

What Good News Did Jesus Proclaim?

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THIS BOOKLET IS NOT TO BE SOLD. The information provided is for the benefit of former members of the congregations of the Worldwide Church of God (WCG), and of current and prospective members of God's Church.

The Worldwide Church of God believed that the Good News or Gospel was that Christ at His 2nd Coming would establish God's Kingdom on earth and bring about world peace, prosperity and happiness. But can God's Kingdom exist over human beings? What does your Bible have to say about it?

Preamble

Please Note: All comments in brackets [] or in parentheses () as well as highlighted text (bolded and/or in blue) are from the author of this study. Bible quotations are in maroon.

I think it is essential to clarify the question of the “Holy Spirit” before we begin this study. If we say that who or what is the “Holy Spirit” is the question that needs to be answered, we are starting from the assumption that there exists such a being as the Holy Spirit and that it is a separate and distinct being from God and the Word. The question which should be asked is who are the beings the Bible tell us are holy, whose composition is spirit and who have existed eternally? Either the Bible plainly tells us who are the separate and distinct beings that existed from all eternity who created all things (spirit beings and the material universe) or we have no way of getting an answer to our question.

The Holy Spirits of the God Family

The Bible tells us in Gen 1:1 that:

Gen 1:1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

The Hebrew word translated “God” is “Eloheem” which is the plural form of “Eloah which means “God”. The word “Eloheem” refers to “gods.” It is a uniplural noun like family, group, team, etc. In the beginning, there was therefore more than one God being in existence but how many were there?

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Joh 1:2 The same was in the beginning with God.

Joh 1:3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

In the beginning when God created the heaven and the earth there was God and there was another being with God who was also God, the Word. How can these two beings both be God; isn't that impossible?

The word God indicates the kind of existence of these 2 beings: their nature is to be God in the same way that all human beings have the same human nature. However, having the same nature does not mean that all human beings constitute a single being; indeed, they are all separate and distinct beings with their own personalities. God and the Word have in common the same nature or, level and type of existence, but they are separate and distinct beings just like all human beings who have the same human nature are separate and distinct beings.

God the Father

We read in the Bible that God became a father when the Word became flesh (Phi 2:5-8) by being born of woman after having been conceived in the virgin Mary by the holy spirit being called God (Luke 1:35). God from that point on became God the Father and the Word, who was born as the flesh-and-blood Jesus of Nazareth became God's Son or the Son of God. He was both fully God (his father was God and fully human (his mother was the virgin Mary).

Jesus was God the Father's only begotten son at the time when He was conceived in Mary's womb but He was not to be the only one begotten of the Father. God the Father is the holy spirit being in the Godhead that calls men to salvation.

Joh 6:44 No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

Joh 6:65 And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father.

Joh 18:9 That the saying might be fulfilled, which he spake, Of them which thou [God the Father] gavest me have I lost none.

1Pe 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

God the Word and Spokesman

The Bible term for being called is to be spiritually begotten by God the Father (1Pe 1:3). When we are begotten, we become a spiritual embryo that can be born again as a glorified spirit being with eternal life. Those begotten of the holy spirit God the Father who follow their calling are then able to come to the holy spirit being called the Word and Spokesman (John 6:44; 65; 18:9) who then teaches them. The glorified Jesus-Christ as God the Father's Word and Spokesman is the holy spirit being that works in the minds of God the Father's called and chosen ones.

Joh 7:39 (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

Jesus had to first be glorified for it to be possible for Christians to have access to the holy spirit called the Word and Spokesman because the glorified Christ is the holy spirit being who works in the minds of God's saints (John 14:17) in the same way that Satan is the evil spirit that works in the minds of the children of disobedience (Eph2:2).

Joh 14:17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he [Christ] dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. [On the day of Pentecost, it would be in them and in all true Christians.]

Eph 2:2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, [Satan] the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

The holy spirit God the Father calls men and those who follow their calling are then taught by the holy spirit called the Word and God the Father's Spokesman.

Joh 14:26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

The Holy Ghost

The expression “Holy Ghost” used in the Bible is in error as there are no ghosts in the Godhead but rather 2 beings that are holy (John 17:11; Isa 6:3) and spirit (John 4:24).

Joh 17:11 And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are.

Isa 6:3 And one cried unto another, and said, **Holy, holy, holy**, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.

Joh 4:24 **God is a Spirit:** and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

These 2 God beings who are holy and spirit are the holy spirit beings of the God family who existed in the beginning at the creation of all things.

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Joh 1:2 The same was in the beginning with God.

Joh 1:3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

And, the Word who was with God is before all things i.e., *nothing* existed before He created them whether made of spirit or matter.

Col 1:15 [Christ] Who is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of every creature:

Col 1:16 For by him [the Word who became Jesus-Christ] were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

Col 1:17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

In the beginning before anything either physical or spiritual was created, there was God and the Word who existed before all things and no other being is mentioned as having existed with them. There is no bib-

lical evidence that there ever existed a third, separate and distinct personage in the Godhead called the “Holy Spirit” who dwelt in eternity with God and the Word.

God is a Family

Throughout the Bible we can find many verses which clearly indicates the existence of family relations between God and the Word and God’s called, chosen and faithful.

Mat 11:27 All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.

Mat 12:50 For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.

Joh 20:17 Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.

God is clearly a family in which many can be ultimately born again by a resurrection from the dead to eternal, glorified spirit life in God’s Kingdom.

Rom 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he [God’s Son] might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Col 1:18 And he [the glorified Christ] is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

Christ was the first to be born again by a resurrection from the dead to be followed by many brethren.

Bible Writing Convention

The practice in the Bible has been to simply use the expression “the Holy Spirit” without indicating which God personage in the Godhead the expression represents. Over time, because of this practice, just about everybody has come to believe that the Holy Spirit is a separate and distinct God being in the Godhead but, there is no single verse or group of verses in the Bible that prove the existence of such a third being in the Godhead. The words “holy” and “spirit” are adjectives that describe the nature of

God the Father and of God the Word i.e., they are holy beings made of spirit.

Whenever we encounter the expressions the “Holy Spirit” or simply the “Holy Spirit” in the Bible we must look at the context to determine of which holy spirit being of the Godhead the Bible is talking about: the holy spirit, God the Father or the holy spirit, the Word and Spokesman.

The Word is the holy spirit being in the Godhead who carries out the instructions and wishes of the holy spirit, God. He is the faithful son who seeks to do his father’s will in all things. He is the member of the God family that did the work of creating the heaven and the earth, who ruled over ancient Israel through Moses and his human successors, He is the one who became a man who suffered and died to be God the Father’s perfect sacrifice for sin and make the salvation of mankind possible, etc. and He came to reveal the Father to those who follow the Father’s calling.

Making Things Clearer

In this study, when referring to God’s spirit who, depending on the circumstances can be the holy spirit personage called God the Father or the holy spirit personage called God the Word and Spokesman, I will not capitalize either of the adjectives “holy” and “spirit”. This is in order to not perpetuate the false impression in the minds of readers that there is a 3rd being in the Godhead called the “Holy Spirit.” Instead, I will refer to either of the holy spirits in the God family as being God’s spirit without capitalizing the word “spirit” to make it plain that we are not referring to a third God being in the God family called the “Holy Spirit” but to one of the 2 God beings in the Godhead.

God’s family is presently made up of 2 holy spirit beings to which are to be added thousands and possibly millions of other holy spirit beings when God’s plan of salvation for mankind has reached its end. The saints that endure in the faith until the end of their natural human life, will be resurrected as individual holy spirit beings in God’s Kingdom when it is established.

There are two studies which you can read regarding what is the “Holy Spirit” and decide for yourself in light of the Bible-based evidence offered if such a being exists in the Godhead. These studies are: [What is the Holy Spirit? Cliff Notes Version](#) and [Who or What is the Holy Spirit?](#)

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If there is one thing on which a great deal of time and effort were spent by the Worldwide Church of God (WCG) prior to it becoming a mainline church of this world was on teaching what was the Gospel that Jesus preached. Confusion has abounded and continues to this day as to what it was Jesus meant when He spoke about the Kingdom of God.

In the WCG it was taught with great emphasis and unshakable certainty that the reason for Christ's 2nd Coming in power and glory was for Him to rule over the nations with a rod of iron and to bring into being the kingdom of God on earth over the physical nations of the world which at that time, as has been the case since the beginning of the existence of mankind, will be made up for the very greatest part of unconverted flesh-and-blood human beings as you will see as you go through this study.

It was widely considered that the Great Tribulation and the Day of the Lord were all punishment allowed by God and from God trying through extreme pain and suffering, the devastation of the nations of the world and the death of millions of individuals by famine, pestilence and war to shock mankind into turning to Him for help and ultimately submit to Him so as to gain salvation and become part of His Kingdom.

How can we come to know the truth of this very controversial matter? What tools do we have that can help us to find out just what is the

Gospel Jesus preached? And, can we know just **what is** God's Kingdom, **when** it will be established, **over who** it will rule, **who** will be its king and **where** will this kingdom be situated? There is a study on this site where this is extensively covered and which you may find useful [What is the Kingdom of God?](#)

As Christians, there is only one truly reliable source of information on all these matters and that is the Holy Bible. Either it has the answers to these questions or mankind simply cannot on its own come to know the correct answers to them.

If we are to come to the knowledge of the truth we have to be ready to abandon some of our personal and highly cherished ideas on these matters and resolve to let the Scriptures speak to us and accept what they are telling us even if they go squarely against what we have always believed.

Let's together with an open and attentive mind examine the information given us by God in His Holy Bible. Let's believe our Bible and not what men say the Bible says. This means that you will have to yourself do the work of verifying with your Bible whether what is being said in this study, is true or not.

You will have to do what Jesus told those listening to Him and who were trying to understand what He was saying. Jesus told them that they had to be new wineskins in which new knowledge like new wine can be poured without destroying it. In other words, Christ was telling them that if they were to understand Him they had to be ready to change their old ways of thinking (not be an old wineskin) so as to be able to receive and understand new information that they would hear from Him without their minds exploding like an old wineskin in which new wine had been poured being too rigid to expand. The old wineskin had to expand because of the gas created by the new wine fermenting in it; it could not and, it and the wine were lost. As an individual, you can choose to be a new wineskin or to remain an old wineskin unable to absorb new knowledge (new wine) because you are not able to expand your thinking (you are an old wine skin) to absorb new information essential to you being able to understand the answers to all the questions we have just asked about God's Kingdom.

The choice is entirely yours to make with no one being able to force you to choose one way or the other.

You don't want to become the victim of false teachings then God has provided a sure way for you to protect yourself, your Bible. If the Bible doesn't confirm it then you are not to believe it no matter who is saying it or said it.

But of course, the dilemma facing all true Christians is that though men are untrustworthy, God works through men. God has not used, is not using now nor will He in the future use angels or other spirit beings to teach His Church or the unconverted of the nations; much more to be said on this later. The Bible was written by men under inspiration of God and in many instances they were men of no repute; men that we would call today, the little people of the world. If we had lived in the days when they carried the message God gave them, we would have considered them to have no credibility whatsoever not being part of the rich, famous, highly-educated and influential class of society or not being one of the well-known and highly-respected leaders of one of the great religions of this world. Our natural tendency would have been to ignore or ridicule them. Yet, they were the ones who had new information about what God was doing or intended to do.

This state of affairs is very true even when it comes to God's Church where the thinking is that the criterion of truth is the established leadership in the Church (they are the high and mighty of religious organizations). If someone is not one of them, has not been trained by them and approved by them then it is impossible for that person to ever possibly have anything to say that merits thoughtful consideration. The leadership in the Church sets itself up as the source of truth and the criterion of truth for members.

This approach and attitude of mind is not supported anywhere in the Bible and in fact, quite the opposite is true. (See the following detailed study on this topic: [The Ministry and God's Truth](#)). The ministry and the senior leaders in God's Church (Pastor General, pastors and elders) enjoy no special relationship with God where God is using them in a special and exclusive way to reveal to them truths that add to the current truths of God's Church. They are all but men who are all facing the same challenges as any of the other members of God's Church to have works in their personal lives and to endure in the faith until the end of their lives. Christ coming to any congregation of God's Church as a thirty year old man and trying to provide it with new information would be immediately rejected and expelled.

None of the books of the Bible were the work of a religious elite within God's Church. The Old Testament was written by nobodies inspired and

commissioned by God and none of the disciples were part of either the religious elite of their days or held any position of power in the civil government. They were all part of the little people of this world. Your faith, those things that you believe and say you are ready to die for, were all written into the Bible by the little, insignificant, looked-down-upon people of the world.

God, in most instances, chooses and uses the little people of the world and this, for a very definite reason.

1Co 1:26 For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called:

1Co 1:27 But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;

1Co 1:28 And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are:

1Co 1:29 **That no flesh should glory in his presence.**

God's Church is being built by the holy spirits of the God family not by the excellence of speech of the ministry or the might of men. The holy spirit God the Father calls men to salvation (John 6:44; 65) and the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman teaches all things (John 6:45 14:17;26) to God the Father's chosen ones.

Zec 4:6 Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.

You will find a lot more information on this topic as you read through this study.

In order to understand the Bible one must be called, have followed his calling and be remaining faithful. All 3 elements are essential. Simply being called is not enough as the Scriptures show.

Rev 17:14 These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him **are called, and chosen, and faithful.**

One of the root causes of true Christians not understanding what is the kingdom of God is an incomplete understanding of what is conversion.

Mat 22:14 For many are called, but few are chosen.

Christ clearly and plainly tells us that though many are called it is the few of the many called that are chosen. (Mat 22:14) Why, isn't God's Church the called out ones?

How can one be called and not chosen?

They are not chosen because they refuse to follow their calling and decide to remain in the world out of which God is calling them. They refuse to submit to God and to change their lives to bring it into agreement with the requirements of God's law.

God's truth is only knowable by human beings by the holy spirit God the Father revealing spiritual truth to those he is calling and for those who follow their calling and are chosen, by the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman teaching them all things. The holy spirits of the God family then dwell in them. God's truth is not information that can be acquired through man's 5 physical senses that limit him to knowing and understanding physical and material knowledge. God's truth is of another order, it is God level spiritual i.e., for man to be able to know and understand it, another spirit needs to be added to his human spirit, the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman who will teach him all things.

Joh 14:26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, [he shall teach you all things](#), and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

Christians are not taught of men, they are taught of God, ALL of them.

Joh 6:45 It is written in the prophets, And they shall be [all taught of God](#). Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me.

This verse makes it clear that the holy spirit God the Father calls men by giving them sufficient truth for them to have to decide to obey Him or return into the world. Then, if they commit to obeying Him, this verse also makes it clear that it is the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman who becomes responsible for teaching them all things.

1Th 4:9 But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another.

The holy spirits of the God family in a true Christian working with the human spirit in man, which gives man's animal brain mind power, is how all true Christians are taught by God. Remember that God the Father, and God the Word and Spokesman are one and become one with those called, chosen and converted.

Joh 10:30 I and my Father are one.

Joh 14:10 Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.

Joh 14:11 Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake.

Joh 14:23 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

Joh 17:21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

And what does it mean to be taught by God? Isn't God teaching men through the ordained ministry in His Church? Here is what Paul says regarding men teaching spiritual truth to other men.

1Co 3:4 For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal?

1Co 3:5 Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man?

1Co 3:6 I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.

1Co 3:7 So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.

1Co 3:8 Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one:

and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.

1Co 3:9 For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.

In the congregations of the First Century Church there were some who considered some teachers better than others and were giving all their attention to them. But Paul tells them that the one that is giving them understanding of their teachings is God working in their minds; it is not the doing of any man. Individual Christians are God's husbandry i.e., they are being cared for and nurtured by God to produce spiritual growth in them. It is God doing the building; building them by increasing in them their understanding of His spiritual truth. God (the God family; the Father and the Word are one) is the one building His Church.

The holy spirit God the Father calls men to repentance and upon belief and repentance they are taught by the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman. The sum of those called, chosen and faithful are God's Church.

1Co 2:1 And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. [Paul did not come to the congregations of his days as a gifted orator. It is not through excellency of speech that God's truth can be understood rather it is only possible by God making it possible for them to do so.]

1Co 2:6 Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: [in their attitude of obedience to God and thus God the Father and the Word dwell in them] yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought:

1Co 2:7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, [God's truth is a mystery to the world; it is not a mystery to God's elect] even the hidden wisdom, [it is hidden from all those whose natural minds are not enable to understand spiritual truth] which God ordained before the world unto our glory:

1Co 2:8 Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

1Co 2:9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, [God's truth cannot be perceived by man's 5 physical senses] neither have entered into the heart [mind] of man, [those not converted] the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. [Those who have been called, chosen, and are remaining faithful.]

1Co 2:10 But God [the Father and the Word] hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

1Co 2:11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but [by] the Spirit of God

The Father and the Word are one with each performing a specific task in the salvation process. God the Father calls out men and God the Word teaches them. The word "God" describes the nature of the existence of the 2 eternal beings the Bible reveal to us as being God the Father and God the Word. They are 2 separate and distinct beings but they are one in that the Word is in perfect submission to His Father. They are both holy and spirit beings but the Son thinks exactly like the Father and so they are of one spirit in all they do. The expressions "God's Spirit" or "spirit of God" then depending on the context, refer to either God the Father or to God the Word; a distinction and significant difference we must all be keenly aware of when reading the Bible so as to not be misled.

1Co 2:12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

1Co 2:13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

1Co 2:14 But the natural man [the unconverted] receiveth not [does not understand nor accept] the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. [Can only ever be known by the holy spirits of the God family showing them; teaching them to the converted.]

Men do the planting and the watering but the growth, the increase is by

God for individual Christians are God's workmanship and are the result of God building them up in their understanding of the Scriptures. It is not something that any man can do.

Paul further explains that he and the ministry of God's Church do not have the power to impose on Christians what it is they are to believe because even if they wanted to, they can't.

2Co 1:23 Moreover I call God for a record upon my soul, that to spare you I came not as yet unto Corinth.

2Co 1:24 **Not for that we have dominion over your faith**, but are helpers of your joy: for by faith ye stand.

Here again is something very important to understand regarding the authority of the ministry and the ability of men to teach God's spiritual truth to other men. Paul, an apostle, and by extension those ordained to the ministry, have no ability to exercise control over what Christians believe. Their role is to be helpers of their joy, to provide assistance and support. They do not have the ability to compel anyone to believe any of God's truth or to force them to keep on believing it should they decide to no longer do so.

Why?

Because Christians stand by faith i.e., based on what **they** have **chosen** to believe. This means that no one can force them to believe something against their will. The decision to believe or not the truth is entirely up to them.

Why?

Because God created man with **absolute free moral agency** which means that there is no power on earth or in heaven that can force him to choose something against his will. God placed before Israel and mankind a choice.

Deu 30:19 I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:

In order for Israel and mankind to be able to choose, it is absolutely essential that they have the freedom and ability to do so. If there is a

higher power that can impose its will upon men whether this be other men or spirit beings, then men are not free to choose. The choices that they would then make would be those of the higher power which dominates them and God could not hold mankind responsible for making wrong decisions nor could He credit them with making good ones. They would not have minds of their own nor be in full control of their decision making power.

Why was it necessary for man to be created with the absolute, uninhibited freedom to choose?

Because God has purposed to reproduce Himself through mankind and to share with those who inherit salvation His very nature and be God as God is God. In order to do so while preventing another rebellion as occurred with Lucifer and the angels that followed him, man had to be a being of CHARACTER i.e., he had to be entirely free to choose God's truth upon being given to have knowledge of the truth and to submit himself to God because this is what he has freely chosen to do. There must be nothing forcing him to do so for the decision he makes to be his own. And, he has to keep on making that decision every day for the rest of his life. That is repentance i.e., the decision to withdraw from the ways of the world which are evil and to resolve to live a new life seeking to the best of his ability to obey God in all things upon being given to know the truth.

This firm attitude of obedience to God in this life while a physical, flesh-and-blood being will become part of the spirit in man which at the time of death will return to God who gave it.

Job 32:8 But **there is a spirit in man**: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding.

Ecc 12:7 Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the **spirit shall return unto God who gave it**.

And this spirit will contain man's resolute decision to obey God in all things to the best of his ability.

At the time of the resurrection, man's attitude of obedience to God in all things will become a permanent and unchangeable part of the new glorified spirit being created. There will be no possibility of rebellion in God's Kingdom once it is established. This is why it will be a kingdom in which dwells the righteousness of God as every member of that kingdom will forever be in full voluntary submission to God and have God's righteousness in them.

The central and critical point of understanding that has to be remembered is that God in order to be able to reproduce himself through man had to create a being who had mind power and absolute free moral agency so as to be able to freely make decisions without any higher power being able to influence his decisions one way or the other so as to be a being of character.

For God to be able to hold man responsible for the decisions that he makes, he has to be fully free to decide.

All this, up to now, is nothing new in terms of what has always been taught in the Church. Everybody used to talk about the need to develop character and indeed, it is the truth. A willful and unforced desire to obey God in all things is the requirement for salvation.

God tells us that He only leads, He will not compel or force obedience.

Rom 8:14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

This is in keeping with the requirement we have just examined for man to be a being of CHARACTER i.e., he must voluntarily and freely choose to obey God when given to know the truth.

This is how God's plan of salvation works. Character is essential for salvation and character requires that man be completely free to choose to obey God when given to know the truth.

Without the requirement for CHARACTER there is no possible salvation as God will not grant eternal life to beings whose obedience has not been assured once resurrected as glorified spirit beings who are immortal.

This being the case, is it possible that during the Millennium and the Last Great Day God will radically change the administration of His plan of salvation for mankind, invalidate a very great number of Scriptures and begin to force mankind to obey Him by subjecting it to famine, pestilence and war on a very large scale resulting in the death of millions and the destruction of man's current civilization to begin a new one?

Mat 24:21 For then shall be great tribulation, **such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.**

Mat 24:22 And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.

As Christians, and here I am repeating myself, there is only one truly reliable source of information on all these matters and that is the Holy Bible; not what men say the Bible says but what the Bible says. Our firm resolve must be to let the Scriptures speak to us and accept what they are telling us even if what they tell us goes directly against what we have always believed.

Let's now review the information given us by God in His Holy Bible regarding what are some of the key characteristics of the kingdom of God.

Flesh-and-Blood Cannot Inherit the Kingdom of God

We are all familiar with the Scriptures where Christ plainly told Nicodemus that men have to be born again to be able to enter the Kingdom of God.

Joh 3:3 Jesus answered and said unto him, **Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.**

Joh 3:4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

Joh 3:5 Jesus answered, **Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.**

Joh 3:6 **That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.**

Joh 3:7 **Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.**

In order for men to enter the Kingdom of God they must be born again from their flesh-and-blood, physical existence to glorified spirit being existence. This is made clear by Christ when He says "**....what is born of the flesh is flesh and what is born of the Spirit is spirit.**" (John 3:6); they are two entirely different things. Those born of the Spirit are then spirit beings like God and the angels are spirit beings and, as such, are then able to enter and be part of a kingdom which is wholly made up of spirit beings.

God the Father is a spirit being, the Logos or Spokesman who became the Christ, is a spirit being. Together they now constitute the Kingdom of God to which many others are to be added. The essential nature of God the Father and of the Logos is that they are spirit beings. The only way a

human being can become part of their kingdom is for that human being to also become a spirit being. And, to become a spirit being that can enter the kingdom of God, man has to have been spiritually begotten by God the Father i.e., he has to have been called, and he must have chosen to follow his calling and have remained faithful until the end of his life.

Paul in the well-known resurrection chapter of the Bible, 1 Cor 15 gives us more information that adds to Christ's words that being born according to the flesh and being born according to the spirit are two entirely different things.

1Co 15:35 *But some man will say, How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come?*

1Co 15:36 *Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die:*

1Co 15:37 *And that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain:*

1Co 15:38 *But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body.*

1Co 15:39 *All flesh is not the same flesh: but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, and another of birds.*

1Co 15:40 *There are also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another.*

1Co 15:41 *There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory.*

1Co 15:42 *So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption:*

Men's physical flesh-and-blood bodies subject to decay and death which is the body with which all men are born, at the time of death is buried in the ground like the seed of a plant and there it is to remain and decay until the time of the resurrection when it will be raised in incorruption i.e., with a body not subject to decay and death i.e., with a spirit body in which dwells immortality. This is explained by Paul in 1Cor15:44 below.

1Co 15:43 It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power:

1Co 15:44 It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.

1Co 15:45 And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam *was made* a quickening spirit.

1Co 15:46 Howbeit that *was* not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual.

1Co 15:47 The first man *is* of the earth, earthly: the second man *is* the Lord from heaven.

1Co 15:48 As *is* the earthly, such *are* they also that are earthly: and as *is* the heavenly, such *are* they also that are heavenly.

This is simply another way of reiterating Christ's words that what is born of the flesh is flesh and what is born of the spirit is spirit.

1Co 15:49 And as we have borne the image of the earthly, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

1Co 15:50 Now this I say, brethren, **that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.**

I don't know how much plainer it can be said that flesh-and-blood human beings CANNOT become part of God's Kingdom but to me this is very plain and simple to understand, and hopefully, it is for you too.

Flesh-and-Blood Human Beings Cannot See the Kingdom of God

Jesus also said that flesh-and-blood human beings cannot see the Kingdom of God unless they are born again by a resurrection to glorified spirit existence.

Joh 3:3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot **see** the kingdom of God.

Joh 3:8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

This verse explains well the distinction Christ makes between flesh and spirit in John 3:6 previously mentioned. Those born of the flesh i.e., born of women are flesh and those born of water and the Spirit (John 3:5, previously quote above) are spirit.

Those born of water and the Spirit are those who have been spiritually conceived by God the Father through being called, accepting their calling, and being baptized. They are then begotten or conceived of the holy spirit God the Father; they become spiritual embryos who all through their lives as flesh-and-blood human beings must grow in knowledge and understanding. Their actual birth or being born again as glorified spirit beings will occur at the time of the resurrection of God's saints.

Flesh-and-blood men cannot [see](#) the Kingdom of God because in order to become part of it men must first be born again. Christ tells us that those who are born again are like the wind which no one knows where it came from or where it goes and which goes wherever it wants to. Christ's uses the wind as an example of how those born again are invisible to flesh-and-blood human beings. Physical-material human beings cannot see the wind in the same way that they cannot see spirit.

Stop for a brief moment here and give your mind the time to fully grasp and understand what is being said in 1 Co 15 and in John 3. Jesus tells us clearly that God's Kingdom cannot be [seen](#) by flesh-and-blood human beings and that it is impossible for flesh-and-blood human beings to [enter](#) God's Kingdom or to become part of it.

Human beings that have died in the past and, those now alive cannot see or enter into the Kingdom of God and neither will be those to be born in the future during the Millennium and the Last Great Day be able to see it.

Flesh-and-blood human beings, as all of us are, cannot know of the existence of spirit beings such as God and the angels but by revelation from God. All of man's science is based on discovering the properties of physical matter and it rejects all notions that there are such things as spirit beings because the proof of their existence cannot be made by physical-material means. Man's 5 physical senses limit him to being able to understand the physical and material world in which he lives but he cannot know or understand things that are spirit without an additional spirit being added to his human spirit. This is extensively covered by Paul in 1 Co 2 of which I will only quote verse 11. Please feel free to read the verses leading up to it and after it.

[1Co 2:11](#) For what man knoweth the things of a man, save

the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

Basically what this verse is saying that men understand the things of other men because they have in them the same spirit as other men. In the same way, for men to be able to know and understand the things of God, they must have in them another spirit, the holy spirit of God the Word and Spokesman. They can then understand the things of God having in them the same spirit as God in the same way that men can understand the things of other men because they have the same spirit in them.

And of course, it should go without saying, that as long as we are flesh-and-blood material beings we cannot at the same time be spirit beings. Can we in this life be born as a spirit being? If so, we would then become invisible to other human beings who are not spirit beings. We would become invisible to our families, friends and neighbors.

What does Christ say about those who are born again (not only begotten or conceived but actually born)?

Joh 3:7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

Joh 3:8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

Those born again are like the wind which cannot be seen. No one has ever seen or can see the wind; it is invisible to flesh-and-blood men just like spirit is. Then what is it that Jesus meant when He said that men must be born again? All those who today say they are born again are still visible to us; they are not like the wind that you can't tell where it comes from or to where it is going and which goes wherever it wants to. Flesh-and-blood men are the results of an actual physical birth; can they while remaining flesh-and-blood be actually born as a spirit being which is like the wind? Do flesh-and-blood men who say they are born again in this life become like the wind as Jesus says is “....every one that is born of the Spirit?”

If we are being honest with ourselves, we know that the answer is, no; they are not as described by Jesus.

Can we know for sure what it is that Jesus meant by being born again? There are many who hold to the view that when one becomes converted they are born again.

Was there ever a man that was born again and can we examine how that

occurred as a means of clarifying what Jesus meant by having to be born again to be able to see the Kingdom of God?

The First Man Born Again

In the Bible we read that Jesus was begotten (conceived we would say today) of God the Father in the womb of the physical woman Mary. At the time of His being conceived, Jesus was not yet born; He would have to grow in Mary's womb for 9 months before being actually born as a human being. Being begotten or conceived and being born are not the same things; that which has been conceived needs to grow to the point where it can be born. There is a time interval between the conception (begettal) and the actual birth (being born).

Luk 1:30 And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.

Luk 1:31 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.

Luk 1:32 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:

Luk 1:33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

Luk 1:34 Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?

Luk 1:35 And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost [**“Spirit” it should read**] shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

Christ's father is God and therefore Christ is God's son. God became a father with the conception and birth of Jesus. And Christ who before His incarnation as a man was the Logos, the Word, and the Spokesman who dwelt in eternity with God, upon being born of the virgin Mary, became the Son of God.

Towards the end of His mission on the earth Christ sought to reassure His disciples for He was about to be taken and die on the stake and they would

personally see this happen. He didn't want them to become disheartened so He explained to them what was really going to happen to Him by telling them the following:

Joh 16:17 Then said some of his disciples among themselves, What is this that he saith unto us, A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me: and, Because I go to the Father?

Joh 16:18 They said therefore, What is this that he saith, A little while? we cannot tell what he saith.

Joh 16:19 Now Jesus knew that they were desirous to ask him, and said unto them, Do ye enquire among yourselves of that I said, A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me?

Joh 16:20 Verily, verily, I say unto you, That ye shall weep and lament, but the world shall rejoice: and ye shall be sorrowful, but your sorrow shall be turned into joy.

Joh 16:21 A woman when she is in travail hath sorrow, because her hour is come: but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world.

Joh 16:22 And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you.

Joh 16:23 And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you.

Jesus told His disciples that what was about to happen to Him would make them very sorrowful, they would sorrow like a woman when she is in travail knowing she would have to go through a painful period of time while giving birth. But they would also be like a woman after having given birth. They would no longer remember the anguish they felt when they saw Christ taken and nailed to the stake because in a little while they would see Christ after His resurrection being alive again and speaking with them as He was then doing and they would greatly rejoice like a woman on seeing her new-born child.

Christ would die as a flesh-and-blood human being born of woman and be born again as a glorified spirit being with the glory that He had before He voluntarily divested Himself of His Godhead (Philip 2:6-8) to become a man born of woman for the purpose of living a perfect sinless life as a human being and dying on the stake as God's perfect sacrifice for the sins of mankind. As such Christ is the first flesh-and-blood man to be born again from the dead to glorified spirit life.

Col 1:18 And he [**the resurrected Christ**] is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, **the firstborn from the dead**; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

Christ is the first human being to be born again from the dead as a glorified spirit being. The Logos or Spokesman had divested Himself of His godhead to fully become a man born of the flesh. He was fully a man and fully God. His mother was Mary and His Father was God.

Before His being taken away to be tried and put to death, Christ asked His Father to give Him back the glory which He had before becoming a man; the same glory He had before the world was.

Joh 17:5 And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

God the Father was able to glorify Christ when He was born again by a resurrection from the dead with the same glory that He had before becoming a man. God will also glorify in the same way, all those who have been called, chosen and remained faithful at the time of their resurrection from the dead.

Rom 8:29 For whom he [God the Father**] did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he [**His Son, Christ**] might be **the firstborn among many brethren.****

Rom 8:30 Moreover whom he [God the Father**] did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and **whom he justified, them he also glorified.****

Those who are called by God the Father are to be conformed to the image of his son i.e., He would do for them what He did for Christ. Christ after lying dead for 3 days and 3 nights was resurrected back to the glory He had before becoming a man born of woman i.e., a flesh-and-blood human being like we all are. And those whom God the Father called and who are justified i.e., have had their sins forgiven and who have died, in the resur-

rection will be raised up glorified like Christ so that Christ through His own resurrection from the dead as a glorified spirit being may be the firstborn among many brethren. Those born again at the time of the resurrection will be born as glorified spirit beings and be among the many brothers of Christ sharing in the very same glory.

Christ was fully a man as made clear by the following verses.

Heb 4:15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

In order for Christ to be tempted like any other man He had to be fully human Himself.

Rom 1:3 Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh;

Rom 1:4 And declared to **be the Son of God with power**, according to the spirit of holiness, **by the resurrection from the dead**:

Jesus was a descendant of David according to the flesh. He was born of woman as all men are and was a physical human being in every sense of the word. But he became the son of God with **power** i.e., after His death on the stake and resurrection, He was not born again as a human being but as a spirit being inheriting the very nature of his Father, a God being. He first had to die as a human being to be then born again by a resurrection to spirit life as the Son of God with power, the powers of God which all those who are born again will also have.

In this life, true Christians are only begotten or conceived of God's Holy Spirit; they are not yet born spirit beings; they are spiritual embryos which spiritually speaking must grow in knowledge and understanding of the Scriptures which is their spiritual nourishment so as to become spiritually mature and be ready to be born again at the appointed time as glorified spirit beings in God's Kingdom.

I think at this point, based on what we have seen so far, we can safely conclude that flesh-and-blood human beings whether converted or not cannot **see** the Kingdom of God and that even those who are converted cannot be a part of it as long as they are flesh-and-blood. In order to become part of God's Kingdom, Christ plainly stated that one must be born again to spirit life by a resurrection from the dead.

Let's now examine at length the different stages of the conversion process as this will give us more understanding of God's Kingdom and of the Gospel Christ gave to his disciples.

Conversion

God since the foundation of His New Testament Spirit-begotten Church on the day of Pentecost with its first members being the apostles has been calling out men to come out of the world and live their lives according to His law. Until the Millennium arrives, God is not calling everyone though it is still many.

The first part of the conversion process is being called and Christ says that:

Mat 22:14 For many are called, but few are chosen.

Those who are not chosen are those who decide not to follow their calling after God the Father has shown them enough truth for them to realize that they have to make the decision to come out of the world or to return into it and continue their lives as before. Christ plainly tells us that it is the few that choose to follow their calling. Are we willing to accept this or does this offend us so much that we choose to believe that just about everyone called will be saved because God is a God of love and mercy and doesn't want to see anyone lose their salvation and that therefore this verse must somehow mean something different than what it very plainly says? Our minds are very powerful and can, if we choose to do so, blind us to certain realities we refuse to accept.

Christians have to keep control of their emotions if they are to be able to see the truth as offensive to them as some of it may be. They have to accept to change their previous beliefs when they are clearly shown to be wrong when compared to the truth of the Bible. This can be a very painful experience which God likens to being scourged (See Heb 12). However painful it may be, we have to endure God's correction or become bastards i.e., we no longer have God as our Father spiritually speaking. We have to accept God's truth when it is revealed to us no matter how much it goes against our personal desires for things to be different than what the Bible is showing us.

When called, God will give us sufficient information for us to be taken to the crossroads where we realize that we have to make a decision: either submit to God or go back to our lives in the world. If we go back into the world, we again become spiritually blind and God's Spirit will not call us a second time. But if we follow our calling and commit ourselves to obey God, we are then chosen.

But being chosen is only part of the process; upon entering or becoming part of God's Church the new convert must be careful to fully abandon his previous life and not try to maintain some of his past practices while in God's Church by reasoning his way around God's law in order to be able to do so without feeling guilty of any wrongdoing.

Christ commands those that are coming into God's Church following their calling to do the following:

Mat 7:13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:

Mat 7:14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

New converts must be ready to change their lives. Having one foot in the world and one foot in the Church in order to maintain certain beliefs or conducts that are not in accordance with the truth while remaining a member of one of God's Church congregations leads to loss of salvation and many are those among the chosen that will do so.

Mat 6:24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

Luk 16:13 No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

Christians cannot lead a double life and hope to get salvation. Trying to reconcile certain practices and beliefs of the world with the truth of God leads to losing God's truth and salvation.

So it is that many are called but few are chosen and of the few that are chosen, it is the many that take the broad way of compromise with the world and lose their salvation. This means that many of the few chosen ones lose their salvation. This is why God's Church is the "little flock."

The preceding Scriptures, if we will believe them, clearly show that there will not be a time when just about all of humanity but for a few rebels will become and stay converted. Many are called but few are chosen and of those who are chosen, it is the many that take the broad way that leads to loss of salvation. In other words, there will be no mass conversion of

humanity where just about everybody will become and stay converted according to these very plain and easy to understand Scriptures.

What are you going to believe?

Again, knowing and understanding this makes it clear that since the foundation of God's New Testament Spirit-begotten Church, it is the few that have remained faithful and who have been sealed for the resurrection as unpleasant a realization as that may be.

What will happen during the Millennium and the Last Great Day? Will God suspend the current requirements for salvation and radically change the administration of His plan of salvation for those living during the Millennium and those that will rise up in the resurrection of the Last Great Day?

God says He is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow; He changes not (Heb 13:8).

And, God's plan of salvation for mankind requires that those who are to be saved be individuals of CHARACTER i.e., upon having been given to know the truth God will not force them to obey Him. They have to freely and self-willingly chose to obey Him without anything or anyone forcing them to do so. It has to be their decision free from any form of coercion. The holy spirits of the God family only ever lead (Rom 8:14); no one will be forced to become converted or to remain converted. This freely taken decision of obedience to God and maintaining it through the years until death, will be a part of the human spirit which God will use at the time of the resurrection to bring men back to life and which will ensure there will never be another rebellion as occurred with Lucifer and the angels that sinned.

As a spirit being, our attitude of obedience to God in all things becomes permanent making it possible for God's Kingdom to be made up of a large number of individuals with their own personalities, independent mind power and be a single body with every part working in full cooperation and harmony with all the others to provide exactly what the body needs in a similar way that our human bodies are made up of millions of cells all working together for the well being of the body.

1Co 12:12 For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ.

1Co 12:13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free;

and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

1Co 12:14 For the body is not one member, but many.

1Co 12:15 If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body?

1Co 12:16 And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body?

1Co 12:17 If the whole body *were* an eye, where *were* the hearing? If the whole *were* hearing, where *were* the smelling?

1Co 12:18 But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him.

1Co 12:19 And if they were all one member, where *were* the body?

1Co 12:20 But now *are they* many members, yet but one body.

Given all the things we have been examining so far, let's now review what the Scriptures say about what will happen during the Millennium and by extension during the Last Great Day.

What About the Millennium?

God the Father says that during the Millennium He will call all men to salvation (Joel 2:28) and that is very true. But, as we have just seen, being called and chosen are not the same things. On being called one must follow his calling in order to be chosen. God tells us that it is the few that are chosen which therefore means that of the many called it is the many that do not follow their calling and thus remain unconverted and in the world.

And, we have just seen that of those chosen, it is the many that choose the broad way that leads to perdition and the few that enter in by the strait and narrow gate which means that of the few that are chosen it is the few that will gain their salvation by staying converted all their lives.

In practical terms, this means that although during the Millennium God the Father will call all men there will be no mass conversion of the nations.

It also means that the vast majority of the world's population as is the case today will remain unconverted and, if unconverted, **unteachable**.

I fully know how shocking this may be to a lot of you reading this study but

this is what the Scriptures say and I like you, wish it would be different but all are given the same chance at salvation and God to be a God of justice must ensure the equal application of the conditions established for salvation to all of mankind.

Teachability

As we know, God's truth is spiritual and for someone to be able to understand it, it is necessary for the holy spirits of the God family to dwell in his mind.

Those who refuse their calling (the many) or who become converted and go back into the world (the many) are not teachable because their attitude toward God's truth is as follows:

Rom 8:7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

We also know that those who were once given to know the truth can never know it again if they abandon or forsake it.

Heb 6:4 For *it is* impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost,

Heb 6:5 And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come,

Heb 6:6 If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put *him* to an open shame.

Those who go back into the world after being given to know the truth are irretrievably lost. They have again become spiritually blind as they were before being called. This is why it is impossible to make them realize they have left the faith. As far as they are concerned they have never left it. It would take a second calling from God to remove the blindness come over them and God will not do it as that would require Christ to be sacrificed again.

So, according to the Scriptures, the vast majority of people living on the earth now and during the Millennium and the Last Great Day will be unconverted or carnal-minded and to whom it will be impossible to teach God's spiritual truth.

A carnal mind is the mind with which we are all born. It does not have the holy spirit God the Father or God the Word and Spokesman dwelling in it, and it is impossible for it to know God's truth or to be subject to God's law (Rom 8:7). All those called who rejected their calling and all those who became converted but go back into the world become carnal-minded. The holy spirits of the God family that they had while called or chosen leave them never to return, and they again become as hostile toward God and His law as they were before their calling.

During the Millennium it is the many of mankind that will remain unconverted though all will have been called. The nations will be unteachable as being for the most part unconverted, they will be hostile to God's law and be unable to know it or submit to it. Carnal-minded individuals cannot be taught God's spiritual law which is knowable only by revelation.

Gal 1:12 For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it,
but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.

God's spiritual truth is knowable by man only by revelation from God

So, what was Christ's Gospel message considering it is clear the nations of the world during the Millennium, to a great extent, will remain as unconverted and unteachable as it is nowadays. Was it, as we were taught, that Christ and the resurrected saints during the Millennium will take over the governments of this world and establish God's Kingdom over the flesh-and-blood nations of the world?

Let's continue our analysis.

God's Rule

Based on the Scriptures we have just been reviewing can we reconcile what they tell us with the teaching that Christ is coming back to this earth a second time in power and glory to put down all rebellion against God and to rule over the nations of this world and bring about world peace?

Was the Good News that Christ brought from God the Father that He, Christ would take over the rule of the nations to finally bring peace to the world by putting an end to war and the corrupt governments of men which is the root cause of just about all of the misery, war and destruction in the world.

Is it God's intention to establish His government on earth and to have it replace the governments of men across the nations during the Millennium? Was that what Christ meant when he preached the Good News of the Kingdom of God?

As has been discussed and demonstrated using the Scriptures, God will not rule by force over mankind (Rom 8:14). He is not doing so now, has not done so in the past and will not do so in the future (Heb 13:8).

In the days of ancient Israel which was a fully carnal nation, God ruled over them through Moses. He did not force Israel to obey Him but He did punish them for their sinfulness. In New Testament times, God's nation is no longer a physical nation but a spiritual nation made up of all those who have been called, chosen [and](#) faithful. And, He rules over them because they have freely without being forced in any way, chosen to obey Him. They are not obeying Him; not out of fear of any physical or mental punishment He would use to force them to do so.

These are the only ones over which God will rule.

WHY?

The central and critical point of understanding that has to be remembered is that God in order to be able to reproduce himself through man had to create a being who had mind power and absolute free moral agency so as to be able to freely make decisions without any higher power being able to influence his decision one way or the other.

For God to be able to hold man responsible for the decisions that he makes, he has to be fully free to decide.

This is nothing new in terms of what has always been taught in the Church. Everybody used to talk about the need to develop character and indeed, it is the truth. A willful and unforced desire to obey God in all things is the requirement for salvation.

God tells us that the Holy Spirit only leads, it does not compel or force obedience.

Rom 8:14 For as many [as are led](#) by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

This is in keeping with the requirement we have just examined for man to be a being of CHARACTER i.e., he must voluntarily and freely choose to obey God when given to know the truth.

God will not force obedience; He will only give man the choice to do so or not and He will leave him completely free to choose life or death.

This is how God's plan of salvation works. Character is essential for salva-

tion and character requires that man be completely free to choose to obey God when given to know the truth.

Without the requirement for CHARACTER there is no possible salvation as God will not grant eternal life to beings whose obedience has not been assured once resurrected as glorified spirit beings in whom dwells eternal life.

This being the case, is it possible that during the Millennium and the Last Great Day God will break from past practices and invalidate a very great number of Scriptures and begin to force mankind to obey Him by subjecting it to famine, pestilence and war on a very large scale resulting in the death of millions and the destruction of man's current civilization to begin a new one?

Spiritual Gog and Magog

Shortly after the **end** of the Millennium we read in Rev 20 about a group of people whose number is as the sand of the sea coming up against Israel to destroy it.

Rev 20:7 And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,

Rev 20:8 And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in **the four quarters of the earth**, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: **the number of whom is as the sand of the sea**.

Rev 20:9 And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.

These individuals are not the same people as the Gog and Magog who were destroyed early on during the Millennium (See Ez 38-39); this end-time Gog and Magog comes from the four quarters of the earth; they are not from a specific region. And, their number is so great that God say they are as many as the sand of the sea, a number so great as to be uncountable. All of them are deceived by Satan the devil.

But wait; did not God pour out of His Holy Spirit upon all flesh during the Millennium and did not everyone except a few incorrigibly wicked individuals become converted? If this be the case, how do we have this uncountable multitude of Satan-deceived people from all over the world

converging on Israel to destroy it right after the end of the Millennium?

Did they lose their conversion the minute Satan was loosed from the bottomless pit?

Christ says that true Christians cannot be deceived:

Mat 24:24 For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

Why is it that Christians cannot be deceived?

If after having been given to know the truth there was a power in the universe that could again deceive true Christians then that power would be mightier than God. And, true Christians departing from the truth they had received could not be held responsible by God for having done so as they would be under the irresistible influence of a higher power.

How do true Christians again become deceived?

They again become deceived when they make the decision to leave the truth they have been given and return into the world out of which God had called them. God has created man with absolute free moral agency i.e., there is no power on earth or in heaven that can force him to believe something he has not chosen to believe or to keep on believing the truth once he has decided to no longer do so. God has given man the absolute freedom to choose so that the choices that he makes will be his own and not that of a higher power working its will through him. Having freewill makes it possible for God to hold man responsible for the decisions he makes. Man's freedom to choose is a key requirement of God's plan of salvation for mankind.

The world is not now being judged because it is deceived and if there was a higher power that could deceive man after he having come to the knowledge of the truth, God would not be able to judge him.

1Pe 4:17 For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?

Therefore, the only individuals that can be deceived by Satan are those who were either never called (but during the Millennium all will be called; Joel 2:28); those who were called and refused their calling by choosing to remain in the world (Mat 22:14); and those who accepted their calling

but later on abandoned the truth they had to go back into the world (Mat 7:13).

The many are called (Mat22:14) but the few are chosen and of the few that are chosen or who are entering into God's Church, it is the many that take the broad way that leads to perdition (Mat 7:13). Altogether, they are the ones constituting this great group of people from the four corners of the earth that are deceived by Satan and who gather to march against Israel to destroy it.

Conclusion

In light of all we have been examining, can we understand what is the Gospel proclaimed by Christ?

As we have just seen, even during the Millennium when God the Father calls all men, there will be no mass conversion of the nations. The post-millennial Gog and Magog who are from the four corners of the world and whose number is as the sand of the sea make it very clear that the nations of the world for the greatest part did not become or stay converted. This uncountable multitude did not lose their conversion the minute Satan was loosed from the bottomless pit. Satan could deceive them because they were not converted for as Jesus said, the elect cannot be deceived.

We know God's spiritual truth cannot be taught to the unconverted and is knowable only by revelation from God. The world for the most part will be unconverted and it will be impossible to teach it God's spiritual truth.

We also know that the unconverted are carnal-minded and that they are hostile to God's law and indeed cannot be subject to it. (Rom 8:7)

So, what did Christ mean when He spoke about the Gospel. What is the Good News He had from the God the Father for mankind?

The Good News from God the Father given to us through Christ is that there is coming a time when the governments of men will end and that a new kingdom will follow the ending of the kingdoms of men, God's Kingdom.

This kingdom will be made up of spirit beings which will be men who during the 7,000 year time span allotted mankind will have been called, chosen and faithful. They will become part of God's Kingdom through their being resurrected as glorified spirit beings sharing in the very nature of God. They will be God as God is God and their attitude of obedience to God in all things become permanent in their spirit character will ensure

that all members of God's Kingdom will always work in full harmony and cooperation under the direction of God the Father and Christ

The Gospel is the good news that one day those called, chosen and faithful will inherit the Kingdom of God and become God as God is God no longer being subject to hunger, thirst, pain, disease and death, and the physical laws of the material universe. They will inherit bodies that do not grow old and die and will spend eternity involved in satisfying and exhilarating works of creation in an infinite new heaven and earth under the direction of God the Father and Christ.

Rev 21:1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

This occurs after the coming of the Lake of Fire and the burning up of the wicked at the time of the 3rd resurrection and the closing off of God's plan of salvation for mankind. There are then no flesh-and-blood human beings left alive on the earth.

Rev 21:2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

Rev 21:3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

There are then no more flesh-and-blood human beings on the earth after the new heaven and the new earth are created. God then comes to dwell with men on this new earth and these men are all glorified spirit beings. They are His sons, people, nation and kingdom. God will dwell with them and be their God.

Rev 21:4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

The physical material world and the flesh-and-blood men who inhabited it have passed away. They, the current heaven and earth, and the flesh-and-blood men that did not become glorified spirit beings were all burnt up in the Lake of Fire. Only God's elect are then left and they are part of God's Kingdom.

Rev 21:5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

Rev 21:6 And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

They will be beings in which dwells immortality.

Rev 21:7 He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

Physical, mortal men who have been called, chosen and who have remained faithful all their lives will inherit all things i.e., the new heaven and the new earth and they will be the sons of God.

All the others, the wicked, the unfaithful and those who did not overcome will die the 2nd death; their consciousness will forever be ended and no resurrection will ever be possible for them.

Rev 21:8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

The incredible, fabulous and wonderful Good News Christ brought to His Church from God the Father is that mortal men can become immortal spirit beings, share in the very nature of God and under the direction of God and Christ participate in the administration of God's government over God's new heaven and earth.

And so, we come to the end when God's Kingdom is fully established:

Rev 21:6 And he said unto me, **It is done.** I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

Hopefully, I have succeeded in making things clearer and that you now understand that the Kingdom of God can never exist among flesh-and-blood human beings as it is a kingdom made up wholly of spirit beings. It is a kingdom that cannot be seen by human beings and which human beings cannot enter while still human beings. Those inheriting God's Kingdom as born sons of God are those who in this life were called, followed and endured in their calling until the end of their physical lives at which times

they were sealed for resurrection to eternal life as glorified spirit beings fully sharing in God's very nature.

They will be Gods as God is God with the same powers but which they will exercise under the direction of God. Their attitude of obedience to God while human beings will have become a permanent part of their spirit being ensuring perfect harmony and cooperation between God and His glorified saints and among themselves in a way that was completely impossible while they were still human beings. This is why God's Kingdom will only come into being after the full end of God's plan of salvation for mankind when the wicked are burnt up in the Lake of Fire and God creates a new heaven and a new earth.

God's glorified saints will be one with God the Father and Christ as Christ is one with the Father. Altogether they will constitute a single body made up of many parts where each part contributes what is needed for the well being of the body.

