

Panorama Bible Study
The Plan of the Ages, Study 9

THE DISPENSATION OF LAW

FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE NEW TESTAMENT TO THE CRUCIFIXION

1. **The Plan of the Ages**, which began with the **Promise of the Messiah in the Garden of Eden** and that Messiah would come through the “**seed of woman**,” has carefully unfolded over a period of **4000 years** to bring us to the **FULLFILLMENT: The Birth of Jesus Christ, God Incarnate**, in the manger of **Bethlehem**, the birthplace of God’s beloved King David of Israel approximately 1000 years prior. God is being **PRECISE** in the **BIRTHPLACE** because God promised **King David of BETHLEHEM** an **ETERNAL DYNASTY**. God’s promise to David **will be fulfilled** with **JESUS CHRIST, ETERNALLY King of Kings and Lord of Lords**.

Because of the **FAITH of ABRAHAM**, God had **SOVEREIGNLY** chosen the **HEBREW PEOPLE** as the **MESSIANIC NATION**, i.e., the **nation** through which **MESSIAH, “SEED OF WOMAN,”** (*genetically*) would come. Our study in the Old Testament revealed how meticulously Almighty God used the Mosaic Worship with its Tabernacle, Feasts, and Sacrifices as “**types and foreshadowings**” of **Jesus Christ**, as well as the prophets, people and events of their lives to **prefigure Jesus**. God had used **His Prophets** to **foretell precise prophecies** about **Jesus’ Birth**—even the **place of His Birth in Bethlehem** given by **PROPHET MICAH** about **700 years prior**. (*Prophet Micah prophesied to both the Northern Kingdom Israel about their impending judgment/fall and also to the Southern Kingdom Judah about their ultimate fall. He was a contemporary with the Prophet Isaiah but, unlike Isaiah who prophesied before kings of Judah, Micah was a common man prophesying to the rural people.*) If you don’t think **God can use ANYBODY**, just look at the **STUNNING PROPHECY** given to Micah, who was **probably a peasant farmer** like the people around him:

*“But thou, **BETHLEHEM** Ephrathah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet **out of thee shall HE** come forth unto me that is to be **ruler in Israel**; whose **goings forth have been from of old, FROM EVERLASTING.**” (Micah 5:2)*

2. Notice that not only was **Micah** told the **SPECIFIC PLACE** of **Messiah’s Birth**, but Micah was also shown that **JESUS was from ETERNITY**—He was “**OF OLD, FROM EVERLASTING.**” In other words, **Micah had it revealed to him** that **MESSIAH** would be **GOD in the FLESH!!!**

IMPORTANT: The **point** of our **entire Panorama Bible Study** can be summed up in the **question** Jesus asked His very own disciples over 2000 years ago because it is the **SAME question** He is asking each of us today. **THIS QUESTION IS THE GREAT DIVIDING LINE BETWEEN TRUE CHRISTIANITY AND THE CULTS:**

*“When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, He asked his disciples, saying, **Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?** And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. He saith unto them, **But whom say YE that I am?** And **Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art THE CHRIST, the SON OF THE LIVING GOD.** And **Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for FLESH AND BLOOD hath NOT REVEALED it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.** And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and **upon this ROCK I will build my church; and the gates of hell SHALL NOT PREVAIL against it.**” (Matthew 16:3-18)*

- 3. NOTICE:** The other disciples had **“RELIGIOUS” responses** to Jesus’ question, **BUT Simon Peter** had received **REVELATION BY THE SPIRIT OF GOD** that **Jesus is “THE CHRIST, The Son of the Living God.”** This is the “way” Jesus **BUILDS** His True Church: His **believers receive REVELATION** from His Holy Word about **HIM**. Our fallen minds can give “religious” sounding answers, but the **TRUTH of the BIBLE is SPIRITUALLY REVEALED FIRST IN OUR SPIRIT BY THE HOLY SPIRIT then our minds become enlightened.** There is **NO TRUE UNDERSTANDING** of the **Word of God APART** from the **REVELATION God gives** us in our spirits after we have been “Born Again.” This type of **SPIRITUAL UNDERSTANDING** is what is meant by the scripture in the New Testament:

*“Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that **NO MAN can SAY that JESUS IS LORD, but by the HOLY GHOST.**” (I Corinth. 12:3)*

- 4.** It is also important to note that **Simon Peter** is **NOT** the **ROCK** upon which **Jesus will build HIS CHURCH.** The **CHURCH (the Bride of Christ, the REDEEMED)** could **NEVER** be built upon any fallen flesh!!! The **CHURCH** is **built** upon the **SURE FOUNDATION** which is **THE ROCK, THE CORNERSTONE, JESUS CHRIST, and THE REVELATION OF WHO HE IS.** Remember, the **New Testament** tells us that **The ROCK** which was in the desert and gave water to **MOSES and the Hebrews** was foreshadowing **JESUS CHRIST!** The **Psalmist** spoke anticipatively of our **Redeemer** and called Him, “The **ROCK** of our **SALVATION.**” **Jesus** is the **STONE or ROCK** in Daniel’s vision (*which we studied last*

week) that strikes down **ALL** world kingdoms and becomes an ever-expanding kingdom throughout the entire world!

5. Other scriptures which reveal **WHO JESUS IS** are listed and are very useful when ministering to people involved with cults:

*“For in Him (Jesus) dwelleth **ALL the FULNESS** of the **Godhead bodily**.” (Colossians 2:9)*

*“If ye had known **Me, (Jesus)** ye should have known **My Father** also: and from henceforth ye know Him, and **have SEEN Him**. Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us. Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou **not known Me**, Philip? **he that hath seen Me hath seen the Father**; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?” (John 14:7-9)*

*“Your father **Abraham** rejoiced to **see my day**: and **he saw it**, and was glad. Then said the Jews unto him, Thou art **not yet fifty years old**, and **hast thou seen Abraham**? **JESUS** said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, **Before Abraham was, I AM**.” (John 8:56-58)*

*“In the **beginning** was the **WORD**, and the **Word was with God**, and the **WORD WAS GOD**. The same was in the beginning with God. **ALL things were made by HIM**; and **without HIM** was not any thing made that was made.” (John 1:1-3)*

*“And **without controversy** great is the **MYSTERY** of godliness: **GOD was MANIFEST IN THE FLESH**, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, **preached unto the Gentiles**, believed on in the world, **received up into glory**.” (1 Timothy 3:16)*

AND FINALLY, TO MAKE NO MISTAKE AS TO WHO JESUS IS, THE BOOK OF REVELATION IS CALLED “THE BOOK OF THE REVELATION OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.” LOOK AT WHAT THE GLORIFIED JESUS CHRIST SAYS TO THE APOSTLE JOHN IN CHAPTER 1, VERSE 8:

*“**I AM Alpha and Omega**, the beginning and the ending, **saith the Lord**, which is, and which was, and which is to come, **THE ALMIGHTY**.”*

6. As we begin the study in the New Testament, let’s look at the **4 GOSPELS**: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Remember the **4 FACES** of the **CHERUBIM** embroidered on the

VAIL of The Most Holy Place in the Tabernacle of Moses' time and then shown to us in EZEKIEL'S VISION of God?

QUESTION: What were the **4 faces** of the **CHERUBIM**?

ANSWER: (Hint: Ezekiel 1:6, 10) _____

The **CHERUBIM** are first seen as **VINDICATING the HOLINESS of GOD**. Remember, when Adam and Eve were driven from the Garden, **CHERUBIM** stood guard at the Garden's **eastern** entrance with a flaming sword to **KEEP the WAY to the TREE OF LIFE**.

In Holy Scripture, the **CHERUBIM** seem to be the **order of ANGELIC BEINGS** in the **closest proximity** to the **THRONE OF GOD**. Remember, with the **ARK of the COVENANT** in the Tabernacle (*and later, The Temple*), the **CHERUBIM** were all of **ONE PIECE with the LID** of the **ARK of the Covenant**, i.e., **The MERCY SEAT**. They were **POSITIONED** on the **ARK to LOOK downward** toward the **contents** of the **ARK**, which were **THE TEN COMMANDMENTS, AARON'S ROD THAT BUDDERED, and THE GOLDEN POT OF MANNA**. By **LOOKING DOWNWARD**, the **CHERUBIM'S position** indicates that **they REFLECT** what they are **BEHOLDING**, which is **THE WORD of GOD** and the **REVELATION of GOD**. The **FACES** of the **CHERUBIM** each point to a **REVELATION of JESUS CHRIST** in each one of the **4 GOSPELS** of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John!!!

Let's **LIST** each **FACE** of the Cherubim which **"REFLECTS"** God and give the name of the **GOSPEL writer** that **REVEALED Jesus Christ** as that **"FACE:"**

FACE 1: _____ is shown by **MATTHEW**, who begins with **JOSEPH'S GENEALOGY** as proof that **Christ** is **THE LEGAL, KINGLY** descendant from the **TRIBE of JUDAH**. Notice in Matthew's genealogy, Chapter 1, the inclusion of the **women**:

TAMAR (*Thamar in KJV*) who posed as a **PROSTITUTE** and became pregnant by her **father-in-law, JUDAH**, because he had not given his last son to her to raise up seed in his deceased son's name;

RAHAB (*Rachab in KJV*) the **PROSTITUTE** of **JERICHO**, a **CANAANITISS**, who hid the spies of Israel, came to **faith in JEHOVAH**, and **MARRIED** into the chosen people;

RUTH who was of **MOAB** and married into the chosen people when **BOAZ** performed the act of the **KINSMAN REDEEMER** to marry her; and

BATHSHEBA (*not named but called “her that had been the wife of Uriah”*). She was mother of **KING SOLOMON** and also **NATHAN**, out of whom would eventually come the **MOTHER of JESUS, MARY**.

FACE 2: _____ is shown by **MARK**, whose writings picture **Jesus** as the **SUFFERING SERVANT**. Mark emphasizes more of what **Jesus DID** than what He said.

FACE 3: _____ is shown by **LUKE**, a **PHYSICIAN**, who gives **MARY’S GENEALOGY** as proof that **Christ is SON OF DAVID** according to the **FLESH (GENETICALLY** fulfilling “seed of woman). (*Romans 1:3*) He depicts Jesus as the **ANOINTED SON of MAN**—Christ in His **Humanity** as fulfillment of the **SPIRITUAL Son of the Promise, Isaac, given to ABRAHAM**.

FACE 4: _____ is shown by **JOHN**, who begins his book with showing that **JESUS is GOD** in the flesh. He declares Him to be **SON of GOD**.

Regarding Cherubim, it is also interesting to remember, too, that **LUCIFER (now Satan, the Devil, that Old Serpent, The Dragon, Beelzebub) was an “Anointed **CHERUB**” before he fell. (*Ezekiel 28:14*). **Lucifer** was **NOT** an **ARCHANGEL**, as is mistakenly thought by some. Only **ONE ARCHANGEL** is clearly designated as such in the Bible, and that is **MICHAEL** (*Jude 1:9*). However, it is commonly thought that **GABRIEL** is an archangel even though the title is **never associated** with **GABRIEL**. Rabbinical teaching is that **Michael** is the **WARRIOR** angel for the covenant people and **Gabriel** is the **ANNOUNCING MESSENGER** angel for the covenant people.*

- 7. JESUS’ CONCEPTION AND BIRTH:** Mary was **OVERSHADOWED** by the **HOLY GHOST** in order to **CONCEIVE** the **PROMISED SEED**. This terminology was used in **GENESIS** when God created the **FIRST SON of GOD, ADAM**, in His own Image, which translates to **“God’s SHADOW.”** In the New Testament, **JESUS** is our **SECOND ADAM** who did **not FALL**, but **TOOK THE FALL** for **US!!!** Unlike **FIRST ADAM, SECOND ADAM, JESUS**, was **FULLY MAN** and **FULLY GOD**. He was so unique that the angel told Mary that what she would conceive would be a **“HOLY THING.”** (*Luke 1:35*) As foreshadowed with Abraham and the miraculous birth of the child of promise, Isaac, the **conception of Jesus** was **GOD-INITIATED—COMPLETELY IN THE SPIRIT**. The **strength** of **FLESH** had **nothing** to do with it! This is a picture of our **salvation experience**. **GOD OVERSHADOWS** the

repentant person and **CREATES** the very **SEED of CHRIST** within the **HEART** (spirit) of that person as stated in 1 Peter 1:23:

*“Being born again, **NOT** of corruptible **SEED**, but of **INCORRUPTIBLE**, by the **WORD** of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.”*

8. After **Mary** was **OVERSHADOWED** and conceived Jesus, she journeyed to visit her elderly **cousin, ELISABETH**, (*wife of Priest Zacharias*) who was **6 months pregnant** with **JOHN THE BAPTIST**. As we studied previously, **JOHN THE BAPTIST** was the one who would come in the **SPIRIT OF ELIJAH** (*Malachi 4:5-6, predicted 400 years prior*) and **PREPARE** the way of the Lord, just as Isaiah had prophesied 700 years prior!!! (*Isaiah 40:3-5*) In announcing to Zacharias that he and Elisabeth would have a baby, the angel had told Zacharias that John the Baptist would be **FILLED with the HOLY GHOST** from his mother’s womb! This **6-month fetus LEAPED** when Mary’s voice was heard greeting Elisabeth and Elisabeth was **FILLED** with the **HOLY GHOST!**

***NOTE:** Only a **PERSON** can be **FILLED** with the **HOLY GHOST!** This **scripture establishes** the **PERSONHOOD** of the **FETUS**. According to the ruling in *Roe V. Wade* by its author, Blackmun, “(If the) suggestion of **personhood** [of the **preborn**] is **established**, the [abortion rights] case, of course, **COLLAPSES**, for the **fetus’ right to life** is then **guaranteed specifically by the [14th] Amendment.**”

9. At Jesus **Birth**, we have a predictive picture of the **PAGAN WORLD** recognizing Him as **KING** of the Jews, when His own people eventually will not as He enters His ministry: Wise men (pagan) **from the East** proclaimed Him **King of the Jews**. We also see this same predictive picture of the **PAGAN WORLD** coming to know Him as **King**, before the Jews as a nation will, when we see **PILATE’S UNWAVERING** declaration above the **CROSS: “KING of the JEWS.”**
10. At His **Birth**, we see the **fulfillment** of the **nearly 1500-year-old “STAR” prophecy** given by the wayward, “prophet for hire,” **BALAAM**, who was hired by King Balak of Moab to **CURSE** the Hebrew people when Moses had brought them out of Egypt. God **PROHIBITED** false prophet **BALAAM** from cursing His people and **CAUSED** Balaam to utter an astonishing prophecy of **BLESSING** which we would see **fulfilled** by the **STAR of BETHLEHEM:**

*“I (Balaam) shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a **STAR** out of Jacob, and a **SCEPTRE** shall rise out of Israel...” (Numbers 24:17)*

11. At His **Birth**, we also see a **fulfillment** of all that the **TABERNACLE of Moses** (and later, the Temple) showed us with the use of **GOLD, FRANKINCENSE, and MYRRH**. These Wise Men, unknowingly, brought **the very items** associated with the ancient **Tabernacle** and they were **picturing Christ as the TRUE TABERNACLE OF GOD!!!** Jesus is **KINGLY and PRECIOUS**—all that the **GOLD** of the Tabernacle showed us. He is our **MEDIATOR** and **INTERCESSOR** in prayer—as shown in the **FRANKINCENSE** which was a **BEATEN** component of the **INCENSE** which held the other resins together for the Table of Incense! He is **THE ANOINTED ONE** and He **ANOINTS** us—as shown in the **MYRRH**, the **BITTER resin** used in the **Holy Anointing Oil** in the **Tabernacle** to sanctify the **PRIESTS**.

12. At His **Birth**, (*Matthew 2:15*) we see the **fulfillment of the nearly 750-year-old prophecy by HOSEA** that the **INFANT Son of God** would be **taken INTO EGYPT**:

*“When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and **called my son out of Egypt...**” (Hosea 11:1)*

13. At His **Birth**, (*Matthew 2:18*) we see the **fulfillment of the nearly 600-year-old prophecy by JEREMIAH** that a **SLAUGHTER of CHILDREN** would be associated with the coming of Messiah:

*“Thus saith the LORD; **A VOICE** was heard in Ramah, **LAMENTATION**, and **BITTER WEeping**; Rahel (Rachel, beloved wife of Jacob, Israel) **WEeping** for her **CHILDREN** refused to be comforted for her children, because **THEY WERE NOT.**” (Jeremiah 31:15)*

14. JESUS’ BAPTISM BY JOHN: It is **EXTREMELY IMPORTANT** to note the **PATTERN** God is showing us with **JOHN THE BAPTIST** coming **BEFORE OUR SAVIOR, JESUS**. John is a **PREACHER OF REPENTANCE**. **REPENTANCE MUST PRECEDE** an encounter with **JESUS** for **SALVATION!**

15. When Jesus came to John the Baptist, John said Jesus was “the **LAMB of GOD** which **TAKETH AWAY** the **SIN** of the **world.**” John was **PLAINLY DECLARING** that **JESUS** was the **fulfillment of the PASSOVER LAMB** when the **HEBREWS** were brought out of Egypt and **all the PASSOVER LAMBS offered since that time**. John also said that he, himself, was **not worthy** to **UNLOOSE** the **LATCHET** of **JESUS’ SHOES**. This is a direct reference to the **Old Testament Law of THE KINSMAN REDEEMER**. In that ceremony, if a man of

closest kin did **not** wish to **marry the widow** of his **relative** and receive her property, then, in a public ceremony at the gate of the city, the **widow** would **REMOVE HIS SHOE** and **SPIT** in his face, as an act of **DISGRACE** that he refused to **REDEEM** her. With Jesus, John the Baptist was saying that there was **NO NEED to UNLOOSE Jesus' shoes**, for **JESUS** would **NOT REFUSE to REDEEM** us!!! **Jesus** is the **fulfillment of The Kinsman Redeemer Law!** Note that later in Jesus' ministry, when He is **REJECTED** by the **CORRUPT RELIGIOUS CROWD** and the **ROMANS**, they **STRIKE HIM** (*like the STRIKING of the Passover Lamb's BLOOD 1500 years prior in Egypt over the doors and posts of the Hebrews*) and **SPIT** on him, which pictures their **refusal to be REDEEMED** by Him at the Cross.

*Remember, God told Moses at the burning bush that Moses must take the **SHOES OFF his FEET**. It is showing that **MOSES**, as representative of the **LAW, CANNOT REDEEM!** Even with the Old Testament wanderings for **40 years** under Moses when the **Hebrews' SHOES did NOT wear out**, there is a **picture of REDEMPTION** that will come through that **nation—THE TRUE KINSMAN REDEEMER out of ISRAEL**. God does nothing just for “theatrical” effect! Whatever He does has meaning and is Divine Wisdom!

16. At Jesus' baptism, Jesus told John to baptize Him in order to **FULFILL ALL RIGHTEOUSNESS**.

QUESTION: What did Jesus mean by “fulfill all righteousness?” (*Hint: Think about what God was showing us when the **WATERS** covered the earth in Noah's day. Think about the water in the **Brazen Laver** in the **Court of the Tabernacle** and **who** used it. Think about what happened at the **JORDAN RIVER** when Joshua was leader and is now where **JESUS is being BAPTIZED**. Think about **John the Baptist** and what he **represented—THE LAW**, which is the **SCHOOLMASTER** that brings us to Christ. Galatians 3:24)*

ANSWER: _____

17. When John the Baptist baptized Jesus, Jesus came up out of the water and *“the heavens were **OPENED** unto him.”* The **Holy Spirit**, in the form of a **DOVE**, lighted upon Jesus. John said that God had previously told him that *“Upon whom thou shalt see the **SPIRIT** descending, and **REMAINING ON HIM**, the same is he which **BAPTIZETH** with the **HOLY GHOST**.”*

Jesus was **FULLY GOD** and **FULLY MAN**. He was born with *“the **SPIRIT without measure.**”* The **DOVE** lighting upon Jesus as He came out of the **WATERS** is a reference back to the **WATERS of JUDGMENT** in **NOAH’S FLOOD** and the **DOVE** that **NOAH released**. It is a picture of the **ANOINTING** of the **HOLY SPIRIT** for the purpose for which Jesus was created. *(And we must have that **SAME ANOINTING!**)* Notice that the **heavens** were **OPENED** unto **JESUS!** THANK GOD!!! This means **WE** have **ACCESS** to the **HEAVENS**—wide open for us—because of **Jesus’ worthiness**. No other man, because of the sin nature, had had the **heavens OPENED** in the way they were **opened for JESUS** and now, us!!!

18. In speaking of **JOHN THE BAPTIST**, the **LORD JESUS** said:

*“Verily I say unto you, Among them that are **born of WOMEN** there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: **notwithstanding** he that is **least** in the **kingdom of heaven** is **greater than he.**” (Matthew 11:11)*

What was Jesus saying??? After all, **John the Baptist** operated in the **Spirit of Elijah** and had given his life for the Lord. How could someone who is the **LEAST** in the **KINGDOM of HEAVEN** possibly compare and be **GREATER than JOHN THE BAPTIST**??? Jesus was helping us to understand that **John**, as powerful as he was, was **operating** under the **OLD COVENANT—THE LAW, which can only point to CHRIST**. **JOHN** was **“BORN OF WOMEN”** and was **NOT BORN AGAIN** because the New Covenant was not in effect yet, since Jesus had to still go to the Cross for the **NEW COVENANT**. In the **NEW COVENANT**, we are **SUPERNATURALLY**, by the **SPIRIT, BORN AGAIN**—we are no longer considered **“born of women” (under the curse of the LAW)** for we have become **“BORN OF GOD,”** i.e., **“BORN OF THE SPIRIT”**!!! Because of **CALVARY**, we have **GREATER** than even what the faithful, courageous **JOHN THE BAPTIST** could have during his ministry. **DO WE REALLY REALIZE WHAT JESUS PURCHASED FOR US WITH HIS OWN BLOOD**??? Christians are **EMPOWERED**!!! We need to be **TURNING** the **WORLD UPSIDE DOWN** for **JESUS**!!!

19. CHRIST’S EARTHLY MINISTRY The Bible tells us that:

*“For **this PURPOSE** the **Son of God** was **manifested**, that **He** might **DESTROY** the works of the **devil...**” (1 John 3:8)*

The Bible also tells us that:

*“...God **anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good , and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with Him.**” (Acts 10:38)*

*“For the Son of man is come to **SEEK and to SAVE that which was lost.**” (Luke 19:10)*

In preparation for His ministry, **Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit** into the **WILDERNESS**. Remember that the **Hebrews FAILED GOD** in the **WILDERNESS of SIN**, as it was called. They **WANDERED** for **40 years** under Moses’ leadership. **Jesus is DESTINED** to go to the **WILDERNESS** and **PASS the TEST** that the nation of Israel had failed 1500 years prior. He is **TESTED** by the **DEVIL for 40 days**—a day for **each YEAR** of **ISRAEL’S unbelief** wanderings. Remember also in an earlier study we learned that **SATAN** tempted **EVE** in **3 ways** and she succumbed to the **LIES**. Satan will now use the **SAME 3 METHODS** on **JESUS**, but **SATAN WILL NOT SUCCEED**:

(1) Lust of the FLESH—The Devil says, *“Command this stone that it be made bread.”* Jesus replied, *“**IT IS WRITTEN**. Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.”*

(2) Lust of the EYES— After showing Jesus the kingdoms of this world, the Devil says, *“All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me: and to whomsoever I will I give it. If thou therefore wilt **WORSHIP ME**, all shall be thine.”* Jesus replied, *“Get thee behind me, Satan; for **IT IS WRITTEN**, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve.”*

(3) Pride of LIFE—After bringing Jesus to the pinnacle of the Temple in Jerusalem, the Devil says, *“If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down from hence: For **IT IS WRITTEN**, He shall give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee: And in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.”* Now the Devil is trying to use **“IT IS WRITTEN”** to trap Jesus, but Jesus replied, *“It is said, Thou shalt **not tempt the Lord thy God.**”*

EVENTS IN THE MINISTRY OF JESUS

(1) At the **wedding feast** in Cana, **Jesus** turned the **WATER into WINE**. It is an illustration that **He** will **SPIRITUALLY** bring **NEW WINE** to **fill NEW BOTTLES** (*Matthew 9:17*)—that is, **The New Covenant** of the **OUTPOURING** of the **HOLY SPIRIT** into **NEW VESSELS—US!** We become **“new creatures”** in Christ.

- (2) Jesus went at **PASSOVER** and **CLEANSED** the **temple** of **RELIGIOUS THIEVES!** When the Jews questioned Him as to His authority in doing this, Jesus said, *“Destroy this **TEMPLE** and in **three days** I will raise it up...But He spake of the **TEMPLE of HIS BODY.**”* Jesus is declaring that the **PHYSICAL TEMPLE** was just a **REPRESENTATION** of the **TRUE TEMPLE, HIMSELF!** The **PHYSICAL TEMPLE** was given to **ISRAEL** so that they would **RECOGNIZE** the **TRUE SPIRITUAL TEMPLE, The Messiah!**
- (3) Jesus told **NICODEMUS**, a Pharisee and member of the religious governing body, The Sanhedrin, that **SALVATION** means being **“BORN AGAIN.”**
- (4) Jesus told a **SAMARITAN WOMAN** that He could give her **LIVING WATER.** He also told her she had had 5 husbands and was currently living with a man. He explained to her what **TRUE WORSHIP** is: *“God is a **SPIRIT**; and they that **WORSHIP** Him must worship Him **IN SPIRIT and IN TRUTH.**”* Note: This woman with a “loose” lifestyle was **one** of a **few** people whom Jesus **PLAINLY TOLD** that **HE IS THE MESSIAH!!!**
- (5) Jesus **BOLDLY** told the people, *“Search the **SCRIPTURES**; for in them ye think ye have **ETERNAL LIFE**: and they are **THEY** which **TESTIFY OF ME.**”* (John 5:39)
- (6) Jesus **FED** the **MULTITUDES** with **5 loaves** of **BARLEY** bread and **2 fishes.** There were **12 BASKETS** left over. Remember, there were **12 tribes** of Israel and **12 disciples.** It is as if Jesus is showing His chosen people, the Messianic Nation of Israel, that out of His Plan for them, **MULTITUDES WILL** be **SPIRITUALLY FED.** He is also showing **EXACT provision** for those who minister to the **NEEDS of others.**
- (7) Jesus **WALKED** on **WATER.** Since our Lord does nothing for “theatrics,” His **WALK UPON WATER** showed **much more** than just **He is GOD OF NATURE.** Remember, **Noah’s WATERS** were **JUDGMENT** upon **SIN.** Remember, the prophecy about the **Messiah** in the Garden of Eden said that **HIS HEEL (foot)** would be **BRUISED.** The **association** with the **“FOOT”** is also seen in the **Kinsman Redeemer Law** as being associated with **REDEMPTION.** It was ultimately **fulfilled** in the **BRUISING** of the **FEET of JESUS** in the **CRUCIFIXION.** Jesus is the **REDEMPTIVE FEET** foreshadowed in the **Kinsman Redeemer Law.** His **FEET** are **worthy** to **WALK UPON THE WATERS OF JUDGMENT.** **JUDGMENT IS UNDER HIS FEET.** (1 Corinth.15:27) It becomes a clear picture of the **waters** of **deserved JUDGMENT** when Peter attempts to walk and begins to **SINK.** He cries out to be **SAVED** and **Jesus SAVES him!**
- (8) Jesus **RAISED LAZARUS** from the **DEAD**, proving **HIS AUTHORITY** over **DEATH ITSELF.**
- (9) Jesus **CAST** out **DEMONS.** (Yes they are **REAL** and are **FALLEN ANGELS.**)
*“And they (Jesus and the disciples) came over unto the other side of the sea, into the country of the Gadarenes. And when He was come out of the ship, immediately there met Him out of the **TOMBS** a **MAN** with an **UNCLEAN SPIRIT**, Who had his **dwelling among the tombs**; and **no man** could **bind him**, no, **not with chains**: Because that he*

*had been often bound with fetters and chains, and the **chains** had been **plucked asunder by him**, and the **fetters broken in pieces**: neither could any man tame him. And **always, night and day**, he was in the mountains, and in the tombs, **crying**, and **cutting himself** with stones. But when **he saw Jesus afar off**, he ran and worshipped **Him**, And cried with a loud voice, and said, **What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not**. For He said unto him, **Come out of the man, thou unclean spirit**. And He (Jesus) asked him, What is thy name? And he answered, saying, **My name is LEGION: for we are many**. And he besought Him (Jesus) much that He would not **send them away** out of the country. Now there was there nigh unto the mountains a great **herd of swine feeding**. And **all the devils** besought Him, saying, **Send us into the swine, that we may enter into them**. And forthwith **Jesus gave them leave**. And the **unclean spirits went out**, and **entered into the swine**: and the **herd ran VIOLENTLY down a steep place into the sea**, (they were about **two thousand**;) and were **choked in the sea**. And **they that fed the swine fled**, and **told it** in the city, and in the country. And **they went out to see** what it was that was done. And **they come to Jesus**, and **SEE HIM THAT WAS POSSESSED with the devil**, and had the **legion, sitting, and clothed, and in his right mind**: and **they were afraid**. And they that saw it told them how it befell to him that was **possessed with the devil**, and also concerning the swine. And **they began to pray Him (Jesus) to depart** out of their coasts.” (Mark 5:1-17)*

Some have said that demons are not real and that in Jesus’ time people were ignorant and superstitious regarding unstable people who seemed insane or had a particular disease. However, to believe that would mean that our Lord Himself was promoting ignorance and superstition. Jesus does not deceive us and is showing us that these fallen angels can, in certain circumstances, possess a human. It is clear from the scriptures that these beings have their own personality and can use a human as a host to achieve their objectives in tormenting and attempting to thwart the Plan of God in the Earth. When Jesus ascended into Heaven, He gave **ALL BELIEVERS** the **AUTHORITY TO CAST OUT DEVILS IN HIS NAME**.

(10) Jesus **HEALED** all manner of diseases.

20. CHRIST’S TRIUMPHAL ENTRY (Matthew 21:1-11) Just as we saw in last week’s study, the **PROPHET ZECHARIAH** (who prophesied to encourage the people to rebuild the Temple after the captivity) prophesied approximately **400 years PRIOR** that the **MESSIAH KING** would enter upon a **colt**, the **foal of an ass**. **INCREDIBLY**, this event is **occurring EXACTLY** at the **time predicted** by the **PROPHET DANIEL** (Daniel 9:25-27) who

was told by God when he was a **captive in BABYLON 586 years PRIOR!!!** Daniel was told that **Babylon**, after the **70-years** of captivity, would be **overthrown by PERSIA** and that the **KING OF PERSIA** would give a **DECREE** for the **JEWS** to return to **JERUSALEM** to **REBUILD the TEMPLE**. Daniel was told that the **time from the decree to rebuild the temple till the time of Jesus' CRUCIFIXION for the New Covenant would be 69 "WEEKS" (sevens) or 69 times 7, which is 483 YEARS—EXACTLY the TIME of JESUS' ENTRY** from the time of the rebuilding of the temple after the captivity!!! As Isaiah said, God, Who is outside of time and is **OMNISCIENT**, sees the **END** from the **BEGINNING** and is, therefore, **PRECISE** and **EXACT** in **PROPHECIES!**

21. JESUS' BETRAYAL, ARREST, AND TRIAL (*Matthew 26, 27 & Luke 23*) As Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane, we see fulfillment of patterns in the scriptures. The **ORIGINAL FALL** was in a **GARDEN, Eden**. Jesus is beginning the **PLAN of REDEMPTION** in a **GARDEN, Gethsemane**, which means **"OIL PRESS."** His **AGONY** will eventually lead to giving **HIS CHURCH the OIL** of the **ANOINTING OF the HOLY SPIRIT**. He is sweating **BLOOD, DIVINE BLOOD**, that is flowing to the **GROUND** which was **cursed** in **EDEN**. Remember, the **FALL of man** involved **SWEAT**.

Jesus calls **Judas**, who led the religious leaders and elders to Jesus to **betray Him, "FRIEND."** (*Matthew 26:50*) This was done as **predicted approximately 1000 years prior** in Psalm 41:9: *"...my own familiar **FRIEND**, in whom I **trusted**, which did **eat of my bread**, hath lifted up his heel **against me**."* The disciples abandoned Him, just as **Zechariah** had predicted, *"smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered."* (13:7)

When Jesus was brought before the chief priests, the elders, and the council, they were determined to **put Him to death**, even if it meant obtaining **FALSE WITNESSES** against Him. When the High Priest commanded Jesus to tell them if He was the Christ, the Son of God, Jesus answered:

*"Thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the **Son of man** sitting on the **right hand of power**, and **coming in the clouds of heaven**."* (*Matthew 26:64*)

The **HIGH PRIEST** tore his **High Priest's garments apart** when Jesus said this. Little did the High Priest know that **his own actions DEMONSTRATED** that the **HIGH PRIESTHOOD** would soon be **TORN FROM HIM**—that **Jesus** would go to the cross and **become the ETERNAL HIGH PRIEST**.

Judas realizes he has **BETRAYED INNOCENT BLOOD** and **throws the 30 pieces of silver** back at the priests in the Temple. He hangs himself and the priests use the money to buy the **potter's field** for burying strangers—just as **Zechariah** had prophesied **400 years prior**.

22. JESUS' CRUCIFIXION Note that after Pilate failed to convince the leaders to let Jesus go, Jesus is taken and a **SCARLET robe** is placed on Him. The apostle John records that the robe was **PURPLE**. The Book of Hebrews tells us that **Jesus' physical BODY** was the **FULFILLMENT** of the **VAIL** that **CLOSED OFF the GLORY of the ARK OF THE COVENANT** in the **Tabernacle** and later, the **Temple**. That **VAIL** was made of **SCARLET** and **PURPLE COLORS**, embroidered with **CHERUBIM**. So Jesus' enemies are **unknowingly declaring** that **HE IS the GLORY OF GOD—the TRUE ARK OF THE COVENANT**. They placed a **CROWN of THORNS** on Him. **THORNS** were part of the **CURSE** when **ADAM and EVE** fell. Jesus is **TAKING OUR CURSE** upon **Himself**. It is upon **His precious HEAD**. The **CURSE** is removed from our **THINKING!** We have **PEACE of MIND** because **He is our PEACE OFFERING!**

As Jesus was led away to the **CROSS**, His body was nailed to the **TREE** (*remember, Satan used a TREE to cause the FALL of man*) at the **time of the MORNING SACRIFICE** and **remained till the EVENING SACRIFICE**—in **PERFECT FULFILLMENT**. He was taunted to **COME DOWN** off the cross, but as the pattern was shown in **Nehemiah** building the **WALL around Jerusalem**, **JESUS** would **NOT come down**, for **He** was doing a **GREAT WORK!** He was **building our WALL OF SALVATION**, as **Isaiah** had declared.

The **TWO thieves** beside Jesus on the Cross represent the **2 groups of humanity**: The **SHEEP** and the **GOATS**. **One RECEIVED** Christ and the **other REJECTED** Christ.

It is said that when Jesus cried out, *"Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani,"* He was speaking in an **ANCIENT CHALDEAN DIALECT**. Remember **ABRAHAM** with whom **GOD** cut covenant and told him that through **his SEED** the **PROMISED SEED** would come? **ABRAHAM** was from **UR of the CHALDEES**. **Abraham spoke CHALDEAN**. Jesus was speaking the language of the **FIRST COVENANT** with His **FRIEND, ABRAHAM!**

When Jesus yielded up His spirit, the **VAIL** in the **TEMPLE** was torn from **TOP to BOTTOM**, indicating **UNSEEN hands** had **traced the VAIL**—that the **PRESENCE and GLORY of GOD** was **NOW AVAILABLE TO** all who call upon the **NAME of JESUS!**

23. JESUS RESURRECTION Just as the **TABERNACLE of Moses'** time foreshadowed, in that it was **TAKEN DOWN** and then **RAISED BACK UP AGAIN** during the wilderness journey, **JESUS**, the **TRUE TABERNACLE of GOD**, was **TAKEN DOWN** from the **CROSS** and **RAISED BACK UP AGAIN**. Jesus had previously told the religious leaders that **He** would **RAISE HIS OWN BODY (TEMPLE) UP AGAIN** in 3 days! The claims of **JUSTICE** and **HOLINESS** had been **MET in HEAVEN** on our **BEHALF!** **DEATH** has **LOST its STING** and the **GRAVE** has **NO VICTORY** over the Christian!!!

Notice that **MARY MAGDALENE**, out of whom **JESUS** had cast **7 DEVILS**, was the **FIRST ONE TO SEE HIM RISEN!!!** **A WOMAN**, at that! He told her to **GO TELL!**

When Jesus appeared to the remaining 11 disciples, He told them:

*“These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that **ALL THINGS MUST BE FULFILLED**, which were written in the **LAW OF MOSES**, and in the **PROPHETS**, and in the **PSALMS, CONCERNING ME**. Then **OPENED** He their **UNDERSTANDING**, that they might **UNDERSTAND** the **SCRIPTURES**...And that **REPENTANCE** and **REMISSION of SINS** should be **PREACHED in HIS NAME** among **ALL NATIONS**, beginning in Jerusalem...And, behold, I send the **PROMISE of My Father** upon you: **BUT TARRY** ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be **ENDUED with POWER from on HIGH**.”*

24. JESUS' ASCENSION *“And when He had spoken these things, while they beheld, **He** was **TAKEN UP**; and a **CLOUD** received **HIM** out of their sight. And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, **two men** stood by them in **WHITE APPAREL**; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This **SAME JESUS**, which is taken up from you into heaven, **shall SO COME IN LIKE MANNER** as ye have seen Him go into heaven.” (Acts 1:9-11)*

It was **NO ORDINARY CUMULUS CLOUD** which received Jesus. Remember, **God** had **LED** them out of **EGYPT** with a pillar of **CLOUD** by **DAY** and a pillar of **FIRE** by **NIGHT**. The **Cloud** and **Fire** were **COVENANT SYMBOLS**. Also, when **FRANKINCENSE** was burned as the **SWEET PERFUME of The INCENSE TABLE** in the **TABERNACLE**, it created a **WHITE CLOUD**. This **WHITE CLOUD** which **received JESUS** illustrated that our **GOD is a COVENANT KEEPING GOD** and that in **JESUS** we have the **TRUE, ETERNALLY SWEET PERFUME** of the **PERFECT SACRIFICE** that **ascends** to the **very THRONE OF GOD** and **HEAVEN IS WELL-PLEASED!**