
Throne
Judgement



The personal aspect of the Feast of First Fruits.



- A. **The Passover/Feast of unleavened bread** dealt with crucifying the “old man” (getting rid of the leaven)
- B. **The feast of First fruits** deals with putting on the “new man” (the resurrected life”)

Galatians 5:14,15.

May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is the new creation.

2 Corinthians 5:17.

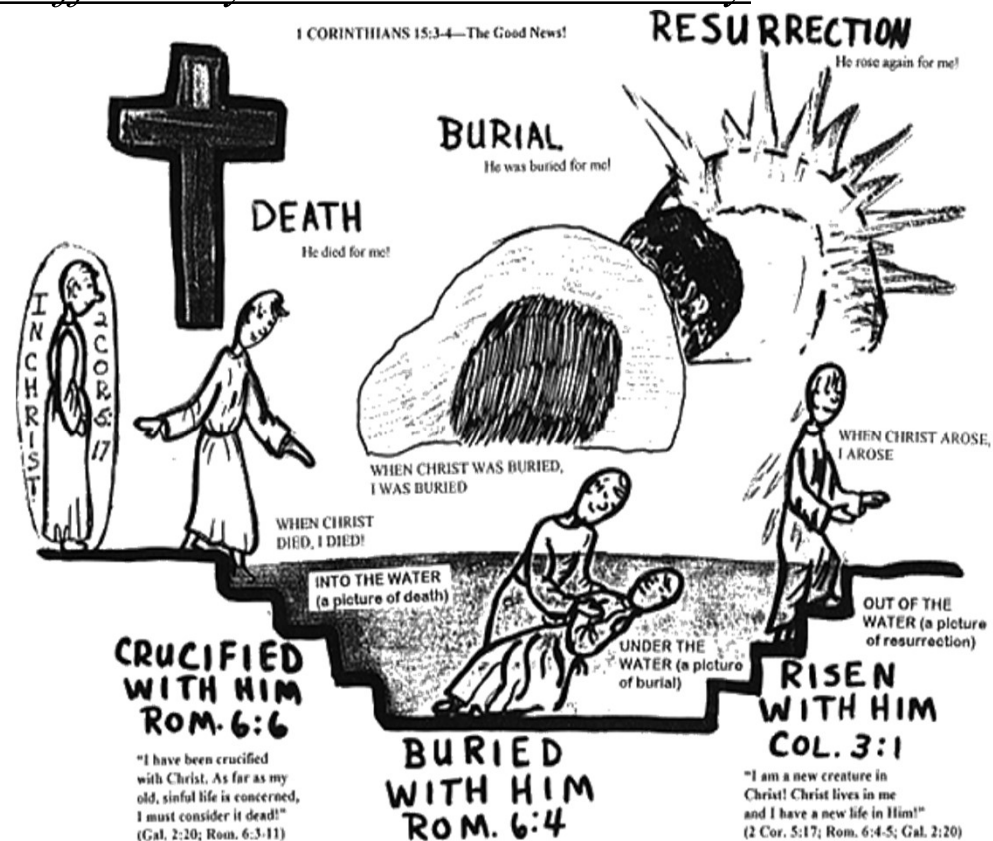
Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here.


These vital truths embodied in the Feasts are portrayed in Baptism.

Colossians 2:11-14.

In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not performed by human hands. Your whole self ruled by the flesh was put off when you were circumcised by Christ, having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.

When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having cancelled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away nailing it to the cross.



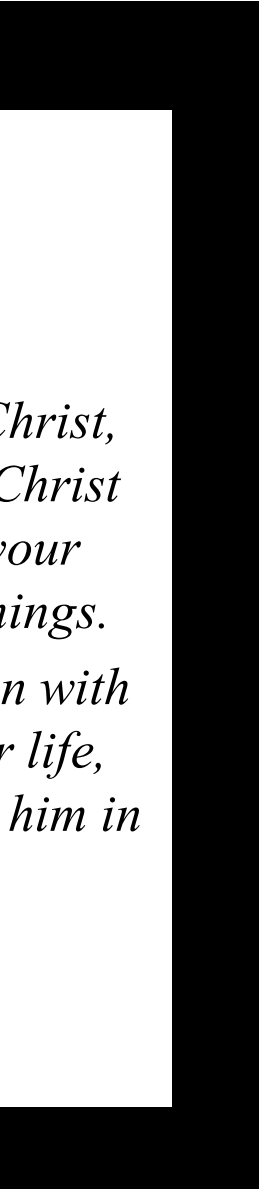


**Death, Burial
&
resurrection
are
portrayed in
Baptism.**

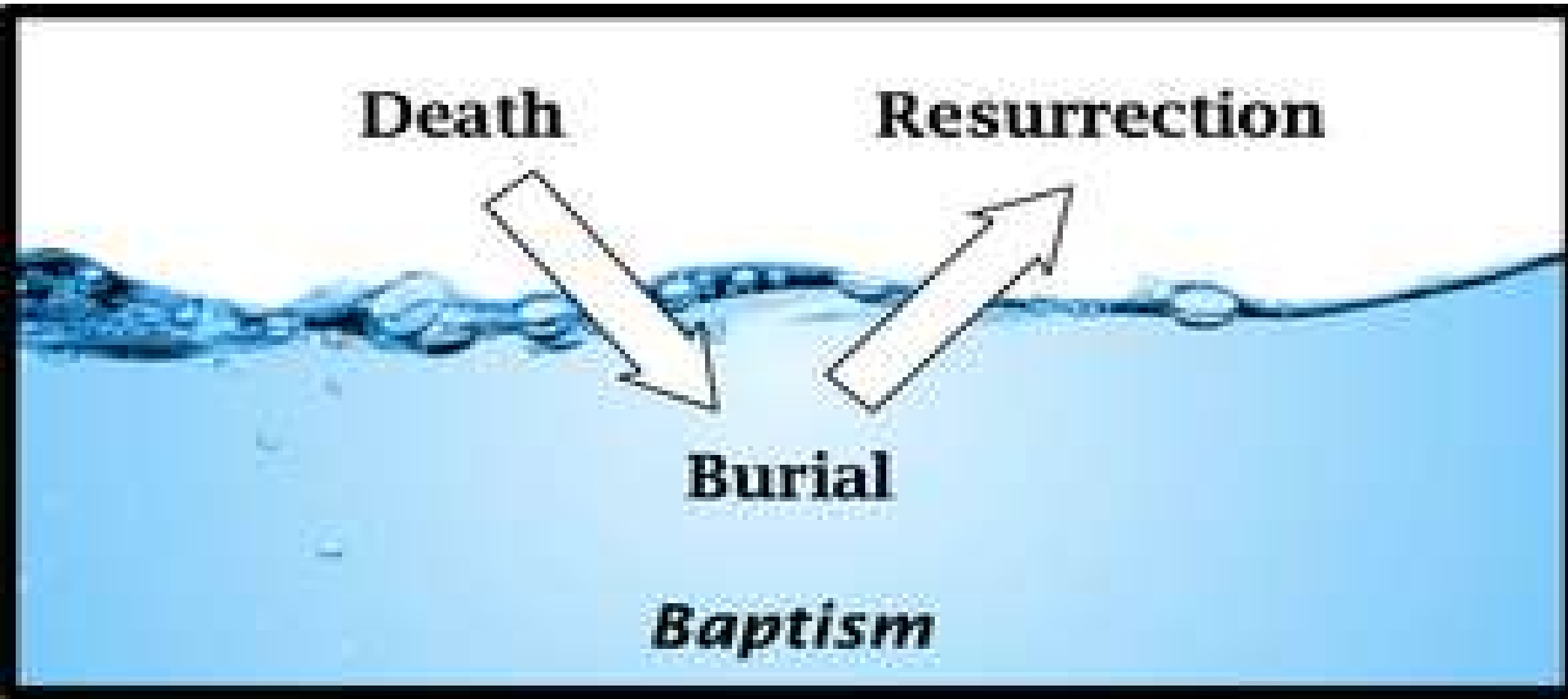
Colossians 3:1-10.

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.



Death; Burial and resurrection is symbolised in “Water Baptism”.



You have work to do

**Death is
portrayed in
Baptism.**

Colossians 3:5-7

Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived.

You won't kill something you like or even love, perhaps the problem is that we trivialize our sin and don't hate it.

Putting off “The Old man& on the NEW”.



Colossians 3:8-10.

But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.

Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

Putting on “The New man”.

Colossians 3:12-14

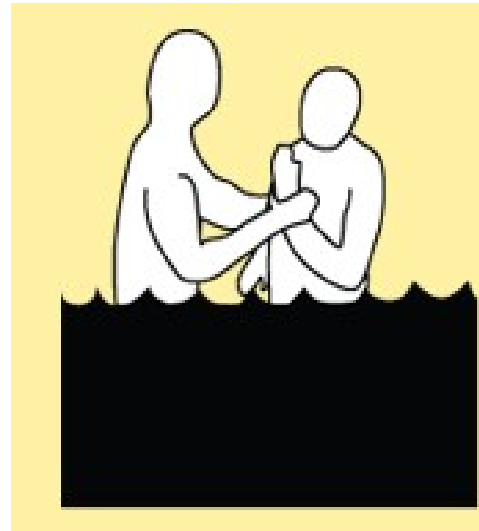
Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone.

Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.



Baptism is symbolic of the death of our old life.

Die to self.



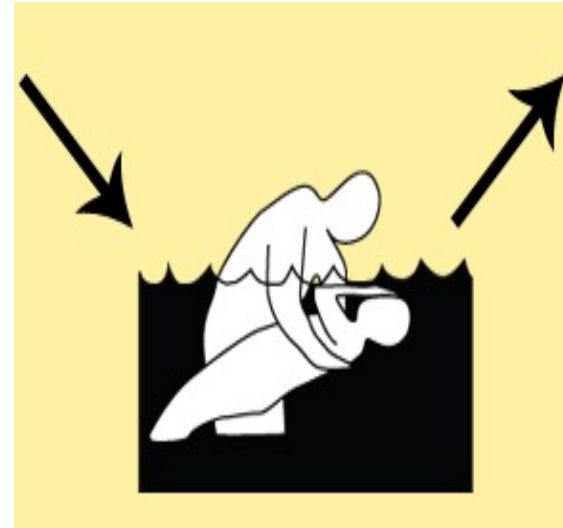
Romans 6:1-3.

What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means!

We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

**Baptism
symbolises a
funeral service.**

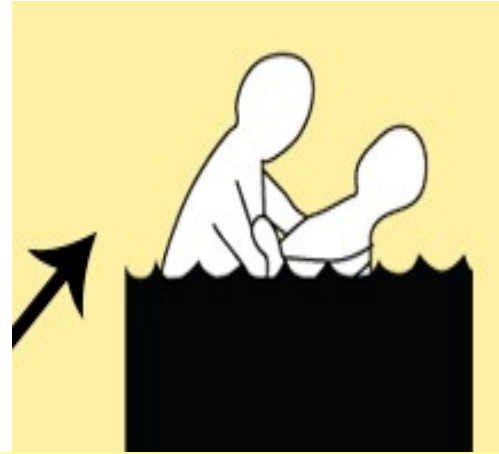
burial.



Romans 6:4-5. *We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his.*

**Baptism symbolises
Resurrection.**

Resurrection.



New life in Christ

Romans 6:6-8.

For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.

A photograph of a person being baptized in a lake. The person is standing in the water, facing away from the camera, with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or surrender. The water is splashing around them, and the background shows a bright blue sky and a distant shoreline with trees. The overall scene is bright and clear, suggesting a sunny day.

**The resurrected
life.**

Galatians 3:27.

*For all of you
who were
baptized into
Christ have
clothed
yourselves with
Christ.*

The personal aspect of the Feast of First Fruits.

Although there is an ongoing process of sanctification that starts at conversion, there should be first fruits in our lives which indicate the inward regeneration that has taken place and pointing towards the future change that will be produced in our lives by the indwelling Spirit of God.

The New creation.



FIRST Fruit of The resurrected life.

1 John 3:14.

*We know that we
have passed
from death to
life, because we
love each other.
Anyone who
does not love
remains in
death.*

WE HAVE PASSED FROM
DEATH
UNTO
LIFE

Are you living a resurrected lifestyle?

Salvation:

It is not just a bringing out,

It is also a bringing in.

It is not just a giving up,

It is also receiving.

It is not just a losing,

It is also a gaining.

It is not just a putting off,

It is also a putting on.





Proverbs 3:9&10.

Honour the Lord with your wealth, with the first-fruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.

Tithing

giving God the *first tenth* of your income

Personal aspects of the Feast of First Fruits.

Personal aspect of the Feast of First Fruits.

This Feast reminds us that we are stewards and not owners.

One of the purposes of the Feast of First fruits was to remind the Israelites that God had given them the land and that the harvest rightfully belonged to him. They were only stewards as is made clear in the parable of the husbandman.





**Stewardship
and the Feast
of First
Fruits.**

Matthew 21:33-34.

There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and moved to another place.

When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit.



Matthew 21:35-36.

The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third.

Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way.

The personal aspect of the Feast of First Fruits.

Matthew 21:37-41.

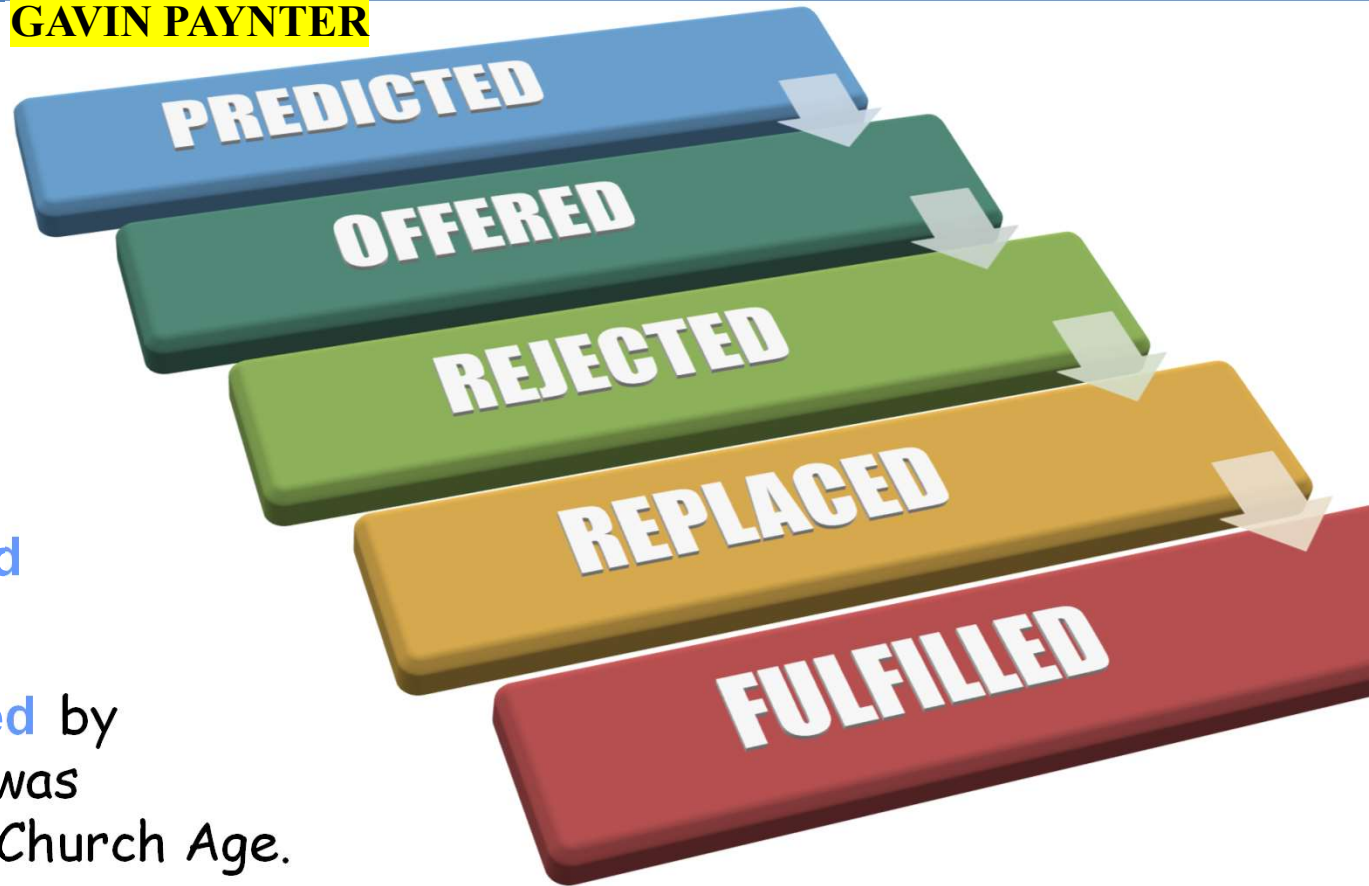
Last of all, he sent his son to them. They will respect my son, he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, This is the heir. Come, let's kill him and take his inheritance. So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants? He will bring those wretches to a wretched end, they replied, and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.



KINGDOM OF GOD

GAVIN PAYNTER

1. The Kingdom was **predicted** by Daniel, Isaiah and all the prophets.
2. The Kingdom was **offered** to Israel.
3. The Kingdom was **rejected** by Israel.
4. The Kingdom was **replaced** by an interim Kingdom that was **"not of this world"** - the Church Age.
5. The Kingdom of God **fulfilled on earth** - the Millennium.



2. KINGDOM REJECTED

□ In the parable he then tells about the Ten Minas, he predicts his rejection in Jerusalem.

➤ Luke 19:12-14 (NIV) He said: "A man of noble birth went to a distant country to have himself appointed king and then to return ... But his subjects hated him and sent a delegation after him to say,

'We don't want this man to be our king.'"

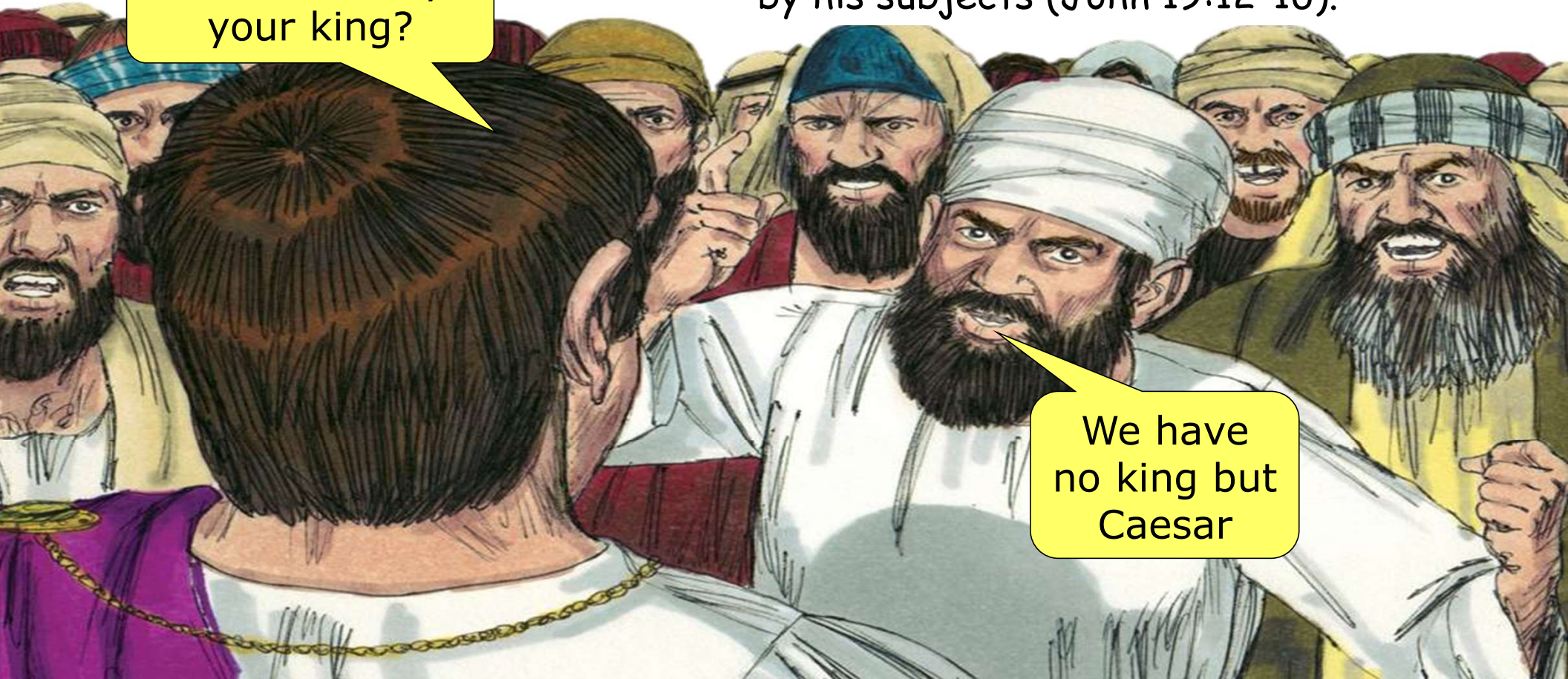


3. KINGDOM REJECTED

Shall I crucify
your king?

- Days later the King was rejected by his subjects (John 19:12-16).

We have
no king but
Caesar



KINGDOM GOES TO GENTILES

- Luke 13:6-9 records the parable of a vineyard owner (always represents God in Jesus' parables ¹) who was dissatisfied with his barren fig tree (a type of Israel ²). After three years ³ he decides to give it one more chance and then destroy it, if it remains barren.

¹ Matt 21:28 (the 2 sons) & 21:33 (the tenants). ² Interpreting Scripture with Scripture, see Jeremiah 24 where figs represent Israel. ³ Interesting that Jesus' ministry lasted 3 years?



KINGDOM GOES TO GENTILES

❑ Luke 13:6-9

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree growing in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it but did not find any. So, he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, 'For three years now I've been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven't found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?' "Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.'

THE TWO SONS

- ❑ The interim kingdom, which was not foreseen by the OT prophets, would go to the Gentiles, because of the Jewish rejection of their Messiah. Matthew recalls how after cursing the fig tree, Jesus subsequently tells 3 consecutive parables which all speak of the kingdom going to the Gentiles.
- ❑ Firstly (Matt 21:28-31), there is the son (Israel) who initially agreed to obey his Father but did not while the son (the Gentiles) who said he would not obey the Father had a change of heart and did obey.



4. INTERIM KINGDOM

□ Many of the Jews of the first century were looking for the immediate fulfilment of prophecies that spoke of the restoration of their nation. Even after his resurrection (and just outside of Jerusalem) Jesus' followers asked him:

➤ Acts 1:6-8 (ESV) "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?"



KINGDOM GOES TO GENTILES

- ❑ He identifies himself as the "the stone the builders rejected" which "has become the capstone" (v 42).
- ❑ We then read that "when the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus' parables, they knew he was talking about them." (v 45)



THE TENANTS

- ❑ Secondly (Matt 21:33-41), a vineyard is taken from the original tenants (Israel) after they killed the heir (Jesus) and is given to others (Gentiles) to work it.
- ❑ After the parable of the tenants, Jesus says, "Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit." (v 43)



**Is the
OLD TESTAMENT
important?**

2 Timothy. 3 16 -17

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

PAUL did not say “only the
“NEW TESTAMENT”

PARABLE OF THE TENANTS

- ❖ The first tenants were the JEWS.
- ❖ The 2nd tenants are the GENTILES.
- ❖ Are we going to give the LANDOWNER.
- ❖ His share at harvest time or will we be guilty as they were of robbing GOD.

How did the Jews rob GOD?

Malachi 3:7-12.

Return to me, and I will return to you,” says the LORD Almighty.

“But you ask, ‘How are we to return?’

“Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me.

“But you ask, ‘How are we robbing you?’

“In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse your whole nation because you are robbing me. Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the LORD Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe,” says the LORD Almighty. “Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land,” says the LORD Almighty.

The Jews were also giving God their leftovers

Malachi 1:6-13.

A son honours his father, and a slave his master. If I am a father, where is the honour due me? If I am a master, where is the respect due me?" says the LORD Almighty.

"It is you priests who show contempt for my name.

"But you ask, 'How have we shown contempt for your name?'

"By offering defiled food on my altar.

"But you ask, 'How have we defiled you?'

"By saying that the LORD's table is contemptible. When you offer blind animals for sacrifice, is that not wrong? When you sacrifice lame or diseased animals, is that not wrong? Try offering them to your governor! Would he be pleased with you? Would he accept you?" says the LORD Almighty.

"Now plead with God to be gracious to us. With such offerings from your hands, will he accept you?" says the LORD Almighty.

The Jews were also giving God their leftovers

“Oh, that one of you would shut the temple doors, so that you would not light useless fires on my altar! I am not pleased with you,” says the LORD Almighty, “and I will accept no offering from your hands. My name will be great among the nations, from where the sun rises to where it sets. In every place incense and pure offerings will be brought to me, because my name will be great among the nations,” says the LORD Almighty.

“But you profane it by saying, ‘The Lord’s table is defiled,’ and, ‘Its food is contemptible.’ And you say, ‘What a burden!’ and you sniff at it contemptuously,” says the LORD Almighty.

“When you bring injured, lame or diseased animals and offer them as sacrifices, should I accept them from your hands?” says the LORD. “Cursed is the cheat who has an acceptable male in his flock and vows to give it, but then sacrifices a blemished animal to the Lord. For I am a great king,” says the LORD Almighty, “and my name is to be feared among the nations.

Can tithing be dismissed as an Old Testament principle?

Hebrews 7:1-8

This Melchizedek was king of Salem and priest of God Most High. He met Abraham returning from the defeat of the kings and blessed him, and Abraham gave him a tenth of everything. First, the name Melchizedek means “king of righteousness”; then also, “king of Salem” means “king of peace.” Without father or mother, without genealogy, without beginning of days or end of life, resembling the Son of God, he remains a priest forever.

Just think how great he was: Even the patriarch Abraham gave him a tenth of the plunder! Now the law requires the descendants of Levi who become priests to collect a tenth from the people that is, from their fellow Israelites even though they also are descended from Abraham. This man, however, did not trace his descent from Levi, yet he collected a tenth from Abraham and blessed him who had the promises. And without doubt the lesser is blessed by the greater. In the one case, the tenth is collected by people who die; but in the other case, by him who is declared to be living.

Tithing cannot be dismissed as the law of Moses

Tithing predated the law

Our father in the faith Abraham tithed to the high priest Melchizedek.

Genesis 14:18-20

Abram (whose name was later changed to Abraham) had been blessed by God in recovering Lot and the others who had been taken captive. So, Abram gave a tenth of the spoils to Melchizedek.

This is the first mention of the practice of tithing giving a tenth of our increase to God in the Bible.

Jacob who was later called Israel carried on the practice of his father Abraham

Genesis 28:20-22

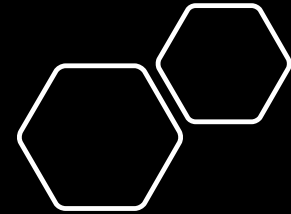
Then Jacob made a vow, saying, If God will be with me and will watch over me on this journey I am taking and will give me food to eat and clothes to wear so that I return safely to my father's household, then the LORD will be my God and this stone that I have set up as a pillar will be God's house, and of all that you give me I will give you a tenth.



God's not just looking for your money, the pharisees were ardent in their tithing but had ignored the weightier matters of the law.

Romans 2:28

A person is not a Jew who is one only outwardly, nor is circumcision merely outward and physical.



The Jew's problem was that they were concentrating on the outward and not the inward circumcision. We are not Christians just because we have been baptized in water, we need to have had the circumcision of the heart so that we can bear fruit as we have been hearing from the ministry, I have been giving this last month.

Matthew 23:23

Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former.

We have been given more so we will be more accountable, look at men like Daniel and Moses who lived under the old covenant and didn't have the privilege we have under the new covenant, they were men of integrity and character (fruit of a circumcised heart).

Hebrews 2:3-4

How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him;

We have seen that Bearing fruit has to do with Character



Bearing fruit has to do with CHARACTER
(who you are)



Bearing fruit has to do with CONDUCT
(what you do) this flows from your Character



Bearing fruit has to do with CONVERSATION
(what you say)



Bearing fruit has to do with CONVERTS
(those you draw to Christ, and Disciple)



Bearing Fruit has to do with CONTRIBUTION
(what you give)

Throughout Scripture there is a principle of putting God first

When the Israelites went into Canaan, all the spoils taken in Jericho were Sacred and were reserved for the LORD

Joshua 6:15-19.

On the seventh day, they got up at daybreak and marched around the city seven times in the same manner, except that on that day they circled the city seven times. The seventh time around, when the priests sounded the trumpet blast, Joshua commanded the army, “Shout! For the LORD has given you the city! The city and all that is in it are to be devoted to the LORD. Only Rahab the prostitute and all who are with her in her house shall be spared, because she hid the spies we sent. But keep away from the devoted things, so that you will not bring about your own destruction by taking any of them. Otherwise, you will make the camp of Israel liable to destruction and bring trouble on it. All the silver and gold and the articles of bronze and iron are sacred to the LORD and must go into his treasury.”

Impersonally believe in giving the LORD the first fruits of my day

The Israelites had to get up early to collect manna

Exodus :16-21.

Each morning everyone gathered as much as they needed, and when the sun grew hot, it melted away.

We need to get up early to feed off the living Bread from heaven before the business of the day crowds the Lord to the margins of our life.

Impersonally believe in giving the LORD the first fruits of my day

John 6:31-33.

Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'"

Jesus said to them, "Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

We must first die to bear Fruit.

John 12:23-25.

Jesus replied, The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed.

But if it dies, it produces many seeds. Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.





We must first die to bear Fruit.

Jesus died so that we might have life, but we must die as well so that He can live through us

GALATIANS 2:19-20.

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God



THE END.