

CHAPTER 8

Who is the True and Loving God Who Saves?

THE TRUE GOD OF LOVE, CARNIVORISM & PARADISE LOST

When people are trained to recognize counterfeit money, they don't study the counterfeit bills, they study the genuine bills to help them recognize the counterfeit. We've already shared a lot of truth that God has revealed to us about Himself that has helped us to come to know Him personally. We believe as you study and examine these truths you will be able to discern the genuine from the counterfeit. As you diligently examine the life of Jesus Christ you will discover the reality of Who the true and living God is revealed in a human vessel. Jesus declared that, ⁹***“he that hath seen Me has seen the Father ...”*** (John 14:9) and ⁶***“Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me”*** (John 14:6 KJV). Jesus sacrificially came to reveal God to us in a tangible way (John 1:18) and as God the Son He is the only true way to peace and reconciliation with God. Those who are truly *“born again”* of His Spirit and follow Him will be conformed to His image and reflect His love and purity of heart and character (Romans 8:29; I John 3:3). The fruit of God's Spirit working in a true Believer's life produces genuine love, joy, peace, longsuffering (*great patience*), gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness (*kind, humble, teachable spirit*), temperance (*self control*) (Galatians 5:22-23). *“What is the fruit of your life, your religion or what you believe?”* Yes, you may exhibit some of these noble qualities because you are created in the image of God. Also, you may have had a good religious upbringing or you may have been brought up by good parents or others who have taught and encouraged you to walk in these godly attributes and attitudes. However, we also all have sinful attitudes and actions that rear their ugly head from time to time because of our fallen or sinful nature. That is why we all need to be saved, forgiven and reconciled to God through Jesus. *“Have you ever lied, lusted for another person, been prideful or selfish or taken something (even small) that is not yours? Then you are guilty of sinning.”*

The Lord has revealed His goodness and His love to us in so many ways because ¹⁶ *“God is Love”* (1 John 4:16). Love is a foundational part of His Being. Genuine love for others and being loved is the most essential component of life. It should be highly valued above all else. This love is what God desires to have with us and for us. He has created us to have a loving relationship with Himself and with one another as family both now and for all eternity. What is this true love or God kind

of love that God desires for us and through us? The Bible reveals the power, beauty and depth of God's love in the following scripture: "*Love suffers long (it is very patient); and is kind; love envies not; love flaunts not itself (is humble) and is not puffed up (in pride), does not behave itself improperly, seeks not its own (is unselfish), is not easily provoked, thinks no evil, rejoices not in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth, bears all things, hopes all things (is hopeful) and endures all things (is forgiving and merciful). (God's) Love never fails ...*" (I Corinthians 13:4-8a MEV). This is the kind of love His Spirit produces in the heart of His children. God demonstrates His love by ¹⁷"giving us all good things to enjoy" (I Timothy 6:17).



In fact, in James chapter 1 verse 17 it reveals that; ¹⁷"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning" (James 1:17 KJV). Please realize that every good blessing that has come into you and your family's life is from His hand whether you realize it or not. Why? His Word reveals that He is kind even to the unthankful and unbelieving (Luke 6:35). The greatest gift of love that God has given to us is the gift of forgiveness and eternal life through the sacrifice of His only Son (John 3:16). Jesus said: "*Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends*" (John 15:13 KJVER). Jesus demonstrated this unfathomable depth of love for us in dying an excruciatingly torturous death for us on a cruel Roman cross. He tasted death that we might receive the priceless gift of eternal life.

If this loving God were the only spiritual influence over planet earth today, then the world would still be a paradise as it was in the Garden of Eden as God originally created it to be. Sadly, at the beginning man chose to rebel against God and yield to Satan's influence. Thus, opening the door for the satanic curse of death, disease, carnivorousness and evil to infiltrate God's perfect creation (Genesis chapter 1 to 3). Yes, carnivorousness was also part of the consequences of man's sin in the Garden. All animals were originally created as plant eaters (Genesis 1:30). There was no hurting or killing in God's original paradise. After the fall of man, the curse of carnivorousness infected the animal kingdom and shortly thereafter the killing and carnage began. Paradise created became paradise lost due to Adam and Eve's failure to trust the loving God Who created them, but instead choosing to listen to the deceptive lies of the evil one (Genesis Chapter 3). Therefore, we cannot blame God who created this world to be a paradise of His love; for man's rebellion that opened the door to satanic evil and corruption. As mentioned above the consequences of this satanic curse has infected the world with disease, death, war, terrorism, killing and all manner of evil. *It is not God's fault, it is ours.* The great news is that Jesus after His return will restore

this paradise that was lost and you can be a part of it (Isaiah 11:1-9). We'll be discussing *paradise restored* and how the lion and the lamb will graze together with no more killing a little later. Also, we can choose to be a part of the solution now by turning back to God and receiving the transformative power of His loving salvation through Jesus.

FALSE GOOD WORKS RELIGION VS GENUINE SALVATION BY FAITH

Let's take a moment to review some important truth related to finding true peace and reconciliation with God. After the fall of mankind, the cosmic battle of the ages between truth and the agents of deception began to sift or separate humans into two camps. One camp would be those who would ultimately choose to listen and believe in God's love and truth (the Bible) and humbly serve Him in His ways of goodness and righteousness. The second camp would be made up of those who would choose to believe in Satan's twisted version of truth (lies) and follow him in his proud, selfish, and sinful ways including false religion (Mathew 7:13-14). What is so very deceptive for those who choose to follow this path is that Satan deceived Adam and Eve into partaking of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Therefore, as inferred above, humans also have the knowledge of good and since we are created in the image of God Who is good, we have a mixed nature which combines the practice of good and sinful behaviours. This is very deceptive because many often think or believe that because they do good things it compensates for the sinful and evil attitudes and behaviours they also do. That is why all satanically inspired false religions as well as false Christianity teach that we can earn favour or forgiveness for our sinful behaviours through some mixture of good deeds and religious rituals or works. Biblical Christianity based on the teachings of Christ reveals something totally contrary to this *good works* philosophy inherent in false religions. ⁸ ***“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: ⁹Not of works, lest any man should boast. ¹⁰For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them”*** (Ephesians 2:8-10 KJV). This Scripture clearly reveals that salvation is a gift of God's grace via Christ's shed blood, through faith in His sacrifice for us, not as a result of our good works. The stain or stench of our sin and our sinful nature is what separates us from relationship with our loving God and keeps us alienated from Heaven, but *God has provided an all-sufficient solution*. Only the blood of Jesus can bring cleansing and forgiveness of our sin and break the power of the sin nature (I John 1:6-9; 2:1-5). This text also reveals that good works although they cannot save us, they will be the by-product of a genuine conversion or salvation. Jesus' New Testament teachings clearly reveal that God's salvation can only be received by faith and humble repentance? ¹⁴ *“Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus*

came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, ¹⁵ And saying, the time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel” (Mark 1:14-15 KJV). Jesus said; ⁴⁷ “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on Me hath everlasting life” (John 6:47 KJV). Is Jesus’ call to faith alone in this second verse contrary to Jesus’ call to faith and repentance in Mark 1:14-15? No, not if we understand what Jesus means by “believe.” Today, believing can mean mere mental agreement. In Jesus’ day to believe meant to believe to the point where you follow and obey the teachings of the person you believe in. That is why the word “believe” in John 3:36 is translated “obey” in some translations such as the NASV (New American Standard Version). ³⁶ “He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey (believe) the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him” (John 3:36 NASV). The bottom line is that a humble contrite faith is the key that brings about salvation and cleansing from sin. This is best illustrated by the previously mentioned account of the contrite thief who was crucified alongside Jesus (Luke 23:39-43). He humbly acknowledged his sinfulness and put His trust in Jesus to save Him. And Jesus said to him; ⁴³ “Verily, I say to you, Today shall you be with Me in Paradise” (Luke 23:43 KJVER). He was saved by grace through faith and even the faith to believe was a gift from God and not as a result of any works he performed (Ephesians 2:8-9). The only thing that the thief contributed to his conversion was a humble and contrite heart.

WATER BAPTISM & GOOD WORKS NOT PREREQUISITE TO SALVATION

It should be noted that the thief was not baptized and still went to Paradise because baptism or any religious work cannot save you. The contrite thief went to “Paradise” with Jesus; the arrogant and hard-hearted thief did not. “Paradise” or “Abraham’s Bosom” was the spiritual holding area that Jesus revealed in the account of Lazarus and the Rich Man (Luke 16:19-31). It was the one compartment in Sheol (Place of the departed spirits of the dead) where those in right standing with God went after death. The second compartment was the place of torment and suffering where the spirits of the damned went after death often referred to as hell. This account of Lazarus and the Rich Man is not a parable, but a real-life testimony illustrating the reality of the temporary holding areas of the spirits of the departed dead. Jesus never used names or real people like Lazarus and Abraham in His parables. This account is not a parable. The “Paradise” compartment was emptied after Jesus ascended from Sheol after His three days in the heart of the earth following His death upon the Cross (Matthew 12:40). Jesus led these righteous spirit captives from this temporary holding area into Heaven when He rose from the dead (Ephesians 4:8-10). The old covenant blood sacrifices of lambs, bulls and goats could never take away the penalty of man’s sin they served only as a temporary covering (Hebrews 10:1-11). Only Jesus the sinless Lamb of God’s shed blood

could take away the sins of the world (Hebrews 10:12-20; John 1:29; I John 1:7-9). Beloved, we need to understand that we can do very little to help in this salvation process. All we can do is humbly recognize our sinfulness and be willing to turn away from it to a loving God who can change us. Those who believe that baptism is a prerequisite to salvation need to pay heed to the truth revealed in this account. Salvation is by God given faith provided to humble broken people who admit their sinfulness and not by any religious effort including baptism. Baptism cannot forgive sin, only faith in Jesus and His sacrifice for us on the cross can save us from our sin. However, every person who is genuinely converted and “*born again*” of God’s Spirit will want to obey Jesus’ command and be baptized. Again, good works cannot save us, but good works will be the fruit of a true conversion or salvation. It is extremely dangerous spiritually to trust in any religious work whether it is baptism, communion or circumcision to justify us before God. As Paul the apostle warned in his writings to the church at Galatia, if you attempt to be justified by the works of the religious law or commands including baptism you will fall from grace (Galatians 5:1-5). Please take heed, for without grace you cannot be saved.

WHO IS THIS GOD WHO SAVES AND CREATED US?

God is a supernatural, loving, all powerful (Revelation 19:6); all knowing and eternal Being Who has no beginning and no end (Psalm 41:13). As mentioned earlier, God Who is eternal, exists outside the temporal realm of time, space and matter which He created. However, He is able to interact and act in our temporal universe as He pleases. The true and living God is the supernatural causation of the universe and life on planet earth. *The Bible alone clearly reveals this God Who created us.* The Bible reveals a God Who is supernaturally all powerful and unlimited in His intellectual capacity. ⁸“*For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, saith the LORD.*” ⁹“*For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts*” (Isaiah 55:8-9 KJV). The God Who created the natural realm and its laws is not restricted in any way to its natural parameters or limitations. God is a supernatural Being Who operates in a supernatural and eternal dimension beyond our limited natural comprehension. Consequently, we don’t need to be bent out of shape when there are things in the natural order that cannot be explained naturally. For example, the chronology of the Bible reveals that the current created order of life on planet earth is only about 6,000 years old. Some believe that the planet itself may be somewhat older and that God may have used it temporarily as a penal colony for Satan and his fallen angelic allies. However empirical evidence for it being millions of years old is sadly lacking as discussed earlier (See Pg. 3-4 on [Scientific Evidences for God @ crosspower youth.org](http://www.scientificevidencesforGod.org)). One empirical factor that seems to support the possibility of

an older universe is distant starlight. It is estimated that many stars and galaxies are millions of light years away from earth. If that is the case, how can the universe be only thousands of years old if the light from these celestial bodies has been travelling for millions of years? If God were limited to natural laws of the created universe this would be a problem, but He is not. He is a supernatural God Who does things outside natural parameters and the laws of the created order. To have projected these celestial bodies out into space at a greater speed than the speed of light is totally possible within His supernatural power and ability. The Bible reveals that God Himself stretched out the heavens supernaturally by His own power not by any natural cause (Psalm 104:2; Isaiah 40:22, 44:24; Zechariah 12:1). He spread out the vast universe and its galaxies and stars by supernatural means and consequently it does not need a naturalistic explanation. I don't know how He accomplished it, nor do I understand how He raised my Dad up off his death bed or preserved Deb from death after massive blood loss and near suffocation in it; but He did it ... supernaturally! *We do not need to confine explanations of God's accomplishments to our naturalistic explanations because He operates in a realm far above and beyond the natural. That is why He is God.*

THE TRIUNE NATURE OF THE GODHEAD (FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT)

²⁶ “Then God said, **“Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the livestock, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”** ²⁷**So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them”** (Genesis 1:26-27 MEV). [Special Note from this Passage: *God created man and woman in His image. God's image is reflected in the best qualities of both the man and woman and in the noble motherly and fatherly attributes they reflect. All the ugly and bad stuff in men and women is a reflection of Satan's corrupting influence and the fallen sinful nature that infected humanity at the fall (Genesis Chapter 3). Therefore, God's impeccable character is the reflection of the best and most noble qualities of both mothers and fathers. Jesus said he who sees Him has seen the Father (John 14:8-9). Consequently, another way to see the attributes and character of our Heavenly Father is to study the life of Jesus.*]

God is revealed from Genesis to Revelation as being three persons united as One All Powerful Entity we know as God. ⁷ “For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, (who became flesh i.e., Jesus) and the Holy Ghost (Spirit), and these three are one” (1 John 5:7 KJV). Special Note: *All of the modern English translations of the Bible based on the “Critical Text” do not contain this passage from 1 John 5:7 as well as other references to the deity of Jesus. Only the most reliable*

translations which are based on the Masoretic text for the Old Testament and the Textus Receptus for the New Testament contain these important passages. These are the manuscripts used in the source text of the King James Version (KJV, KJVER), and the Modern English Version (MEV) of the Bible. These are the only translations that Deb and I have confidence in for reliability of the source text because they are based on the divinely protected manuscripts that have been fully preserved as Jesus promised (Matthew 24:35). However, because of the matchless scholarship in translation and the unparalleled legacy and impact over the last 400 plus years, we recommend the King James Version (KJV) especially the King James Version Easy Read (Whitaker House). In Genesis 1 God declares “let Us make man in Our image.” The “Us” is identified in 1 John 5:7 as God the Father, the Word (Which is God the Son, John 1:1&14), and the Holy Spirit Who are One. They are one in Divine Essence and in Divine will and purpose. The Lord revealed to us that this “*oneness*” in Divine Essence is comparable to the unique life-giving substance we call water. Water exists in three distinct forms as liquid, solid and vapour (gas) but in all three forms it has the same exact chemical makeup of H²O. In the same way, God exists in three distinct persons as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, but all three Persons are made up of the same divine chemistry we know as G^oD.

JESUS AS “THE WORD (WHO) WAS GOD” NURTURES & SUSTAINS ALL

Jesus Christ is the second Person of the *Godhead* or *Trinity* as some theologians prefer to identify the triune nature of God. The term *Godhead* is scriptural and that is why we will be using it in this work. In the book of Colossians, we see this term used in reference to Jesus along with a warning not to be captivated by the vain philosophy and traditions of men; ⁸ “*Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.*” ⁹ ***For in Him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.*** ¹⁰ *And ye are complete in Him, which is the head of all principality and power”* (Colossians 2:8-10 KJV). In Jesus all the fullness of the Godhead (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) dwelt in a human body. Jesus was not just a good teacher or prophet He is our Creator God or God the Son as revealed in John Chapter 1 ¹ ***“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*** ² ***The same was in the beginning with God.*** ³ ***All things were made by Him; and without Him was not any thing made that was made.*** ⁴ *In Him was life; and the life was the light of men.* (John 1:1-4 KJV), ¹⁰ ***“He was in the world, and the world was made by Him, and the world knew Him not.*** ¹¹ *He came unto His own, and His own received Him not.* ¹² ***But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons (children) of God, even to them that believe on His name:*** ¹³ ***Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of***

God. ¹⁴ **And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth**” (John 1:10-14 KJV). Jesus Christ of Nazareth is clearly revealed in the above passage as being the living Word Who was God the Son, Who was intimately involved in the creation of the world and universe. He was part of the “*Us*” and “*Our*” revealed in Genesis 1:26-27 above when the Godhead was creating man and woman. We don’t fully understand each Person of the Godhead’s role in the creative process, but all three were involved and Jesus as God the Son played a very important part.

CONSUMING SCRIPTURE IS CONSUMING JESUS, NOT THE EUCHARIST

When God spoke the Universe into existence, this Word which was Jesus brought it forth into reality. The word *universe* means a single spoken sentence. Jesus as the Divine Word of God not only created the universe, He is the eternal Word that sustains it and nurtures all life.

¹“*God, who at sundry times and in diverse manners spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets,* ²*Has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, by whom also He made the worlds;* ³*Who being the brightness of His glory, and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high*” (Hebrews 1:1-3 KJVER).

⁴“*But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God*” (Mathew 4:4 KJVER).

It is vitally important that we understand that Jesus is the Word (that was God) that became flesh or a human being to save us and to spiritually feed us. Jesus is the living Word and His words are contained in the written Holy Scriptures (i.e., Jesus is the spoken and written Word Who is God). Therefore, when you consume the Word of God by the study and application of Holy Scripture in the Bible you are consuming Jesus. Man does not live by natural bread alone; he lives eternally by consuming His Spiritual Bread (i.e., the Word of God) as Jesus revealed in Matthew Chapter 4. This is why Jesus said in John chapter 6 that unless we eat His flesh and blood, we cannot have eternal life. No, He was not talking about cannibalism, nor was He talking about the false Roman Catholic teaching of transubstantiation through the Eucharist. In John chapter 6 Jesus clearly explains that it is not His natural flesh He is referring to but His words that bring life. Jesus said, “*It is the Spirit who gives life. The flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are Spirit and are life*” (John 6:6 MEV). It is recorded in this chapter that many of Jesus’ followers forsook following Him due to their misunderstanding of what He

was saying. Then Jesus turned to His 12 disciples and asked if they wanted to leave also? Peter responds with a revelational confirmation of what Jesus was actually endeavouring to teach them when he declared; *“Then Simon Peter answered Him, Lord, to whom shall we go? **You have the words of eternal life**”* (John 6:68). In this critical hour of mass deception and delusion Believers must study and obey (consume), His Word as never before. That we may know His truth and be liberated from the gross darkness and deception enveloping our world (Isaiah 60:1-5). As a former Roman Catholic, I understand how difficult it may be for some to admit that the Roman Church is in error in this area and many others. Beloved we must embrace the truth in order to be liberated. The sober truth is that the vast majority of Catholic Priests and many Protestant ministers as well, are not *“born again”*. Consequently, as Jesus revealed about the majority of religious leaders of his day it is the blind leading the blind and both will ultimately fall into a spiritual ditch (Matthew 15:7-14). We urge those who are in churches that teach any doctrine different than that which Jesus and the apostles taught in scripture to leave and find one that does. Jesus warned about the false *Christian Church* that would exist in this final hour (Revelation 17 &18) and this is His charge: *“Come out of her, my people, that you be not partakers of her sins, and that you receive not of her plagues”* (Revelation 18:4 KJVER). This mystical ecclesiastical entity referred to as *Mystery Babylon* (Revelation 17:1-6) represents the ecumenical movement and the coming one world religion headed by the Roman Catholic church (see: *A Woman Rides the Beast* by Dave Hunt or *The Two Babylons* by Alexander Hislop: Revelation 17:18).

JESUS, GOD THE SON REVEALS THE GODHEAD

¹⁸ *“No man hath seen God at any time, the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, He hath declared (revealed) Him”* (John 1:18 KJV).

In the verse above, another important truth is revealed to us about Jesus and the Godhead; that is, that no one has seen God or the Godhead. In other words, no one has seen all three Persons of the Godhead, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, *but God the Son has revealed them to us*. This truth is reaffirmed in John chapter 6. ⁴⁶ *“Not that any man hath seen the Father, save He which is of God, He hath seen the Father”* (John 6:46 KJV). Jesus declares that no man except Him (God the Son) has seen God the Father. From these two passages we can begin to discern a very important truth regarding God’s manifestation to mankind. That is, that wherever man has encountered a visible manifestation of God throughout history it has in all likelihood been Jesus in His preincarnate or prehuman state. This explains two other very powerful statements regarding Jesus in John’s gospel; ⁵⁴ *“Jesus answered, If I honour myself, My honour is nothing: it is My Father that honours Me; of whom you say,*

that He is your God: ⁵⁵ Yet you have not known Him; but I know Him: and if I should say, I know Him not, I shall be a liar like to you: but I know Him, and keep His saying. ⁵⁶ Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day: and he saw it, and was glad. ⁵⁷ Then said the Jews to Him, You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham? ⁵⁸ Jesus said to them, Verily, verily, I say to you, Before Abraham was, I AM. ⁵⁹ Then took they up stones to cast at Him: but Jesus hid Himself, and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by” (John 8:54-59 KJVER).

Jesus declared to the Jews that Abraham had seen Him and rejoiced in the encounter. *When did Abraham see Jesus?* If you read Genesis chapter 18 you will see where the LORD God visited Abraham with two angels and ate lunch with him. In Genesis 19 you’ll see how the two angels go on to Sodom and Gomorrah to rescue Abraham’s nephew Lot while the LORD remained talking with Abraham. Jesus in this passage also declares that “*before Abraham was born, “I AM”* using the title of the LORD GOD revealed to Moses by Jesus (God the Son) at the burning bush in Exodus 3:13-15. That is why the Jews took up stones to stone Him because He was declaring He was God the great “*I AM.*” It is Jesus the Messiah in His preincarnate (prehuman) state as God the Son who visited Abraham and who appeared to Moses declaring Himself to be the great “*I AM.*”

Please note how satanic powers have belittled and profaned this holy and sovereign name of God, *I AM* through modern commercials and advertisements and T-Shirts. Sadly, depraved, unwitting humans are willing accomplices to this satanic agenda to blaspheme and usurp God’s authority and name. Almighty God is the only one Who is all powerful and eternal with no beginning and no end. Who in all ages is the great “*I AM,*” the eternally existent Author of the temporal and eternal realms and all they contain? Humans on the other hand ... not so much.

³⁷ “*But though He (Jesus) had done so many miracles before them, yet they believed not on Him: ³⁸ That the saying of Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spoke, Lord, who has believed our report? and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? ³⁹ Therefore they could not believe, because that Isaiah said again, ⁴⁰ He has blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart; that they should not see with their eyes, nor understand with their heart, and be converted, and I should heal them. ⁴¹ These things said Isaiah, when he saw His glory, and spoke of Him” (John 12:37-41 KJVER).*

In this passage in John chapter 12 it reveals that somehow Isaiah “*saw His (Jesus’) glory and spoke of Him.*” *When did Isaiah see Jesus?* If you read Isaiah chapter 6 verses 1 to 10 you will see where Isaiah saw the glory of the LORD God Almighty in the Temple and it was again Jesus in His preincarnate state. From these passages we see where Jesus in His prehuman state revealed the Godhead as the LORD God to Abraham, Moses and Isaiah. Again, we clearly see that Jesus was far more than a carpenter’s son, far more than a teacher and prophet He was God the Son manifested in human flesh. Paul the apostle confirms this reality in his letter to the Philippian church; ⁵***“Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: ⁶ Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: ⁷ But made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: ⁸ And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. ⁹ Wherefore God also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name: ¹⁰ That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; ¹¹ And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father”*** (Philippians 2:5-11 KJVER). In this passage we see the Son of God Who dwelt in the magnificent glory of Heaven and was worshipped by the angelic hosts (Revelation 5:6-14) undertake the greatest act of humility in the history of the universe. When He as God willingly emptied Himself of His power and majesty and allowed Himself to be clothed in frail humanity as one of His own creation. God left His glory behind, was placed in the womb of the Virgin Mary for nine months and was born in a “*stable*” in Bethlehem. We need to understand that God the Son “*emptied Himself*” of His power and glory as God to inhabit a human body. In His nature or Spirit, He retained His identity as God the Son, but without the power and majesty that He left behind. In other words, He became fully human, but without the sin nature like Adam was before falling into sin. That is why Jesus is referred to as the second Adam, but this “*Adam*” never failed. As the Spotless Lamb of God, He would become the perfect, sinless sacrifice to redeem us from slavery to sin and Satan. Through His blood He would pay our penalty and take away the sin of the world for all who believe in Him (Romans 5:18-21). One question that may arise in some hearts is, “*How did Jesus manifest the miracle power of God on so many occasions if He was emptied of His Deity?*” The answer is that He was indwelt by the power of the Holy Spirit after His baptism in water by John the Baptist. The Holy Spirit descended upon Him like a “*Dove*” to empower Him in His humanity (Mark 1:9-12). It is in a similar manner that every “*born again*” Believer who repents, believes and receives Jesus is indwelt by the Holy Spirit upon conversion. His blood cleanses us of our sin at the moment of salvation, thus making us a fit habitation for the Holy Spirit to indwell us.

Consequently, the same Holy Spirit that empowered Jesus and raised Him from the dead dwells in reborn Believers to enable them to live like Jesus and to manifest supernatural signs (Romans 8:9-14; Mark 16:17-18).

JESUS CHRIST OUR SACRIFICIAL SAVIOUR AND OUR GOD

It is hard for us to comprehend how much God the Son sacrificed to be born a little Jewish baby named Jesus/Yeshua. Yet He humbled Himself even further by submitting Himself to the gross rejection, humiliation and torture of the Roman scourge and crucifixion. Mel Gibson's film *The Passion of the Christ* gives us a glimpse of the agonizing torture that Jesus Christ endured for us on the road to Calvary. He was the sacrificial "*Lamb of God*" Who bore the penalty upon Himself for our sin. He, Who never sinned became the bearer of our sin in order that we may be forgiven and liberated by the grace He purchased by His own life's blood (Romans 5:8-9, 2 Corinthians 5:21). *This is why Jesus is the only Divine Being that people who have near death experiences encounter in the life beyond this life. Only Jesus suffered and died for our sin to save us and only Jesus is truly God the Son and the manifestation of the Godhead to mankind.* This is why Jesus as God in human flesh was established as the centre piece of all human history. Everything before His birth is BC and everything after His birth is AD (Despite efforts of ungodly secularists of this wicked generation's attempt to change it to BCE and CE to avoid acknowledging Jesus' Pre-eminence over creation and the history of the World). This is why all over the world the only divine name that is used as a curse word is *Jesus Christ*. Never do you hear the name of Allah, Shiva, Krishna or Buddha used as a curse word. That is because the third commandment is; ⁷ "*Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain*" (Exodus 20:7a KJV). *Jesus* or *Yeshua* is the New Covenant revelational name that the Father gave Jesus and it means *YAHWEH (YHWH) is salvation*. It incorporates the old covenant name of *YAHWEH* which is translated *LORD* in our English Bibles combined with the new covenant revelation of Jesus as Saviour. Therefore, Jesus' name is essentially declaring *I AM salvation*. As we read above in Philippians 2:9-11 it is the name God the Father has established above all names. Consequently, satanic powers seek to drive people to curse the name *Jesus Christ* causing people to break the third commandment and be guilty of blasphemy. Satan and his hordes know that this precious name is the only name that people can call upon to be saved (Romans 10:9-10, 13). Peter the apostle declared this truth to the religious leaders of the Jews as recorded in Acts chapter 4, ¹⁰ "*Be it known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by Him does this man stand here before you whole.* ¹¹ *This is the stone which was set at nothing of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.* ¹² ***Neither is there***

salvation in any other: for there is no other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved” (Acts 4:10-12 KJVER). We urge you not to be like *doubting Thomas* who would not believe the testimony of his fellow disciples who had seen Jesus risen from the dead (John 20:24-31). Only when Jesus appeared to the disciples with Thomas present did he declare to Him,²⁸ *“My Lord and My God”* (John 20:28). After Thomas publicly proclaimed Jesus’ deity before his brethren Jesus said to him:²⁹ *“blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed”* (John 20:29).