

NOW CONCERNING SPIRITUAL THINGS

an historical account of one man's walk with God

Jim Ash letter No. 89

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email: jimash3@sbcglobal.net

"Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them." Isaiah 42:9

JESUS OF NAZARETH Part Five Jews, Proselytes And Gentiles

On two different occasions within the past six months, the Holy Spirit revealed something to me about Israel, the Jews or the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. The two prophetic "words" concern things I had not previously considered. Since I have discovered intimacy with the Lord, about which I write, it is not too unusual for me to ask Him a question and then hear His answer. That was not the case however, in the two separate revelations given me concerning the Jews.

Both revelations came as blessed welcome surprises without my giving any prior thought to the subject matter. In my experience, that is often the case with the Holy Spirit. The one word that seems to characterize a revelation of the Holy Spirit is "suddenly."¹ He has his own exclusive software program to whom no mortal apparently has access. In the thousands of words He has spoken to me over the years, each one has been a blessing. Don't forget, that same blessing is yours for the asking. He has said to me that His heart longs for that same intimacy with you.

Like some of the prophetic words I have previously shared with you, these two, or the principles revealed in them, may be something you have never previously considered. Both revelations were new to me.

Setting the stage

The principle of *household salvation* is taught in the Bible. Noah was a righteous man who was saved in the Ark along with his wife, their three sons and three daughters-in-law. Although eight souls were saved in the Ark, it was Noah who found grace in the eyes of the Lord² because he was a just man, perfect in his generations.³ Although the scripture reveals very little about Noah's family prior to the flood, one may conclude that seven members of his family were saved *because of his righteousness* – because they were in his household. Hence, the principle of *household salvation* through one man.

The same principle is also established in the teaching

¹See the record in Acts 2:2 when the Holy Spirit *suddenly* established the Church.

²Genesis 6:8.

³Genesis 6:9. If Noah "was a just man, perfect in his generations," it is also possible for those words to describe your walk with God, about which I have previously written.

of Jesus as revealed in the parable on forgiveness, sometimes called the parable of the unforgiving servant.⁴ In this parable a servant who owed the king a 10,000 talent debt was unable to pay when the debt was due. The Master then commanded that he be sold with his wife and children and all that he had and the proceeds be applied to the debt. The servant begged for more time to secure payment and the Master, with compassion, *forgave the debt*. Under Jewish law at that time, when a debt was due and the debtor was unable to pay, a creditor was permitted to sell the debtor, his wife and children (as hired servants – not as slaves) and all other assets he had with the proceeds applied to the debt. Each Jubilee year such indentured servants were freed.

In this case the Master forgave the debt and set the servant free, including his wife and children. *The servant had a debt he could not pay and the Master paid a debt he did not owe; hence household salvation (mercy)⁵* through one man was concealed by Jesus within this parable on forgiveness, before His mercy was extended on the cross.

Paul and Silas were severely beaten and put in prison because Paul cast out the spirit of divination from a slave girl, thus eliminating a profit source of her owners.⁶ Under these conditions, while in stocks, Paul and Silas prayed and sang praises to God at midnight as the prisoners (and no doubt, the jailer) listened to them. Then suddenly there was a great earthquake, during which the prison doors were opened and their chains were loosened. The jailor, awakened from his sleep, seeing the prison doors open, was about to kill himself when Paul cried out with a loud voice, "Do yourself no harm, for we are all here."⁷ The jailor then called for a light, went into the prison and confirmed that his prisoners had not escaped and thus his life was spared. Seeing this, the jailor fell down trembling before Paul and Silas and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" And they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved, you *and your household*." Here is another case of

⁴See Matthew 18:23-35.

⁵The Lord has given me a definition of mercy as "forgiveness with compassion."

⁶Read Acts 16:13-36 for the complete story of Paul's encounter with a spirit of divination in the slave girl, his imprisonment by her owners, the miraculous escape and the conversion of the Philippian jailor and his household.

⁷Under Roman law at this time in history, if a prisoner escaped, the jailor was executed.

household salvation through one man taught several years after the Church was established.

In summary, therefore, we have the principle of household salvation taught (1) prior to the cross (Noah and his family), (2) by Jesus during His personal ministry (Parable on unforgiveness) and (3) after the cross by Paul and Silas.

On June 24, 2006, while driving to a gig to play the piano at an Assisted Living facility in Dallas, here is what was revealed to me:⁸

Revelation number one

The Jews who are the family of God (the flesh and blood relatives of a Jew by the name of Jesus), who abide by the law and the prophets *are saved* by the same principle of household salvation previously referenced in this letter. They are saved for two reasons: (1) They believe in and are looking for Messiah, their Savior, as foretold by the law and the prophets and (2) they are the literal flesh and blood *household* of God. It is true they missed the fact that Jesus was the Messiah. They were correct in their misapprehension, except they were about 2000 years early. The Messiah they were looking for was one that would remove the Roman boot from their neck on the order of king David and his victory over Israel's enemies. The one thing the Jews overlooked was God's "sinister plot"⁹ to have His family kill His only begotten Son while believing they were killing an impostor. **Don't forget, as sinister as the plot was, it had to be that way.** This was God's plan, *not a mistake of the Jews*, a plan known only by the Godhead, which was completely shielded from the enemy and his evil forces. The result of the cross was (1) death to pay for the wages of (Adam's) sin and (2) life to mankind through the resurrection of our Lord, a necessity for God's plan to work. Hallelujah!

Jews who abide by the law and the prophets, believe in and are looking for Messiah to come and save them from persecution by their enemies. The book of Isaiah, for example, was called the fifth Gospel by Augustine, an early Church father. Although they were about 2000 years early at the cross, the Jews were right about the Messiah to whom they look as Savior. Here is what John, the revelator, wrote about the Jewish Messiah in chapter 19 of that Book:

11 Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.

⁸I play the piano as entertainment at Retirement Centers. Assisted Living Facilities and Nursing Homes.

⁹This same term, "sinister plot" was used by the Lord in a word He gave me on the events of the cross, which I quoted in my *letter* dated September 19, 2006, page three, column one.

12 His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself.

13 He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.

14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses.

15 Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

16 And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written:

KING OF KINGS
AND LORD OF LORDS.

You have just read about the second coming of Christ wherein He will slay with the breath of His mouth (a sharp sword coming from His mouth – the Word of God) massive armies marching against tiny Israel at the battle of Armageddon. It was He who was crucified on a cross, who died, was buried and raised on the third day to become your Savior and mine. He happens to be a Jew who now has all authority in heaven and on earth and will judge the quick and the dead. **And believe me, He will see that the principle of household salvation is applicable to His family, His flesh and blood relatives.** Believe it. It is God's truth for today. Glory, hallelujah to the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world.¹⁰

The One described above is Yeshua Messiah, Who will literally rule the nations of the world from Jerusalem, then the capitol city of the world. The nations who are enemies of Israel today will then be in subjection to Israel, the premier nation of the world and will be ruled over by a Jew with a rod of iron, which means absolute authority.

Jews and proselytes alike who abide by the law and prophets today are saved. They are not in the kingdom because entry thereunto requires rebirth by belief in Yeshua as Messiah. They are saved as a separate occurrence, completely isolated from rebirth, the second stage of growth as set forth in my letter dated August 18, 2006, **JESUS OF NAZARETH, Part Three**, beginning on page one, column two under the heading, **Rhema words received.** Therefore, Jews and proselytes who abide by the law and the prophets, as they await the coming of their cherished Messiah, are saved under the principle of *household salvation*.

Both Matthew and Luke quote Jesus as saying, "For I say to you, among those born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist; but he who is least

¹⁰The word "sin" is singular in this sentence. See John 1:29.

in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”¹¹ Adam was created in the kingdom of God, since prior to his sin, in him, God’s will was done on earth as it is in heaven.¹² After Adam’s sin, the first one thereafter to enter the kingdom of God was Jesus, who was born of water and the Spirit at His physical birth (the basis for entry into the kingdom since Adam’s sin).¹³

Jews and proselytes who abide by the law and the prophets today are in God’s saved *household*, but not in the kingdom, the same as Christians who have attained *only the first stage* of the three stages of their growth, i.e., *salvation*. A clear explanation of this is given in my September 19, 2006 letter previously referenced. Those who are saved only today (without rebirth) may not experience the blessings of the kingdom until entry by rebirth. According to the words of Jesus, all of us today who are born of water and the Spirit are in the kingdom of God¹⁴ *and have access to blessings* denied Moses, Enoch, Elijah, Isaiah, Elisha and Daniel, for example, and all of the other prophets in the Old Testament. That does not limit rewards but limits certain blessings and activities to those who have been reborn into the kingdom.

Here are two other examples of *household salvation* for Jews and proselytes who look to the law and the prophets for salvation.

(1) “And there shall be no man in the tabernacle of the congregation when he goes in to make atonement in the Holy Place, until he (Aaron, the Priest) comes out, that he make atonement for himself, for his *household* and for all the assembly of Israel.”¹⁵

These are some of the words God gave to Moses as instruction for Aaron, the Priest, to cleanse himself, his *household*, the Holy Place and the *household of Israel*. These words of instruction (including those in Leviticus chapter 16) were given to Moses by God following His execution of Nadab and Abihu, Aaron’s two sons, for offering strange fire before the Lord. Aaron, the anointed Priest of God, by his righteous acts, obtained salvation for his family, *his household*, and for God’s family, Israel, *His household*.

(2) “And the Ark of the Lord continued in the house of Obed-edom the Gittite three months. And the Lord

blessed Obed-odem and all his *household*. Here again, through one man, Obed-edom, his *household* was blessed.

On August 11, 2006, while I was driving to a gig at an Assisted Living Facility in Richardson, here is what the Holy Spirit revealed to me.¹⁶

Revelation number two

The life of Joseph, the son of Jacob, is a good example of *household salvation* obtained through one man and is also prophetic of the ministry of Jesus. Note the following comparisons of the life of Joseph to that of Jesus:

Joseph – most loved by his father.¹⁷
Jesus – The Father’s only begotten Son.¹⁸
Joseph – hated by his brothers.¹⁹
Jesus – hated by his family – the Jews.²⁰
Joseph – envied by his brothers.²¹
Jesus – crucified because of envy.²²
Joseph – sold to Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver.²³

Jesus – betrayed by Judas Iscariot for thirty pieces of silver.²⁴

Joseph – went from unescapable murder in a pit to become Prime Minister of Egypt, the most powerful nation on the earth. All authority was given to Joseph by Pharaoh, including his signet ring for affixing his authority to official documents. “Only in regard to the throne was Pharaoh greater than Joseph.”²⁵

Jesus – was crucified by His own family, will return to the earth and rule with a rod of iron. All authority in heaven and earth was given to Him by God. Only in regard to His throne is God greater than the Lord Jesus.²⁶

Joseph – received with love, mercy and compassion his whole family, including his brothers who plotted to kill him, and saved them from famine; hence *household salvation* through one man.²⁷

Jesus – gave his life for those who killed Him, will

¹⁶This revelation is another piece of the “household salvation” puzzle. It is not unusual for the Lord to give me revelation on a given principle and then “layer” that principle with additional revelations until the “teaching” is complete.

¹⁷See Genesis 37:3.

¹⁸See John 3:16.

¹⁹See Genesis 37:4.

²⁰See Mark 15:13, 14.

²¹See Genesis 37:11.

²²See Matthew 27:18; Mark 15:10.

²³See Genesis 37:25-28.

²⁴See Matthew 26:14, 15.

²⁵See Genesis 41:39-46.

²⁶See Revelation 19:15.

²⁷See Genesis Chapter 45.

¹¹Matthew 11:11; Luke 7:28.

¹²See the model prayer Jesus taught us to pray as recorded in Matthew 6:10.

¹³See a complete explanation of this statement in my letter dated August 18, 2006, page two, column two, under the heading, Words of explanation received on June 25, 2006.

¹⁴See John 3:5.

¹⁵Leviticus 16:17.

save all of those who did and everyone else who trusts in Him as the coming Messiah; hence *household salvation* through one man.²⁸

The life of Joseph is perhaps the best Old Testament example of *household salvation* through one man. By God's grace he was saved from death and offered that salvation to his brothers who hated him – who envied him, and wanted to kill him.

In like manner, Jews and proselytes who today abide by the law and the prophets, look for Messiah, who will save them from their enemies as did king David. That Messiah, Who will be their Judge, will receive them with love, mercy and compassion, even as Joseph in time of famine received and saved his family – who wanted to kill him. That Jewish Messiah, Who now has all authority in heaven and on earth, Who will judge the quick and the dead, will see to that. *It's His family. It's His household!* Hallelujah!

Our God is not a God of exclusion. He is a God of inclusion. Here is the Holy Spirit's explanation of these matters given to me the morning of July 25, 2006.

Rhema words received

“When you are born again you have a different set of rules. Kingdom rules are determined by the King. If you are not in the kingdom, you are not under kingdom rules and/or authority.

“If you accept Jesus for salvation only, in one sense you are saved as are the Jews. Your salvation is based on your adherence to the rules or laws whereby you were saved. If as a Jew you trust – believe in – Jehovah-Jireh and the Messiah, so long as you trust in that which has been written and attempt to abide therein, you are saved.

“The same holds true for Christians who are saved only. This is entirely possible if you completely exclude or prohibit all activity of the Holy Spirit. As that is done, when one believes in Jesus for salvation only, that person is saved but saved only.

“The Holy Spirit is responsible for birthing one into the kingdom. *If He (the Holy Spirit) is excluded from all teaching*, He is presumed to be completely removed from God's work today beginning with the death of the last of the original twelve apostles. In this case that person is told or said to be on his own, to read the bible from an intellectual standpoint, to live by the written word, the same as the Jews, who, from an intellectual standpoint, attempt to live by the written word of Moses and the prophets.

“Both classes, Jews and Gentiles are saved under God's laws.

“Only as one allows the Holy Spirit to enter his life,

if he is a Jew, does Jesus become Yeshua Messiah. He is then born again into the kingdom as the Holy Spirit makes him acquainted with Yeshua as King.

“Only as a Christian is able to accept the work of the Holy Spirit is he able to be born again into the kingdom of God and at that point start over again in the kingdom under kingdom rules.

“The thing the Jews missed when they told Pilate to release Barabbas and crucify Jesus is that the enemy of mankind, Satan, had to be dethroned. When Adam sinned, he released to Satan all the authority he had been given by the Father to subdue the earth and have dominion over it.

“In essence, Jesus was used as bait to lure Satan into a trap. And Satan took the bait big time. He took the bait and through Judas Iscariot betrayed Jesus to the Jewish authorities to be crucified. For it was only as Jesus was crucified as the Lamb of God, that the sin of Adam and its consequences were dealt with by God. Jesus had to die in order to satisfy God's law of a life for a life, an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth.²⁹ He (Jesus) also had to be resurrected from the grave to come forth victorious over death, caused by Adam's sin, since the wages of sin is death.

“Therefore, when Jesus was crucified, died, buried and resurrected, Satan was deposed and his authority over the earth was relinquished to Jesus. Eternal life was reinstated and once again God's plan for man and the heavens and the earth could begin to unfold on the earth.

“*Those who are saved only* under the law of Moses or the law of Christ are on equal footing. They have not entered the kingdom and therefore are not governed by kingdom laws and cannot experience kingdom blessings.

“*Salvation only* may therefore come *to the Jews and the Gentiles by God's written laws*. The Jews who adhere to the Law of Moses are still looking for and believe in Messiah Who is to come. Gentiles who also adhere to the written text of the New Testament *for salvation* only are looking for Messiah Who is to come.

“Until they both (Jews and Gentiles) succumb to the work, the leading of the Holy Spirit, they will remain saved only.³⁰

“As it is reported in some isolated cases today, one exception to these two statements is when God in His mercy chooses to intervene with certain ones, including Jews and Moslems, descendants of Isaac and Ishmael.”

If you get hard copies of my *letters* I would like to change over to email. Send me your email address if you have email capability. Otherwise I will continue to use regular mail for your *letters*. Jim Ash

²⁸See John 3:16.

²⁹See Exodus 21:23-25.

³⁰Some denominations expressly forbid the inclusion of the work of the Holy Spirit in one's life today.