# THE WORD BECAME FLESH



Adoration of the Shepherds (c. 1622) Pomerania State Museum

### INTRODUCTION

We examine the life of Christ year by year as it parallels Bible prophecy in the verses of Genesis 1.

The life of Christ marked a new beginning in God's dealings with men. From the first Passover in Egypt to the last Passover in Jerusalem<sup>1</sup> God worked through the twelve tribes of Israel. After the Cross God set Jews aside and began a new program of proclaiming salvation to the Gentiles through Christ.

Using the 'one verse is one year' method we will go through Genesis 1 and see how each verse pertains to the life of Christ and the unfolding of God's plan and purpose. Genesis 1 is about new beginnings. The new heavens and new earth based on God's Grace was transformational indeed.

## **KEY ASSUMPTIONS**

One verse is one year. The first verse of each of the Canons: Torah (Gen. 1 v 1), Prophecy (Isaiah 1 v 1), Poetry (Job 1 v 1), and Gospels (Matt. 1 v 1) is 1 AD. These are all parallel passages to each other.

Jesus was born prior to 1 AD. Based on our paper '<u>Come Away My Love</u>' Christ was conceived in 8 BC and was born in 7 BC. Prophetically, 7 BC is Christ's '1st year': He was born '1' – I AM THE LORD.

#### **MAIN FINDINGS**

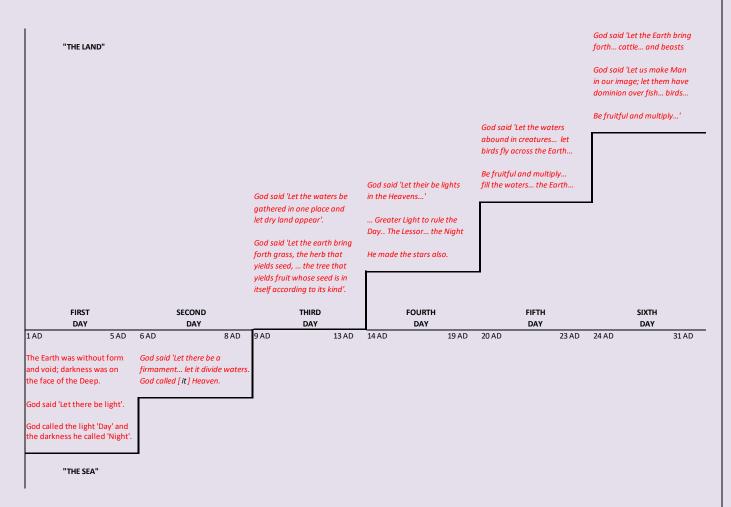
The so-called 'silent years' after Jesus left home in Nazareth – for which there is no Scriptural account – was time He spent learning His Father's will. He was inspired to understand: His inheritance was Gentiles in the West; He must present Himself as Messiah to His own people; the religious leaders would reject Him and have Him killed; He must gather disciples from among the Jews before He died who would take a message of salvation to the Gentiles, a people they detested, after He died; It would work because the Holy Spirit would depart from the Jews, anoint His apostles, and fill former pagans with the love of God.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> We call it the 'Last Supper' of Jesus in the Upper Room with His disciples.

#### THE SIX DAYS OF GOD'S WORK – DEMONSTRATED IN THE LIFE OF CHRIST

Before we dive into the details verse by verse it is worth surveying the entire chapter at a glance:



The transformation begins with 'the Earth was without form' and ends with 'make Man in God's image'. The six days of God's work is a progression from 'darkness on the face of the Deep' to a new 'dominion'. Christ was born sinless but the Bible says on His journey of human life He was learning and growing. Hebrews says 'He can have compassion on those who are ignorant or going astray since He himself was subject to weakness' (Heb. 5 v 2) and 'He learned obedience by the things He suffered' (Heb. 5 v 8).

Dear reader, as we follow the journey of Jesus we invite you to contemplate the progress of your own walk with the Father. There were milestones in His journey recorded in the Bible. What have been the milestones in your journey? Have you settled down? Or are you marching on? Have you sold out? Or are you sharing in Christ's sufferings? Is your life in darkness? Or full of God's revelation? Is your life bearing fruit? Are your thoughts and dreams in this world? Or do you like Abram aspire to a better city, a new dominion, an inheritance in all the saints?

We pray the Spirit will inspire you to new visions and horizons. God wants the best for your life in Him.

#### THE FIRST DAY

The first Day of Christ's journey was 1 AD to 5 AD; His 8th to 12th year in the world.

If we take the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and add them together we get 15. The spiritual number 15 means PEACE or COVENANT. In the Genesis 15 Abram says:

"Look. You have given me no offspring" and "the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus"

But God says:

"Look now toward the Heaven and count the stars... so shall your descendants be."

"I brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to inherit."

Abram says:

"LORD God, how shall I know that I will inherit it?"

God then instructed Abram to make a sacrifice. As the Sun was going down Abram fell into a deep sleep during which God gave him prophecies of the journey of his children hundreds of years in the future. God made a Covenant with Abram declaring:

"To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river Euphrates'

In the first Day <u>Jesus was seeking the will of the Father in his life</u>. It was made clear to Jesus that His kingdom was not of this world. He would serve God but not possess any land in His lifetime. He would be laid to rest and His spiritual children would also sojourn for many years without inheriting any land. Finally His followers would inherit the land. Not the land promised to Abram: the land of the Gentiles.

Jesus had no physical offspring. The line of David ended with Him and He now sits on David's throne forever. We who believe in the virtue of Jesus' sacrifice on the Cross are children of God and we inherit all the promises the LORD God made to Abram (Gal. 3 v 7). When Kingdom comes we will inherit the Land.

Every believer begins the journey in the same place of seeking the will of the Father. Just like Jesus and Abram the revelation of the Father's will enlarges in our hearts as we sojourn on.

If we add the years of Jesus (8, 9, 10, 11, 12) in the first Day we get 50. The number 50 means 'Fire'. Every child of God comes through a baptism of fire. If we die to this world we live for the world to come. If we die to our plans we live for His will. If we die to our self we live for His glory. In Genesis 50 Jacob died without Land and was buried. Joseph, a type of dedication to this life, possessed much land, also died. Fearing decay he took steps according to human wisdom to resist it; so he was embalmed. He had no hope of rising from the dead to meet God. No aspiration of enjoying the favor of the Father in the next life. Disinherited by Jacob his two sons Ephraim and Manasseh took his place in line for inheritance.

"In the beginning God he created the Heavens and the Earth"

Jesus is in His 8th year and lives in Nazareth. He is reading and studying Scripture.

At an early age Jesus discerned that God is the builder and maker of the Universe. God has the power to cause evil men to obey Him (Proverbs 21 v 1-9). <u>Jesus rightly determined never to resist God's will</u>. The Father rewarded the wisdom in His Son with visions and revelations.

The parallel passage in Song of Songs is chapter 7 verse 4:

"Thy neck [is] as a tower of ivory; thine eyes [like] the fish pools in Heshbon, by the gate of Bathrabbim: thy nose [is] as the tower of Lebanon which looks towards Damascus."

Heshbon is the ancient capital of the Amorite King Sihon who was defeated there by the Israelite army. Nearby is Mount Nebo where Moses was permitted to see the Promised Land from afar before he died.

Heshbon had a reservoir which fed pools of water hewn out of the rock where fish swam.

The tower of Lebanon was set on Mount Hermon and from this vantage could see distant lands.

Jesus understood he would die on a hill. Jesus understood by following the will of the Father believers (fish) in Gentile lands (Amorites) would live by faith (water) from his sacrifice (stone removed).

The elephant is known for its shrill trumpet and great ivory tusks. The elephant is continuously walking on long journeys. As he goes he fertilizes the soil and revitalizes the savannah. He uses his tusks to uproot trees which make clearings for grasses to grow. He is protective not aggressive. He does not kill to eat.

<u>Jesus understood he would lead a homeless life</u> and have 'no place to lay my head'. But on his journey He would share His gifts and renew living faith in a dry and hot land. He would care for those in His charge.

The neck is a symbol of human will. The neck of Jesus was like a tower of ivory: unbendable, unbreakable. In the sight of the Father the fervent purpose of Jesus to serve Him was very precious.

<u>Jesus was fueled by love for the Father</u>. He also knew obedience would be rewarded. As Hebrews says: '...for the joy set before Him he endured the Cross, despised the shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God' (Heb. 12 v 2). Like the prosperous city of Damascus, far off in the distance but always in view, <u>Jesus believed His suffering would make eternity in Heaven attainable for countless believers</u>.

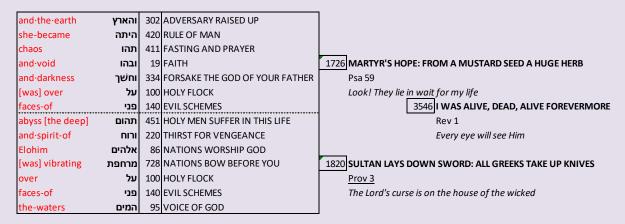
The number (8) means NEW BEGINNING. All born again believers have the honor to serve God in this life. As we go our vision of God's eternal blessings and the worth of our service to Him will deepen and clarify. By God's grace we will keep Covenant with Him and be blessed.

"And the earth she became chaos; and darkness [was] over faces of the abyss. And Spirit of God [was] vibrating over faces of the waters."

Jesus is in His 9th year. The spiritual number (9) means JUDGMENT.

In the time of Jesus the world was running fairly smoothly. Rome was the indisputable ruler of a great realm. There were no ongoing wars. Trade and development flourished. Where was the chaos?

The Gematria<sup>2</sup> of the Hebrew words in Gen. 1 v 2 reveals the deeper meaning:



Being spiritually alive, <u>Jesus looked at the state of affairs from the Divine perspective</u>. The 'Rule of Man' (world system) is diametrically opposed to the 'Rule of God' (living by faith).

If we count the verses backwards from Isaiah 1 v 1 (1 AD) we find <u>Proverbs 3</u> begins at 1175 BC and ends at 1139 BC. This is the reign of Eli and the corrupt priests Hophni and Phineas. Samuel was 'ministering to the LORD even as a child' (1 Sam. 2 v 18). <u>Jesus was young but mature in faith and prophetically gifted.</u>

Jesus understood that the chief priest in Jerusalem was a 'blind guide' like Eli. When the 'Sultan lays down his sword' – the chief priest doesn't defend the faith – then 'Greeks take up knives' – religious sects spawn and are at each other's throat: Pharisees, Sadducees, Essenes took up entrenched positions.

Jesus also understood that the 'spirit of [thirst for vengeance] Elohim [nations worship God] was vibrating [nations bow before you]'. The Holy Spirit was literally shaking in rage at the insolence of the priesthood. In the days of Eli the Ark of the LORD was captured. Jesus knew (9) JUDGMENT was about to fall. The Holy City would be razed and the temple articles plundered by foreigners.

The situation was dire. Like Samuel Jesus was destined to be rejected. Israelites wanted a king, a warlike Messiah. Jesus came meek and lowly. His obedience and sacrifice would be the seed of a revitalized faith. Jesus knew He would rise from the dead, ascend, and come again. All this He knew by His 9<sup>th</sup> year.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Readers may learn about the numerical values of Hebrew letters on our page: <u>8 GEMATRIA</u>

"And God said [Let] him become light: and there he becomes light."

Jesus is in His 10th year. The spiritual number (10) means LEADER OF A BAND or TESTIMONY.

The world was darkness and void. The spiritual leaders of Israel were corrupt and blind guides. God must have a witness on earth so Jesus became THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD (John 8 v 12).

The spiritual number 10 is a (1) I AM LORD followed by a (0) OPEN MOUTH.

In spite of the darkness of those days there were still Israelites with faith. They were like lost sheep without a shepherd. They were hungry for the living Word of God.

<u>Jesus knew His ministry would not be in vain</u>. Disciples would come to Him with 'open mouth': eager to hear His words and absorb His wisdom. They would form a circle, a '0', and follow Him wherever He went.

The number 0 can also be seen as the shape of a planet or celestial orb. Unlike the stars [angels] who are points of light fixed in position, the planets, the sun and the moon are orbs which move across the sky.

Jesus was comforted that there would be a (10) TESTIMONY of His life from the mouths of His disciples.

There are 10 celestial orbs in the sky: 8 planets, the Sun, and the Moon. Like the elephants, the orbs are in constant motion. They shine light on every corner of the Earth. Direct sunlight or reflected sunlight.

Jesus understood He would minister in the Holy Land and die there. But He would leave his disciples with a command to <u>be like the celestial orbs</u> and 'go into all the world' with the light of the Gospel of the Son.

Some of the disciples of Jesus would write Scripture. The Gospel would be preserved for all generations and become a perpetual testimony of Jesus. Note that '0' has no beginning and no end. The testimony of Jesus would continue on Earth even after the first disciples are no more.

Jesus knew for a certainty that God's plan would work. As sure as light casts out darkness the current chaos in the land could not resist the Kingdom of God. The new creation would fill the world with life.

The knowledge of these things inspired Jesus. As He meditated on the worthiness of the Father, whom He served, His heart was filled without limit by the Holy Spirit. Jesus experienced peace and joy and the all the blessings of the Holy Spirit like no human before or since.

Jesus had only to touch Himself to realize that the WORD BECAME FLESH. All the promises to the patriarchs were fulfilled in His own person. The Father brought Him into the world at precisely the right time to do His will and bring salvation to the world.

"And God saw [the] light, that it [was] good: and God separated the light and the darkness."

Jesus is in His 11th year. The spiritual number (11) means MYSTERY: DARKNESS.

This is the message hidden in the Gematria of Genesis 1 v 4:

and·he-saw	וירא	217	MEN OF FAITH IN HIDING	
Elohim	אלהים	86	NATIONS WORSHIP GOD	704 DEPART FROM ME I NEVER KNEW YOU
[the]	את	401	TEMPLE OF DAVID REBUILT	Isa 25 963 <b>JESUS REJECTED IN HIS HOMETOWN</b>
light	האור	212	GOD'S COMMANDS FORSAKEN	Mar 6
it [was]	כי	30	BLOOD: Children	259 BELIEVERS HUNTED DOWN
good	טוב	17	VICTORY: Sword of Lord	1 Sam 23 1776 SARAH'S EYES CLOSE, REBEKAH SPIES CLOTHES
and·he-separated	ויכדל	52	GOSPEL WORKER	Psa 109
Elohim	אלהים	86	NATIONS WORSHIP GOD	200 MOUTH OF LION
between	בין	62	JERUSALEM ROYAL CITY	Josh 13 813 RIVALS WILL BE DRIVEN OUT OF THE CITY
the light	האור	212	GOD'S COMMANDS FORSAKEN	Eze 11
and·between	ובין	68	VICTORIOUS DISCIPLES	613 SERVANTS INHERIT THE LAND
the·darkness	החשׁך	333	SIGN OF GOD	Psa 135

A parallel passage is Isaiah 1 v 4: 'Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the LORD, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel to anger, they are gone away backward.'

<u>Jesus foresaw the second exile of the Jews from Jerusalem</u>. They had rebuilt the Temple of David. All the measurements of the temple were wrong and unapproved by God but they did insisted on doing this in God's name. It was doomed to be destroyed: (704) DEPART FROM ME I NEVER KNEW YOU.

The Jewish religious system had lost its way. They accepted Herod as 'King of the Jews': a man who had no lineage from David. When the true King appeared they refused to recognize Him: (963) JESUS REJECTED. Worse, they had Him killed and persecuted his followers: (259) BELIEVERS HUNTED DOWN.

The MOUTH OF THE LION of the tribe of Judah would roar. His followers would be (613) SERVANTS INHERIT THE LAND. He would rise from the dead and before their eyes ascend to Heaven. He would establish a New Jerusalem in Heaven (Gal. 4 v 16) and grant them eternal peace and rest.

Having committed the unpardonable sin of cursing the Messiah, <u>Jesus foresaw the Holy Spirit would</u> <u>depart from the Jews</u>. Without any restraint their full madness would manifest and they would rebel from Rome. Rome would prevail. The Jews, (813) RIVALS DRIVEN OUT OF THE CITY, would be dispersed.

The spiritual renewal would not end well. The saints, for whom Christ paid a great price to redeem, would stumble and give into worldly desires: (1776) SARAH'S EYES CLOSE, REBEKAH SPIES CLOTHES. Money would be the besetting sin of the saints. Gematria 1776! The date of the founding of the USA.

"And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day."

Jesus was in His 12th year. The spiritual number 12 means GOVERNMENT.

A parallel verse is Job 1 v 12 "And the LORD said unto Satan, 'Behold, all that he has [is] in your power; only on him put not forth your hand'. So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD."

For Jesus the <u>brilliance of His revelations</u> (Day) <u>are dimmed by a dreary life in a sinful world</u> (Night).

Nazareth is a village in the borderland region of Naphtali. Israelites here were a long distance from Jerusalem. To the south were the half-breed Samaritans with heretical faith and practices. To the west were Tyrian traders with temples to accursed gods. To the north was the satanic stronghold of Mount Hermon and the former cult site of one of the calf gods that caused Israel to sin.

The capital city of Galilee was Tiberias, the tetrarch was Herod Antipas: son of Herod the Great. Greeks and Romans occupied Tiberias. There was a stadium for sports and a palace adorned with animals.

Pharisees were prominent in Galilee: a legalist sect of scholars who divided Jews into those who followed their innovative interpretations of the Law and those who did not. Well regarded by the people because of their resistance to Rome and heathen culture, they would become a thorn in the side of Christ's ministry, widely broadcasting their opinion he was a brazen law-breaker and demon possessed.

Local heathen culture oppressed the hearts of Jews in Galilee. Legalistic Jewish sects tormented their minds. Oppressive regimes taxed them and Roman soldiers harassed them. They were marginalized.

Comprehending the scene, <u>Jesus fully appreciated the mountains of resistance standing in the way of</u> God's plan to bring salvation to the ends of the earth.

The 12<sup>th</sup> book of the Bible is 2 Kings. It is the account of the last days of Israel before the first exile. It includes the miracles of Elisha (healing the leper, feeding the hundred with one loaf) and the ministry of Isaiah. Perhaps Jesus found clues here of the ministry in store for Him.

Like the child-King Josiah in 2 Kings Jesus would lead a revival of the faith. The end would come to Jerusalem but only after He died because 'you humbled yourself before the LORD' (2 Kings 22 v 20).

We too are children of God. We too must wait for the glorious day to appear. We too must endure hardship and resist the temptation. This is the patience of the saints. Jesus said 'You are the salt of the Earth'. Perseverance in obeying Jesus' commands holds back judgment. But life in a sinful world wears down our faith. Jesus said 'When the Son of Man comes will I find faith on the Earth?'

"And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters."

Jesus was in His 13th year. The spiritual number 13 means REBELLION.

At age 13 Jewish males become full members of the community, responsible for their own actions, able to marry, and expected to know and obey the 613 laws of the Torah.

Jesus obeyed the commandments of Moses in the Torah. He was blameless according to the Law and He was ethnically Hebrew. But His people would reject Him. Jesus was innocent. The sentencing of Jesus to death would incite a (13) REBELLION of some Jews to Judaism. They would follow Jesus. But not many.

Jesus has foreseen the destruction of Jerusalem, the second exile, and diaspora of the Jews. <u>His prophetic</u> eyes now look towards the community of people who would believe in Him: the Gentiles.

Chapter 6 of Genesis is the account of Noah who is instructed to build a boat that will rescue all the animals on Earth, clean and unclean, from the judgment to fall on the Earth. Which animals were saved? The ones who heard the call of God and came. The majority of animals on the Ark were unclean.

The sixth book of the Bible is Joshua. 'Joshua' is 'Jesus' in Hebrew. In chapter 1 a promise is made:

"From the wilderness and this Lebanon even to the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and to the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your territory." (Joshua 1 v 4)

The land of the Hittites, Asia Minor, is outside the boundary of lands promised to Abram, Isaac, and Jacob.

How shall we interpret 'the great sea'? What is the greatest sea on planet Earth? The Pacific Ocean. Where is it located? 'toward the going down of the sun' [the sun sets in the west].

All the lands west of Jerusalem including Europe, Africa, North and South America were promised to Jesus. We note that all these lands received the Gospel and most of these lands embraced the Gospel.

The word 'firmament' literally means in Hebrew: 'a wide solid expanse'. It could be interpreted 'continent': 'waters above' would therefore be Arctic regions, 'waters below' Antarctic regions.

"Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given to you..." (Joshua 1 v 3)

The 'sole of your foot' (foot is a type of itinerant worker) were the apostles and early Jewish converts. Now we understand why Jesus washed the apostles' feet at the Last Supper: it was a consecration for the holy vocation to reach the Gentiles for Christ. Now we understand why missionary that journeyed west were blessed, but missionary that journeyed east to India, China, and Japan were not.

"And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which [were] under the firmament from the waters which [were] above the firmament: and it was so."

Jesus was in his 14th year. The spiritual number 14 means RIGHTEOUS.

In Biblical typology water under the ground represents evil influence. A parallel passage is Job 1 v 7:

"And the LORD said to Satan, 'Whence come you?' Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, 'From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.'"

We can infer <u>Jesus would be resisted by malicious persons from this time forward</u>. Not just sinners: truly destructive people under Satan's control. A parallel passage is Isaiah 1 v 7:

"Your country is desolate, your cities are burnt with fire, strangers devour your land in your presence."

God's plan was to expand the Faith to the west. Over time many Satans would arise and bedevil the continents promised to Joshua with the effect of hindering the Gospel.

There would be invasions of foreign armies: heathen Vikings from the North, pillaging Huns from the Far East, steam rolling Ottomans from the Near East, waves of Moslems from the Arabian Peninsula.

There would be oppressive clerical systems that monopolized instruction, discouraged lay ministry, and promoted extra-Biblical doctrines: chiefly the Roman Catholic Church and Eastern Orthodox Church.

There would be wars among Christian nations. These would cause the deaths of millions of believers and destroy land and cities. National denominations would splinter the Faith further.

After the Enlightenment, faith in Jesus would be undermined by rationalists who denied God - leading to the rise of anti-God secular and communist governments. State sponsored education systems pushed God out of the curriculum. Children were raised with no knowledge of Jesus or basic Biblical facts.

In light of all the pre-existing resistance to the Gospel and ongoing Satanic interference in Western affairs it is absolutely miraculous that a dusty Jew from a small remote village could pioneer a faith whose believers number in the millions even in these Last Days.

At a youth Jesus foresaw all these things. His own perfect glorious life would shine bright for an hour. But His children after Him would face relentless forces of resistance for thousands of years to follow.

In spite of all, the West promised to Joshua would be Christianized for a season. 'Greater is He that is in you than he who is in the world.' (1 John 4 v 4) Praise the LORD.

"And God called the firmament Heavens. And the evening and the morning were the second day."

Jesus was in His 15th year. The spiritual number 15 means PEACE.

This is the year <u>Jesus began his lifelong habit of trekking</u> like the elephants. We base this on the parallel passage:

"Come, my beloved, let us go forth into the field; let us lodge in the villages." (2 Songs 7 v 11)

It is hard to hit a moving target. Whenever a believer settles down in a place Satan can mobilize his servants to surround him with hateful malicious accusers. Think of Lot's house in Sodom. Satan had mobilized a hateful mob against Lot. Lot was forced to leave town.

Jesus lived in a day when believers were few and enemies were many. A parallel passage says:

"And the daughter of Zion is left as a cottage in a vineyard, as a lodge in a garden of cucumbers, as a besieged city." (Isaiah 1 v 8)

Jesus was the Light of the World. Light shows up in the darkness. It is impossible to be a secret saint. The forces of Darkness are alert to our existence and knowledgeable as to our whereabouts. Another verse:

"And the LORD said to Satan, Have you considered my servant Job, that [there is] none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that fears God, and eschews evil? " (Job 1 v 8)

Popular teaching in Christian circles is to 'take authority over the Devil'. When we look at the life of Christ we see a vulnerable human being who avoided show downs, sought the paths of (15) PEACE, and picked his battles carefully. He demonstrated that the calling of saints is to carry their cross, endure hardship, turn the other cheek, and not be tricked by the Devil's schemes.

The Tabernacle of Moses, a type of Christ, was designed for mobility. We are familiar with the many journeys of God's people in the desert. Jesus was fulfilling His Biblical typology.

On the journey to the Promised Land the people of Israel took the long route around Edom rather than seeking conflict. Edom was not their inheritance. They were on a mission of God. It was the same with Jesus. His inheritance lay beyond Nazareth, Jerusalem, and the land promised to the patriarchs.

The author has experienced this in his own life. Although he is not yet 70 years old he has lived in over 30 different places for a year or more. He has lived in six different provinces. He has had over 40 different jobs and occupations. He has been driven out of town by angry haters again and again.

Advice for all pilgrims: hold what you have with an open hand, don't pound the tent pegs in too deep, and minister to the poor. If you do so you will be like Jesus.

"And God said, 'Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry [land] appear: and it was so.'"

Jesus was in His 16th year. The spiritual number 16 means SACRIFICE.

This is the year <u>Jesus appeared in the Temple</u> and had discussions with teachers after the Passover. It was His 12th year back in the Holy Land after the flight to Egypt.

"And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers." (Luke 2 v 47)

Jesus had a purpose. He was testing whether the teachers had ears to hear and eyes to see Him:

"Let us get up early to the vineyards; let us see if the vine flourish, [whether] the tender grape appear, [and] the pomegranates bud forth: there will I give thee my loves." (Song of Songs 7 v 12)

The audience were paying close attention.

"And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men." (Luke 2 v 52)

Jesus was the "dry [land]" which "appeared". He was full truth but had never sat at the feet of a notable scribe as many of the teachers of the Law had done. He was a fruitful vine that had never been watered.

"For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, [there is] no beauty that we should desire him." (Isaiah 53 v 2)

In the context of the Passover Feast we speculate that the topic of discussion was the Lamb of God. Jesus would have explained why the Passover lamb is a prophetic type of the Messiah who must die to remove sin. We hear echoes of this important discussion in the words of prominent figures in Jerusalem.

John the Baptist was born into a priestly family in Jerusalem. When he saw Jesus he told his disciples:

"Behold the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world" (John 1 v 29)

That early Bible study with the teachers must have made a lasting impression because 18 years later one of the teachers became prominent in Jerusalem and...

"...being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus should die for that nation;" (John 11 v 51)

Of course, Jesus knew the purpose of His mission was to be a (16) SACRIFICE long before this [see page 4]. We propose Jesus labored to make these things known to the teachers in the Temple to steer them away from the common belief the first coming of Messiah was as a mighty warrior to deliver Israel.

All heard Jesus. Most did not heed Jesus. They had no ears to hear nor eyes to see.

"And God called the dry [land] Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called the Seas: and God saw that [it was] good."

Jesus was in His <mark>17</mark>th year. The number <mark>17</mark> means 'VICTORY'. It pictures a (1) I AM LORD followed by a (7) SWORD.

Having returned from visiting the teachers in Jerusalem the burden of a prophet fell on the shoulders of Jesus like hot dust from a volcanic eruption. A parallel passage says:

"Hear the word of the LORD, ye rulers of Sodom; give ear unto the law of our God, ye people of Gomorrah." (Isaiah  $1 \text{ v} \frac{10}{10}$ )

The hidden message in the Gematria of this verse leaves no doubt what is the problem:

10 and he-called	ויקרא	317	MAN OF GOD	
10 Elohim	אלהים	86	NATIONS WORSHIP GOD	750 UNFAITHFUL CHILDREN
10 dry [land]	ליבשה	347	CITY THAT KILLS PROPHETS	Jer 5 1323 IS CHRIST DIVIDED? SOME SAY: I AM OF PAUL, I AM OF CEPHAS
10 Earth	γאר	291	DEATHLY PLAGUES	Num 17
10 and gathering of	ולמקוה	187	ASCENSION TO HEAVEN	573 STIFF-NECKED REJECTED FOREVER
10 the waters	המים	95	VOICE OF GOD	Psa 95 2074 ABHORE THE PRIDE OF JACOB: I WILL DELIVER UP THE CAPITAL
10 he-called	קרא	301	KING PILES UP WEALTH	Amos 6
10 Seas	ימים	100	HOLY FLOCK	618 SCHEMERS PLOT MY DOWNFALL
10 and he-saw	וירא	217	MEN OF FAITH IN HIDING	Psa 140 751 MEN ON HORSES ATTACK ZION
10 Elohim	אלהים	86	NATIONS WORSHIP GOD	Jer 6
10 it [was]	כי	30	BLOOD: Children	133 BROTHERLY LOVE
10 good	טוב	17	VICTORY: Sword of Lord	Num 16

The sum of the values of all the letters add to 2074 which leads us to the 2074<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Bible [after going through the 1189 chapters of the Bible we keep counting from Genesis 1 as 1190] which is Amos 6.

"That lie upon beds of ivory, and stretch themselves upon their couches, and eat the lambs out of the flock, and the calves out of the midst of the stall; That chant to the sound of the viol, [and] invent to themselves instruments of music, like David; That drink wine in bowls, and anoint themselves with the chief ointments: but they are not grieved for the affliction of Joseph." (Amos  $6 \vee 4 - 6$ )

'Joseph' is a Bible type of the lands of northern Israel, inheritance of Ephraim and Manasseh. In Northern Israel the plight of Jews was desperate [see page 8 & 10]. While He was in Jerusalem He did not hear prayers for the suffering in Galilee or the sheep gone astray in Samaria.

The ostentatious and self-important Scribes and Pharisees burned the righteous soul of the Savior to a cinder: (2074) I ABHOR THE PRIDE OF JACOB. He would rebuke this behavior:

"Woe to you! Scribes and Pharisees: hypocrites!" (Matt 23 v 13) "you devour widow's houses" (v 14). "you have neglected the weightier matters of the Law: justice, faith, mercy." (v 23) "you... are whitewashed tombs. Full of all uncleanness" (v 27)

This sin will be punished by the (7) SWORD: "your house is left to you desolate" (v 38)

"And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, [and] the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed [is] in itself, upon the earth: and it was so."

Jesus was in His 18th year. The spiritual number (18) means BONDAGE. <u>Jesus accepted His martyrdom.</u>

Rain has come. The dry land has become fertile ground. Abundant and diverse life springs forth in the form of grass, grain, and fruit trees. But no one collects the harvest.

Genesis 11 is the account of the Tower of Babel. Noah was given a commandment from the LORD: "Be fruitful and multiply and fill all the earth" (Gen. 9 v 1). In direct disobedience the descendants of Noah built a city with a Tower in it that reached up to Heaven. An authoritarian government [Tower] whose legitimacy was based on religious claims [built up to Heaven].

Believers in Jesus' day were in (18) BONDAGE to religious authorities. Priests were required to sanctify anything. Priests were required to make offerings to God. A parallel passage says:

"...stretch out your hand and touch all he has and he will surely curse you to your face" Job (1 v 11)

God came down in Genesis 11, confused the language, and scattered them over the face of the Earth.

The prophetic time was right to take the Good News to the ends of the Earth. But Man's Religion had centralized Judaism around the Temple of Solomon [a religious monument which God never commanded to be built]. Such was the religious fixation that even needy souls close by, e.g. Samaria, were ignored.

In contrast <u>Jesus visualized many fellowships worshipping the Father all over the world.</u> The Samaritan woman said: "you Jews say Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship". But Jesus said "But the hour is coming and now is, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. For the Father is seeking such to worship Him." (John 4 v 23)

The irony was the Jesus himself was under the Law: (18) BONDAGE. To open the way for world-wide worship of the Father by many tribes and tongues Jesus must present Himself to the Jews and be rejected. When they curse Jesus to His face, they curse Jehovah to His face. Doing so removes their access to the Father. The Spirit of God departs the Jews and fills the hearts of Christians. God's command to Noah to spread the love of God and the knowledge of His Son throughout the world can now be fulfilled.

Although He desired to go into the wider world to seek and save the lost, Jesus was bound to go to His own people. It was a mission of futility until the very last hour of the last day when His sacrifice on Calvary paid for the sins of the world. "Unless a kernel falls to the ground and dies it remains only a single seed. But if it dies it produces many seeds." (John 12 v 24) In the Parable of the Sower Jesus explained Gen. 1 v 11: "the Seed is the Word of God" (Luke 8 v 11).

"And the earth brought forth grass, [and] herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed [was] in itself, after his kind: and God saw that [it was] good."

Jesus was in His 19th year. The spiritual number (19) means FAITH.

Jesus knew after the second diaspora, God was not finished with the Jews. They would return again.

In the fullness of time the Christianized West would lose its faith in God and become an unbelieving generation. The shoe of God's judgment would be on the other foot. He would judge the West severely. 'And the Earth brought forth grass': God would remember His promises to the patriarchs and bring the Jews back to the Promised Land. 'Herb yielding seed... and tree yielding fruit': He would prosper them.

Genesis 12 begins with the account of Abram setting forth from his native land to go a foreign land: the great forefather of the faith who obeyed God's call. This is akin to the first Jewish believers in Christ who left their native land and took the Gospel to foreign lands. Abram walked almost alone through Canaan.

Genesis 12 ends with Abram leaving the land God told him to go to and taking refuge in Egypt. Abram would not recognize Sarai as his wife, but let her be taken into the household of Pharaoh. Abram is the type of Jesus. Sarai is the type of believers in Jesus. Initially the West will embrace Christianity: Sarai will be welcomed and well treated. But over time Sarai will lose her beauty; she will behave, dress, and speak like Egyptians. By the end of the Age of Grace believers in Jesus will become worldly. Without a godly witness in the West there will be plagues. Pharaoh will cast Sarai out with recriminations: Christianity will lose reputation and influence in society. Sarai will return to Abram: believers will be raptured to Heaven. Until Sarai returned Abram waited alone and childless.

<u>Jesus suffered loneliness and isolation</u>. Like Abram He couldn't explain to the authorities who his sister was or that He was King of the Jews. Meanwhile the Jews were pandering to Rome and fixating on their temple: ineffective in extending the knowledge of God to Rome or to the wider world.

The value of all the letters in Genesis 1 v 12 is 4,455 which links to the 888<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Bible: Amos 9 [4,455 = 1,189 \* 3 + 888]. The children of God are unrecognizable: 'are you not like the people of Ethiopia to me?'; They are distressed 'I will command the serpent and it will bite them'; violence is everywhere: 'All the sinners of my people will die by the sword'; Jews will re-establish their religion in the Holy Land: 'I will raise up David's fallen tent': the saints will be raptured and brought back to the Promised Land: 'I will bring back the captives of My people' to enjoy the Millennium: 'I will plant them in their land and no longer shall they be pulled up'. Jesus knew the end of the story. By FAITH He walked in victory.

The author left organized religion long ago. He has wandered in the desert amply fed by Manna since. But ten years ago his wife deserted him and divorced him after 30 years of marriage. He has continued on the journey alone. Why did the LORD allow this? Maybe He wanted company.

"And the evening and the morning were the third day."

Jesus was in His 20th year. The spiritual number (20) means 'DISTRESS'.

It is a time of dissatisfaction and disconnection among the people of God. In a parallel verse the Beloved [believers] speaking to the Daughters of Jerusalem [wider society] says:

"His left hand is under my head and His right hand embraces me" (Songs 8 v 3)

The message is about 'me'. There is no offer of a Gospel of grace, hope, and love for 'you'. Believers are absorbed in themselves, obsessed with their troubles, and incoherent in their faith: in (20) DISTRESS.

The sum of the value of the letters in Gen. 1 v 13 is 1,422 which links to the 233<sup>rd</sup> Bible chapter: Ruth 1.

"Do not call me Naomi, call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me. I went out full and the LORD has brought me home empty... the Almighty has afflicted me." Ruth 1 v 21

Elimelech, Naomi's husband, is dead. Mahlon and Chilion, Naomi's sons, are dead. Naomi [believers] are like sheep without a shepherd, scattered across the landscape.

Jesus wants to soothe the trembling minds. He wants to salve the open wounds. He wants to bind up the broken hearted. But His time has not yet come so <u>Jesus devotes Himself to pray for His people</u>.

Hope breaks through the clouds. Evening has passed. Morning has come. Jesus is trekking across the land. The storm is lifting. Brighter days are ahead. The Spirit has heard Jesus and is bringing healing.

Like dew on dry ground God is birthing spiritual renewal. Ruth, a Moabitess, a foreigner, declares her desire to follow the LORD: "Your people will be my people. Your God will be my God." (Ruth 1 v 16)

Ruth would soon be pregnant with Jesse. In time Jesse would be father of David, the deliverer of Israel.

Like most readers, the author was born again in the twilight of the Age of Grace. My conversion was a public curiosity. As a young believer naturally I wanted to learn from mature believers. They were engrossed in organized religion and so I was drawn into it. But as I grew in faith from reading the Scriptures the LORD showed me I was making allegiance with hypocrites. I withdrew my patronage from pay-for-love churches. I began the spiritual life of a sojourner.

In the time of Jesus all over the land candles of faith came alight. Young people were seeking the LORD. After returning home from fishing John was thinking about God while he mended nets. Nathanael was under the fig tree seeking God's guidance. Matthew was struggling with conviction of sin. John the Baptist was in the wilderness, living off the land, incensed with religious leadership in Jerusalem, praying for the Messiah to remove them.

#### THE FOURTH DAY

#### **GENESIS 1 V 14**

"And God said, 'Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years."

Jesus was in His 21st year. The spiritual number (21) means LAWLESSNESS. A parallel passage:

"And there came a messenger to Job, and said: 'The oxen were plowing, and the asses grazing beside them:'" (Job 1 v 14)

The oxen were tearing up the sod and beside them the donkeys were gobbling up the grass. Grass is a type of man. Cattle are a type of gentile ruler. Donkeys are a type of Israelite judge. All those of high status were maintaining their lifestyle off the lower ranks of society.

Jesus observed this. <u>Jesus resolved His Kingdom would elevate charity and sacrificial service</u>. Lowest servants would be highly esteemed and rewarded. Those who abused others would lose everything.

Genesis 14 perfectly exemplifies these principles. Five kingdoms in the plain of Jordan rebelled against a hegemon from a foreign land. The hegemon returned with three strong allies and trounced the rebels. As plunder they took all the people and goods of Sodom. Abram heard his relative Lot was a captive. Abram took his own men and returned the people and goods to Sodom. The King of Sodom offered a reward.

Abram said "...I will take nothing from you, from a thread to a sandal strap." (Gen. 14 v 23)

By his actions Abram showed he was serving the Most High God, not his appetite, nor his ambitions. He was upheld as a virtuous man in his own time and for all time. Great will be his reward.

In Genesis 14 Melchizedek brought forth bread and wine. Abram was invited to commune with the Most High God. Isn't communion with Jesus Christ the greatest reward of all?

What is the night sky? A canvas of pitch darkness. This expresses the degree to which evil is pervasive on the earth. "There is no one that does good: not even one." (Romans 3 v 12). God shames the darkness by scatterings lights across it. We can be the light if we serve the LORD by obeying His commands.

Wait. Isn't salvation by faith not by works so that no one can boast? Of course it is. By confessing our sins and expressing our belief in the merit of Christ's sacrifice we are saved. But after the rapture the saints meet the LORD in the air and receive rewards for our obedience on Earth. Then we go to Heaven.

In Heaven there will be distinctions among the saints. Some will shine very brightly. Others will shine less brightly. Some will not shine. With what legacy do you wish to enter Heaven? 'Well done good and faithful servant'? Or 'Cast that man into utter darkness where there will weeping and gnashing of teeth.'? Don't be fooled. Serving Man's Religion [King of Sodom] gains you no merit: in the pulpit or in the pew.

"And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so."

Jesus was in His 22nd year. The spiritual number (22) means LIGHT.

As we discussed the 'firmament of the heaven' is the inheritance of Joshua: which are four continents comprising all the lands West of Jerusalem and all the people in them. We believers are the 'lights'.

Abram followed the commands of Jesus. He was a light to the people in the Middle East.

The spiritual number ( $\frac{15}{15}$ ) is a ( $\frac{1}{1}$ ) I AM LORD followed by a ( $\frac{5}{1}$ ) WEAKNESS: Child. God ( $\frac{1}{1}$ ) uses the weak things of the world ( $\frac{5}{1}$ ) to humble the (worldly) wise.

An example from my life: Years ago I was making conversation over coffee in Victoria, B.C. My friend said to me: "Don't you know Jesus is Lord?" Raised by atheist parents and educated in a secular school system I was clueless either yea or nay. But I liked my friend so I took the invitation to visit a home Bible study. They were reading through the Gospel of John. Weeks later I was preparing for the Bible study by reading the 19th chapter of John, the Crucifixion. That night I was gloriously saved at my kitchen table. God used a simple lay person, not a pastor or a missionary, to plant the Seed in my heart.

Jesus said ".. The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field: which indeed is the least of all seeds: but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof." (Matt. 13 v 31-32)

Years later the author began publishing his research into the meaning of Bible numbers. His blog has had some success. Scholars [birds of the air] often visit to sharpen their Bible exegesis tools. All this came about without involvement of organized religion: just the Spirit watering the seed in my heart. (The author's fervent desire is others will become the 'branches' and carry on the passion for delving into the deep truths of Scripture through the tools shared on the blog.)

<u>Jesus was a man of no worldly distinction</u>. He owned no land. He wrote no books. He had no special skills. He worked as a labourer. He had no riches. He had no beauty. He was not well dressed. His feet were dirty from all his dusty treks. God used this humble man, Jesus of Nazareth, to build the Kingdom of Heaven: to be the (22) LIGHT of the World. To Him be all honor and glory forever and ever.

Dear reader, God can use you. Even in the Last Days. Discover your spiritual gift. Meet other Christians in free assemblies like home bible studies. Allow the Spirit of God to be your guide. Don't fall into the trap of religious ambition, to become a paid pastor or missionary, who require support and official certificates and approval. Provide for your own means. Live simply. Obey the commands of Jesus to love your neighbor as yourself. Take up your Cross and follow Him. Be a light in the darkness.

"And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: [he made] the stars also."

Jesus was in His 23rd year. The spiritual number (23) means DEATH.

The 'Greater Light' is the <u>Sun</u>, which is a Bible type of the Holy Spirit. The 'Lessor Light' is the <u>Moon</u>, which is a Bible type of organized religion. (For more papers on Biblical typology in the stars see: <u>STARS</u>).

We are now in Day Four of Creation. The spiritual number (4) means 'FIELD'. The spiritual number (16) is 4 squared which means 'HOLY FIELD'. It is the place men go to make SACRIFICE (16) to God.

Jesus comes to plant the Seed of the Word in men's hearts. Satan's workers follow close behind to ensure the 'herbs' and 'trees' which sprout are planted in a 'HOLY FIELD', a religious precinct which they oversee. Before the Fall of Satan, he was a guardian cherub in charge of worship. He has always been a religious spirit. Since the Fall of Satan, his enterprise has been to gather the worship of men, not angels. He will impress his audience with wisdom and bind them in invented religious rules. Spiritual plants will not thrive in this rocky soil. They will not bear fruit. Satan's goal is (23) DEATH to his enemies.

A parallel passage summarizes the message of religion: (Isaiah 1 v 16)

"Wash yourself, make yourself clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes..."

The emphasis is on a self-cleansing routine: washing, making oneself ritually clean, making oneself pure according to rules. Things we see with our eyes. Things a religious overseer can inspect.

Another parallel passage describes the outcome of religion (Job 1 v 16) which is (23) DEATH:

"While he [was] yet speaking, there came also another, and said: 'The fire of God is fallen from heaven, and has burned up the sheep, the servants, and consumed them; and I only escaped alone to tell thee.'"

Who is the 'fire of God fallen from heaven'? Satan.

Genesis 16 is the account of Hagar, the slave maid of Sarai. She gave birth to Ishmael, the son of Abram, by his second marriage. Galatians tells us plainly "this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia and corresponds to Jerusalem... in bondage [slavery] with her children". Her mistress Sarai: "the Jerusalem above is free, which is mother of us all" (Gal. 4 v 25-26). Ishmael was the forefather of the Arabs, all fervently religious.

The inheritance of Joshua, lands west of Jerusalem, would hear the Gospel. Believers would spring up like grass in Anatolia, Greece, and Rome. Over the years these places would become intensely religious, covered by thousands of chapels, temples, cathedrals and sprinkled with chaplains, priests, bishops. The result would be decline in the faith. To the point today that atheism is pervasive.

"And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth."

Jesus was in His 24th year. The spiritual number (24) means PRIEST.

What are these lights 'set in the firmament'? Not the Sun [Holy Spirit] and not moving celestial orbs<sup>3</sup> [witnesses of God]. Fixed stars signify another form of 'heavenly light'. Stars in outer space generate light without the Sun [Holy Spirit]: Their light is a pale imitation – only a fraction of God's glory and honor.

In a parallel passage:

"While he [was] yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The Chaldeans made out three bands, and fell upon the camels, and have carried them away, yea, and slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee" (Job 1 v 17)

The 'camel' is a type of teacher or elder: a faithful witness. Servants are a type of Christian believers. Sword is a type of circumcision knife (as we will see). Chaldeans are a type of religious Semites.

Genesis 17 is the account of the circumcision of Abram and Ishmael. This traumatic event was seared into the memory of Arabs and explains why the sword of Islam [circumcision knife] is the symbol of their faith.

If you add the value of all the letters in Genesis 1 v  $\frac{17}{17}$  you get 2412 which links to the  $34^{th}$  book of the Bible, Genesis  $34 \left[ \frac{2412 - 1189 - 1189 = 34}{1189 - 1189 = 34} \right]$ . This is the account of the circumcision of the men of Shechem.

Simeon and Levi made the King of Shechem an offer: be circumcised and "we will become one people". The King agreed and all the men of Shechem were circumcised. It was mass participation in a religious rite that was forced upon the general population, involuntary and painful, by royal decree.

The Gospel would permeate the lands promised to Joshua, the West, through the witness of committed Christians, the 'camels'. People would convert to Christianity of their own free will. These were true born again believers with a knowledge of Jesus and a heart to serve Him.

Religious men would work against the organic spread of God's truth by making the Kings of Europe a bargain: participate in a religious rite and enter into Church communion. Many kings took this bargain and enforced the new rite on citizens. The result was churches filled with former pagans who had no personal living faith but who became 'Christianized': observers of religious rituals in the name of God only.

The 'Party of the Circumcision' in Bible times was the sect of the Pharisees. When they returned to the Holy Land from Babylon they brought with them a strict religious code composed of many rules added to the Law of Moses. In addition to man-made rules they insisted Gentile converts be circumcised. Jesus had another message, acting in his role as our (24) PRIEST: "No man comes to the Father but by Me."

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> <u>Saturn</u> is the celestial orb type of free believers. Other celestial orbs are pure witnesses of God, some not so pure. See <u>STARS</u>.

"And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that [it was] good."

Jesus was in His 25th year. The spiritual number (25) means PAYMENT FOR SIN.

This verse pertains to rulers and authorities. In a parallel passage:

"Now the birth of Jesus Christ came as follows: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit." (Matt. 1 v 18)

When Joseph discovered Mary was three months pregnant after a trip out of town the Bible says: "he determined to put her away" [divorce her] (Matt. 1 v 19)

Joseph is a type of autocratic ruler (of Egypt). He believes it is his right to rule like a god over his people. For most of history during the Age of Grace, Caesars and Kings were absolute rulers in the West. Joseph was espoused to Mary, a type of the organized church, who had a Messiah in her womb. The Messiah would be born to serve God, not to serve Joseph.

<u>Believers in Jesus will serve the LORD.</u> <u>Believers in organized churches will serve Bishops.</u> <u>Either way the authority of the head of state will be diluted</u>. The head of state will rule the 'Day' (secular matters – things seen). Religious leaders will rule the 'Night' (spiritual matters – things unseen).

To Joseph the initial reaction to the unwed pregnancy of Mary was to consider it the darkest sin. In the West there was initially persecution of believers by Roman emperors. Joseph eventually was brought to his senses by the visitation of an angel. The life of Mary must have been miserable until such time. We can only imagine within her family and in her village there were many dark looks.

It took three hundred years before a Roman emperor came who had faith in the LORD: (Isaiah 1 v 18)

"Come now, and let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson [Roman], they shall be as wool [Christian]."

Even after bans on Christianity were lifted and organized churches were permitted to own land and build churches there were great tensions between pagans and Christians. Emperors in Rome East put bans on some pagan practices. Rome West tolerated pagans, even in official office, for longer.

The arrival of Jesus Christ provoked intense religious controversy and opposition. It is the nature of all animals to be comfortable among their own kind. Jesus Christ, although born under the Law and in every respect outwardly Jewish, was rejected by His own people because He was inwardly different. The Holy Spirit controlled Jesus and religious spirits controlled the Jews, especially those in the extreme sects.

Joseph the husband of Mary would see the light. But conversion of heads of state would be rare.

"And the evening and the morning were the fourth day."

Jesus was in His 26th year. The spiritual number (26) means GOSPEL.

The spiritual number (4) means FIELD. During the Age of Grace the Gospel spread to the four corners of the Roman Empire. As the Gospel spread religious men rushed to pen up believers and make a living from shearing the sheep. Believers became a (4) FIELD for religious landlords to own. Pharaoh wanted slaves. He would not set God's people free to worship Him. So he was judged. In a parallel verse:

"And, behold, there came a great wind from the wilderness, and smote the four corners of the house, and it fell upon the young men, and they are dead; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee." (Job 1 v 19)

How did the Roman Empire collapse? A number of disasters came at the same time. The Little Ice Age reduced crop yields. Plagues wiped out populations in cities. Barbarian hordes sacked, pillaged and extorted ransoms. Why did the Roman Empire collapse? God sent messengers with the Gospel and most were mistreated. Many were killed. The Universe is ruled by a firm hand. Beware lest you cross Him.

Genesis 19 is the account of Lot. Lot escaped to a small rural village then moved to a cave in the hills. Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed. The King of Sodom perished. Nations will rise and fall, organized religion will rise and fall, but a remnant of free believers will always remain outside the camp.

Jesus came with a (26) GOSPEL. The Kingdom of God was at hand. Repent and believe the (26) GOOD NEWS. In spite of indisputable miracles and prophetic authentication Christ was rejected and defamed. Not long after the Cross the second Temple was razed to the ground and Jerusalem was sacked.

A hundred years ago the majority of Canadians confessed to a Christian faith. The percent of Christians has declining dramatically. We are now in a time when Christianity has ceased even to be a memory. Generations of children are raised devoid of Biblical knowledge. Churches are boarded up.

Canada is unrecognizable compared to what it was. Statues of founders of Canada have been removed from public view because their policies are repugnant in today's society. Immigration has transformed the composition of the population. Previously deemed gross sins are now the normal lifestyle.

What is the consequence of apostasy on a national scale? The cities are filling with the tents of homeless people. Wildfires are burning towns to the ground. Floods are destroying roads, bridges, and homes. Massive storms are submerging coastal communities. Farmers on the prairies face drought conditions.

The wheels of God's judgment grind slowly, but as the saying goes, they grind mighty fine.

"I escaped alone to tell you".

I'm sure many of the readers can relate to this.

#### THE FIFTH DAY

### **GENESIS 1 V 20**

"And God said: 'Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that has life, and fowl [that] may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven."

Jesus was 27 years old. The spiritual number (27) means HOLY TRUTH.

When do beasts and birds migrate? When the surroundings cease to supply their needs and they must relocate to find relief. When do beasts and birds do so 'abundantly'? When the entire land cannot support life. The spiritual number 20 means DISTRESS.

Land that cannot sustain life creates famine. When people starve they fight over food or migrate. A parallel passage describes the agony of Job in the face of the loss of all his people and animals:

"Then Job arose, and tore his robe, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped," (Job  $1 \times 20$ )

It was the beginning of the Fifth Day. The number 5 means WEAKNESS. This will be a very trying time.

We are the end of the Age of Grace. The Gospel has been offered to the Western world. They initially resisted Jesus Christ, later embraced Him, and more recently have firmly rejected Jesus Christ.

What do we see in the West? Europe is beset by hungry desperate migrants from Africa. America is beset by hungry desperate migrants from Central America. Within nations large numbers of people are being displaced by record-breaking heat waves, storms, droughts. The cost of food is soaring past the means of people to buy it. Food outlets are being looted so often in some cities that they are being closed by the parent chain resulting in food deserts. People are frustrated and angry with their governments.

A parallel passage in Isaiah puts the situation into moral context: (Isaiah 1 v 20)

"But if ye refuse and rebel, you will be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken."

This is what the Gospel says: Man is a sinner and cannot save himself. Man is already under the judgment of God. Only faith in Jesus Christ can save. That goes for the soul in eternity and the body in this life. The mercy of God restrains judgment from falling immediately. Should we be surprised if after many warnings and centuries of patience God permits judgment to fall on the West?

We have seen this movie already. Jesus Christ came in person to the Jews. He reached a certain level of popularity then authorities took steps to defame him and falsely accuse him. By the end of his ministry the mobs were shouting "Crucify! Crucify!" A short time later there was a Jewish war with Rome that was devastating. Those who survived had no choice but to hide in caves or flee to foreign lands. Dear reader: We invite you to tear your robe and fall to the ground. We live in a perilous time.

"And God created great sea creatures, and every living creature that moves, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that [it was] good."

Jesus was in His 28th year. The spiritual number (28) means CHRIST IN YOU.

This is the first year of the three year public ministry of Jesus. Luke 3:23 says 'Jesus was about 30 years old when he began his ministry'. This gives leeway for our timeline.

The spiritual number 21 means LAWLESSNESS or APPOINTED TIME.

In Genesis 21 a King of the Philistines, Abimelech, comes to Abraham with a treaty. The Philistines worshipped the Sea god Dagon. The treaty was a truthfulness and sincerity pact: "you will not deal falsely with my children or my descendants". Abraham had withheld information about Sarah which caused Abimelech to transgress and required financial cost on his part to redress (Gen. 20).

In Genesis 21 Isaac is born to Sarah in her old age at the time the LORD promised (Gen 18). Sarah is a type of the Heavenly Jerusalem of all believers (Gal 4 v26). Isaac, a type of Christian believers, is born to Abraham, a type of Christ.

The Sea suggests a world in disarray. Out of the chaos 'Great Sea creatures' arise. Satan is enticing men to follow his program. He offers Jewish nationhood. He seeks a Jewish warrior figure to challenge Rome: akin to the Maccabee rebellion. Jesus of Nazareth enters the scene. Will he take Satan's bait?

'And the waters brought forth abundantly': John the Baptist began his ministry by the river Jordan. After Jesus was baptized He was led by the Spirit into the wilderness where He was tempted of the Devil. The Devil showed Jesus all the kingdoms in the world. He then proposed a treaty: "I will give you all their authority and splendor... if you worship me" (Luke 4 v 6-7). Jesus answered "... worship the LORD your God and serve Him only." (Luke 4 v 8)

Genesis 1 v 21 has 22 words. We will divide into two parts of 11 words each. The first part:

and·he created	ויברא	219	PIERCED WITH THORNS	
Elohim	אלהים	86	NATIONS WORSHIP GOD	
[the] monsters התנינם את 956		956	CONDEMN JESUS TO DEATH	
great	great 9.		WICKED DESTROYED	
and	d ואת 407		REBUILDING STOPPED	
every	כל	50	FIRE: Purify, Persecution	4290 unknown
soul	נפשׁ	430	WAILING IN THE STREETS	723 FOUNDATION OF THE TEMPLE
living	החיה	28	CHRIST IN YOU: Holy Temple	Isa 44
moving	הרמשׁת	945	PROPHETS LOVE THIS LIFE CAST OVERBOARD	
which	אשׁר	501	RELIGIOUS CONTROL	
roams	שׁרצו	576	BLAST OF RAM'S HORN	

Isaiah 44 contrasts the two messages: of God and of Satan. God's message is 'I will bring forgiveness of sin and restoration of the Kingdom'. Satan's message is 'Bow down to my image and pray to me [idol of the earthly king] for deliverance'. This was exemplified by King Herod who ordered craftsmen to fix a golden eagle to the entrance of the Temple.

We can further divide the first part of Gen 1 v 21 into three sub-parts:

and·he created	ויברא	219	PIERCED WITH THORNS	
Elohim	אלהים	86	NATIONS WORSHIP GOD	REJOICE PEOPLE I CREATE JERUSALEM A DELIGHT
[the] monsters	התנינם את	956	CONDEMN JESUS TO DEATH	Exo 22
great	הגדלים	92	WICKED DESTROYED	
and	ואת	407	REBUILDING STOPPED	
every	כל	50	FIRE: Purify, Persecution	1007 HEAR ME
soul	נפשׁ	430	WAILING IN THE STREETS	John 10
living	החיה	28	CHRIST IN YOU: Holy Temple	
	הרמשׁת	945	PROPHETS LOVE THIS LIFE CAST	
moving		J <del>-</del> J	OVERBOARD	
which	אשׁר	501	RELIGIOUS CONTROL	2022 EXALTED KING FALLS: MOURNERS FOLLOW TO THE GRAVE
roams	שׁרצו	576	BLAST OF RAM'S HORN	Eze 31

(1007) THE GOOD SHEPHERD. Here we have the kernel of the message of Jesus in His first year of ministry. He will claim to be the Messianic fulfilment of the star constellation Bootes: a great shepherd with a staff who arises out of the prone, child bearing Virgo, immediately him beneath in the sky.

(1261) REJOICE PEOPLE. Jesus will bring a message of Good Tidings: "I will pour water on him who is thirsty" (Isa. 44 v 3) "I have blotted out like a thick cloud your transgressions" (Isa. 44 v 22) "To the cities of Judah: You shall be built" (Isa. 44 v 26); and an end to the chaos: "I will say to the Deep, 'Be dry!' and I will dry up your rivers" (Isa. 44 v 27). [Note: rivers are a bad Bible type: moving waters have no peace].

(2022) EXALTED KING FALLS. Ezekiel 31 makes it clear this prophecy concerns the fall of evil rulers in high places. It speaks to a dictator with absolute power and a vast military machine, typified by Pharaoh of Egypt. Jesus will make no treaty with Rome, like Herod did, to obtain a crown. The days of Roman Emperors will be cut short. The Bible says they will be thrown straight into hell (Eze. 31 v 17).

One of the chief prophetic markers of the true Messiah will be his ability to forgive sin (Isa. 44 v 22). Only God can forgive sin. In His ministry Jesus will forgive sinners on the spot. This will be a powerful testament to support His claim. Jews will see miraculous signs that should give them no doubt who Jesus is. The sick will be healed. The lepers will be healed. The blind and lame will be healed. The dead will be resurrected. Satan can't counterfeit such miracles. At best he could only hope to fake them.

The second 11 word part of Genesis 1 v 21 is:

the·waters	המים	95	VOICE OF GOD	
[each] species	למינהם	175	MARRIAGE VIOLATION	
and	ואת	407	REBUILDING STOPPED	
every	כל	50	FIRE: Purify, Persecution	
flyer-of	עוף	156	MAN'S LEADERSHIP	
wing	כנף	150	CURSE ON EVIL SONS	1605 HUNGRY DOG WILL EAT HIS MASTER
[each] species	למינהו	141	TEACHABLE	416 PEOPLE WORK ON WALLS
and·he-saw	וירא	217	MEN OF FAITH IN HIDING	Neh 3
Elohim	אלהים	86	NATIONS WORSHIP GOD	
it [was]	כי	30	BLOOD: Children	
good	טוב	98	RELIGIOUS LEADER BLIND	

(416) PEOPLE WORK ON WALLS. <u>Jesus will immediately recruit workers to join Him in His ministry</u>. He will call disciples. They will come from all walks of life. Similar to how Nehemiah led a corps of volunteers to rebuild the wall of Jerusalem in Neh. 3. [*Note:* 1605 = 1189 + 416; 1189 is number of chapters in the Bible]

(1605) HUNGRY DOG WILL EAT HIS MASTER. The disciples of Jesus will figuratively 'eat their master': they will take His words to heart. Are the disciples dogs? In the first year of the public ministry of Jesus none of the disciples nor apostles is born again or spirit filled: they are carnal men. Conversion does not occur until the Last Supper when 11 of the apostles receive the Spirit. Equipping for ministry waits until the Upper Room when they are filled with the Spirit on the Day of Pentecost.

We can divide part 2 of Gen. 1 v 21 into three sub-parts: (same 3-5-3 pattern as part 1)

the·waters	המים	95	VOICE OF GOD	
[each] species	למינהם	175	MARRIAGE VIOLATION	677 BONDED TO ANOTHER
and	ואת	407	REBUILDING STOPPED	Song 6
every	כל	50	FIRE: Purify, Persecution	
flyer-of	עוף	156	MAN'S LEADERSHIP	
wing	כנף	150	CURSE ON EVIL SONS	714 SONGS OF GLADNESS AND JOY
[each] species	למינהו	141	TEACHABLE	Isa 35
and·he-saw	וירא	217	MEN OF FAITH IN HIDING	
Elohim	אלהים	86	NATIONS WORSHIP GOD	
it [was]	כי	30	BLOOD: Children	214 GOD'S WORSHIP INSINCERE
good	טוב	98	RELIGIOUS LEADER BLIND	Judg 3

(677) BONDED TO ANOTHER. Song 6 v 2 "My beloved has gone to His garden... to gather lilies." Lilies grow near bodies of clean water. It is a flower symbolic of purity and true love. It comes in many colors and is distributed across much of the planet. Jesus came to His garden, the Promised Land, but He was seeking to save sinners, i.e. return them to innocence, from every tribe and nation across the globe.

(714) SONGS OF GLADNESS AND JOY. Isaiah 35 predicts the awesome and inspiring things Jesus did in His early ministry: "The eyes of the blind shall be opened. The ears of the deaf shall be unstopped." (v 5), "Then the lame will leap like a deer and the tongue of the dumb shall sing" (v 6), "A highway shall be there... a highway of holiness... no lion shall be there... the redeemed will walk" (v 8-9), "And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come with singing unto Zion" (v 10). The miracles and deliverances of Jesus were the cause of much rejoicing in the hearts of the saints.

Because of the miracles masses rallied to Jesus and followed Him everywhere. But as we see from the next sub-part in the Gematria analysis they weren't following Jesus for the right reason. They sought to catch a glimpse of a spectacle. Or they sought a free meal. Or they were simply caught up in Jesus-mania. They weren't following Jesus to grow in their spiritual life, to take up their cross, or to accept the rigors of walking the narrow path of discipleship that leads to life.

(214) GOD'S WORSHIP INSINCERE. Judges 3 is the account of Ehud, a left handed man of whispers, who pretended to bring "a message from God for you" (v 19-20) to Eglon, King of the Moabites. When the King sent his servants out of the room and rose to hear his message Ehud thrust him through with a dagger.

Jesus was recruiting disciples who would be 'messengers from God' to the world. Jews were not natural candidates to be diplomats of unblemished character and pure motives.

<u>Many of the disciples of Jesus feigned loyalty</u>. Jesus could not trust them. As far as the masses were concerned Jesus spoke to them in parables. He would not reveal His true identity nor reveal the ultimate plan to take the Gospel to the Gentiles even to the disciples. He unveiled the mysteries of the Kingdom to the apostles. He set apart only three: Peter, James, and John for one-on-one instruction.

<u>An accomplishment of Jesus was keeping the peace</u>. He assembled an eclectic band of Hebrews. A group from diverse backgrounds you would never see socializing in normal circumstances. A group we would expect to degenerate quickly. Yet not one sheep was lost except the son of perdition.

It was a time of chaos. The High Priesthood was corrupt. Roman taxation and Greek cultural influences were oppressive. A party spirit had gripped the Jews. Pharisees, Sadducees, Zealots, Baptists, and Essenes splintered the spiritual body of the faithful.

<u>Jesus preached love of the Father</u>. It was a message for the times. He sought for Jews to set aside spats over religious minutiae and re-unite in their common faith in the God who delivered them from Pharaoh and gave them the Passover as a memorial forever.

Even after all His efforts and the anointing of the Holy Spirit only a few of the disciples and apostles were effective in cross-cultural ministry. Such was the scale of the failure that the LORD would be forced to recruit Saul of Tarsus to kick-start the world missions program. (This was in addition to the osmosis of everyday saints spreading the Word about Christ since the Day of Pentecost.)

#### Genesis 1 v 22

"And God blessed them saying 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters of the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth"

Jesus was in His 29<sup>th</sup> year. The spiritual number (29) means HOLY ONE.

This is the second (2) year of the three year public ministry of Jesus Christ.

The popularity of Jesus suffers (2) DIVISION as leading voices in the Jewish community withdraw support. First to question Jesus is John the Baptist – who is languishing in Herod's prison. He sends two disciples to Jesus and asks "Are you the Coming One? Or do we seek another?" (Matt. 11 v 3). A number of cities of Galilee where Jesus had worked miracles are unimpressed by Him: Chorazin, Bethsaida, and Capernaum (Matt. 11 v 21-23). The Pharisees finish their examination of Jesus and conclude "this man does not cast out demons except by Baalzebub, the ruler of the demons" (Matt. 12 v 24).

<u>Jesus became more mobile</u>. He began actively fleeing the crowds. He withdrew to Tyre and Sidon. He ventured further afield in the region of Perea on the other side of the Jordan. Miracles such as walking on water still occur, but for a restricted audience. In some places Jesus could only do a few mighty works because of their lack of faith (Matt. 13 v 58).

<u>Jesus became more reclusive</u>. After John was beheaded Jesus departed for a deserted place. He changed locations frequently and travelled by boat under darkness when he could.

The Gematria of Gen. 1 v 22 helps explain this:

and·he-blessed	ויברך	238	LORD'S SACRIFICE SCORNED	
[them]	אתם	441	CRY TO GOD IS NOT HEARD	
Elohim	אלהים	86	NATIONS WORSHIP GOD	
saying	לאמר	271	RIVALS ASSASSINATED	1536 PASTURES FILLED WITH WOLVES: SAY THEY ARE SHEEP
be-fruitful	פרו	286	CONFESS YOUR SINS!	1 Chro 9
and·increase	ורבו	214	GOD'S WORSHIP INSINCERE	
and·fill	ומלאו	83	NATIONS WHO HATE GOD	
the·waters	המים את	496	VOICE OF GOD	
in·the·seas	בימים	102	DESTITUTE & ABANDONED	YOU DRESS TOMBS OF PROPHETS: WHOM YOUR FATHERS KILLED
and·the·flyer [bird]	והעוף	167	MARK OF THE BEAST	Deut 11
he-shall-increase	ירב	212	GOD'S COMMANDS FORSAKEN	
in·the·earth	בארץ	293	ACCOUNTS SETTLED	

Why did Jesus retreat from the public? He was the Good Shepherd. Known malicious actors were on record condemning Him. Jesus had to protect His sheep so he took evasive measures.

(29) HOLY ONE and (22) SPIRITUAL LIGHT. The darker the night the brighter the candle. To be sure the loss of faith in some quarters did not seep into His inner circle, during the second year of ministry <u>Jesus</u> went up a mountain and transfigured before Peter, James, and John. "His face shone like the Sun and His clothes became as white as light" (Matt. 17 v 2). A voice spoke to them out of a bright cloud and said "This is my beloved Son, in whom I AM well pleased. Hear Him!" (Matt. 17 v 5)

(1536) PASTURES ARE FILLED WITH WOLVES. 1 Chronicles 9 is the account of the trusted officers responsible for Temple duties. There is reference to four gatekeepers of the House of the LORD, one for each of the four directions. The gatekeepers were also responsible for the treasuries. Why would the House of the LORD be so heavily guarded? Because the general populace could not be trusted to respect the Holy Place. It was the same for Jesus. Except his valuables were not precious stones, gold, and silver. His valuables were the disciples following Him.

(1353) YOU DRESS THE TOMBS OF THE PROPHETS: WHOM YOUR FATHERS KILLED. Deut. 11 is the warning from Moses to the Israelites: "Take heed lest your hearts be deceived, and you turn aside and serve other gods and worship them" (v 16). To avoid idol worship, Moses urged God's people to keep God's law. The problem with legalism is it kills the tender heart God desires and replaces it with a self-righteous judgmental spirit. Legalists do all the prescribed religious duties and sometimes even go beyond them, e.g. dressing the tombs of the prophets. But legalists only care about keeping their legal lifestyle. They aren't concerned about activities beyond law keeping that might bless God and help others. God sends the prophets to direct their attention to the good works left undone. Considering the prophets to be seditious, the legalists persecute them and condemn some of them to death.

<u>Jesus came at a time when legalists dominated Israel's religious affairs</u>. They made up the Sanhedrin. Aware of the threat of powerful legalists in Jerusalem to the tender heart Jesus was cultivating in his disciples, Jesus removed Himself and His sheep until it was time to sacrifice Himself on the Cross.

In the third year of His ministry, Jesus went to Jerusalem to present Himself as Messiah and was promptly condemned and killed. The sheep scattered. The wisdom of Jesus' evasion tactics was vindicated.

## Genesis 1 v 23

"So the evening and the morning were the fifth day."

Jesus was in His 30<sup>th</sup> year. The spiritual number (30) means BLOOD.

This is the third (3) and final year of the public ministry of Jesus Christ.

The spiritual number (23) means DEATH. The LORD did not want to be crucified. He prayed earnestly to the Father in the Garden seeking another way of salvation. In the end He accepted the gross public humiliation and the hours of extreme agony on the Cross because this was God's will. The spiritual number 3 means BINDING. Christ was bound to be the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. No one else could ever offer themselves to God in this way. No one else was ever sinless.

Genesis 23 records the death of Sarah: "Sarah lived one hundred and twenty seven years... Sarah died in Kirjath Arba (that is Hebron) in the land of Canaan, and Abraham came to mourn and weep for her."

Abraham is a Bible type of the sojourning Christ. Sarah, his wife, is the Bible type of believers (Gal. 3).

So it was not just Jesus Christ who died on the Cross. Sarah died there too. Believers who come to God to confess their sin and receive salvation through the merit of Jesus' (30) BLOOD die with Him:

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in Me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." (Gal. 2 v 20)

#### Gematria of this verse:

and·he-became	ויהי	31	FAMILY OF ONE GOD	
evening	ערב	272	KING LIVES IN LUXURY	
and·he-became	ויהי	31	FAMILY OF ONE GOD	
morning	בקר	302	ADVERSARY RAISED UP	1140 HIGH PRIEST, KING OF PEACE, ETERNAL RULER OF ALL
day	יום	56	HARD HEART	Heb 7
fifth	חמישׁי	368	MAKE A SHOW OF REVERENCE	
(silence)	9	80	PRAYER: Son of Man	

Hebrews 7 says <u>Jesus is the fulfilment of the Bible type of Melchizedek</u>, King of Salem, priest of the Most High God. When Jesus ascended He became High Priest of a New Covenant. The inferior priesthood of Aaron is cancelled and replaced by the superior priesthood of Christ. All who desire communion with God must gain access through Christ – who lives forever - a spotless and perfect High Priest of the faith.

Significantly, this means it is pointless, indeed blasphemous, for Christians to appoint priests on earth. This denies the work of Christ on the Cross and suggests a religious ritual is necessary for believers to please God. We know better. Hallelujah! <u>Christ is risen!</u> Glory to the Father! For ever and ever. Amen.