The
General
AssemblyChurch
of the
First Born

To the general assembly and the church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect. Heb 12:23 NKJV

Rev. Charles E. Darnell, PhD

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Scripture quotations

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The Publication Manual presents explicit style requirements but acknowledges that alternatives are sometimes necessary; authors should balance the rules of the Publication Manual with good judgment. Preface: p. xx.

The General Assembly and the Church of the First Born

It may seem like a funny place to start, but please take a moment and view the cover of this work. There are two pictures which represent two different aspects of life. On the left, the picture represents the General Assembly, it is an earthly gathering of individuals and the individuals are represented by the four trees. Some will look at that picture and wonder where the four trees are. Really, they are there. They are in order, one behind the other, from the shortest in the front to the tallest in the rear. I could probably say that their height is a factor of age, therefore, from the youngest in front to the oldest in the rear. I could also say that the color difference between the trees represents the races of mankind, for we are of different skin color. Finally, I could say that the four different types of trees represent the various religious denominations that mankind accepts as their belief and where they attend as their church.

On the other side of the cover, there is one beautiful waterfall. I could say that this single waterfall represents the Heavenly church. There is only one denomination of faith in Heaven, the Church of the First Born, or in other words, the Church of Yeshua. Doesn't this single waterfall create the number one? Isn't there only one person in that picture? We could say that the one person is everything and everybody, from Christ to each of us who believe in Him as our Lord and Savior. Let us all remember that it was Christ who took our sins, and it was at that moment on the Cross that He replaced each of us, and died on our behalf. Yeshua took our place at that moment of death. He healed the breach between mankind and God the Father. Therefore, all who will be in Heaven are members of the Family of God and coheirs, as sons and daughters, with Christ within that family.

I have stated my thoughts on the scripture passage of Hebrews 12:23. ²³ to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, Heb 12:23 (NKJV). I believe that there are two different groups that are being spoken about in this verse. One is a present day earthly church with many divisions among the various denominations, therefore, a general assembly. Even so, there are many who have placed their faith in Christ who are living today and awaiting the day of the Rapture to be with the Lord. Now, please allow me to ask you a very serious question. How many different denominations do you believe will be represented in Heaven? Do you really believe there will be Baptist, Methodist, Christian, Presbyterian, Jehovah Witness, Mormon, Nazarene and others that will make up the heavenly members of Yeshua's Church of the First Born! Read Matthew 7:13-27 to illustrate part of my reasoning for my thought. ¹³ "You can enter God's Kingdom only through the narrow gate. The highway to hell is broad, and its gate is wide for the many who choose that way. ¹⁴ But the gateway to life is very narrow and the road is difficult, and only a few ever find it.

¹⁵ "Beware of false prophets who come disguised as harmless sheep but are really vicious wolves. ¹⁶ You can identify them by their fruit, that is, by the way they act. Can you pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷ A good tree produces good fruit, and a bad tree produces bad fruit. ¹⁸ A good tree can't produce bad fruit, and a bad tree can't produce good fruit. ¹⁹ So every tree that does not produce good fruit is chopped down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ Yes, just as you can identify a tree by its fruit, so you can identify people by their actions.

²¹ "Not everyone who calls out to me, 'Lord! Lord!' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. <u>Only</u> those who actually do the will of my Father in heaven will enter.²² On judgment day many will say to me, 'Lord! Lord! We prophesied in your name and cast out demons in your name and performed many

miracles in your name.'²³ But I will reply, 'I never knew you. Get away from me, you who break God's laws.'

²⁴ "Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. ²⁵ Though the rain comes in torrents and the floodwaters rise and the winds beat against that house, it won't collapse because it is built on bedrock. ²⁶ But anyone who hears my teaching and ignores it is foolish, like a person who builds a house on sand. ²⁷ When the rains and floods come and the winds beat against that house, it will collapse with a mighty crash." (NLT)

To attempt to get mankind to even view, much less to think of, how we might resolve the present day magnitude of the earthly general assembly is almost impossible. To get your denomination's general assembly to meet with another denomination's general assembly and discuss different issues will never happen if Satan has his way! The viewpoints established by mankind's traditions within different denominations and different locations is difficult to change. How did all of this get to the present point?

We must go back past the Reformation period, past the Council of Nicaea in 325, past the exile of both the house of Judah and the House of Israel. In fact, we have to go back even past the Exodus and the rebellion against God's covenant in the wilderness. We have to go back to the promises that God gave to the patriarchs of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

What were the promises that were given to Abraham? Turn over to Genesis chapter 17 and read verses 1-8.¹ When Abram was ninety-nine years old the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless, ² that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly."³ Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him, ⁴ "Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. ⁵ No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for <u>I have made you the father of a multitude</u> of nations. ⁶ I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you.⁷ And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.⁸ And *I will give to you and to your offspring after you the land of your* sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession, and I will be their God." (ESV) Let us stop for a moment and understand that there were other people that were involved at this moment in the life of Abraham. What about Sarah? Look at verses 15-17. ¹⁵ And God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name.¹⁶ I will bless her, and moreover, I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall become nations; kings of peoples shall come from her." ¹⁷ Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed and said to himself, "Shall a child be born to a man who is a hundred years old? Shall Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a *child?*" (ESV) There is still one other person we have to review, that would be Ishmael. Look at verses 18-21. ¹⁸ And Abraham said to God, "Oh that Ishmael might live before you!" ¹⁹ God said, "No, but Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his offspring after him.²⁰ <u>As for Ishmael, I have heard you</u>; behold, I have blessed him and will make him fruitful and multiply him greatly. He shall father twelve princes, and I will make him into a great nation.²¹ But I will establish my covenant with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this time next year." (ESV) My ESV Bible records that Moses wrote the book of Genesis sometime between 1445 and 1405 B.C. Information from the Ouran illustrates the life of the Prophet, Muhammad, to be c. 570-632 A.D. Even with an outside guess, that is approximately 2,045 years between the writings of the Torah and the Quran. If both Holy Books speak about Abraham and Ishmael, I would have to accept the Torah and the promises, and covenant, that God (Yahweh) established with Abraham as the basis for truth pertaining to whom God gave what! Notice the number of times that either the word nation or nations was used in these verses. Abraham was to be

the father of nations, Sarah was to be the mother of nations, Isaac was to be the continuing father of nations, and Ishmael was to be the progenitor of a nation. Why only one nation for Ishmael? Didn't Abraham ask God in verse 18 to bless Ishmael? Didn't God assure Abraham that He would bless Ishmael, in verse 20, and that Ishmael would have twelve sons?

Look around at the current events happening in the Middle East. Protest after protest has broken out all over the world. College campuses have become the sounding boards for the protestors. But, believe it or not, these kids have no idea what the truth is or even what they are shouting about. For the majority of these kids can't even tell you the names of the river or the sea that they are shouting about. Aside from that, they cannot provide you with any intelligent information from either the Holy Bible, or the Holy Quran, pertaining to the life of the four men: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob or Ishmael. There is one more verse that we need to know about concerning Ishmael. Look at Genesis 21:13. ¹³ And I will make a nation of the son of the slave woman also, because he is your offspring." (ESV) This is the second time that God has promised Abraham that He would bless Ishmael. Let's take one more step backward and look at another passage of scripture in the 12th chapter of Genesis.¹ Now the Lord had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, From your family And from your father's house, To a land that I will show you.² I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing.³ I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." (NKJV) It would seem to me that these protestors have no fear of the Lord God. First things first, God instructed Abram to go to a land that He (God) would lead him (verse 2). Secondly, verse 3 indicates that if these kids curse Abraham or Abraham's land, God would curse these kids who know no better! They may not face a curse today, or even tomorrow, but at some point they will face a curse from Almighty God!

What do we learn from the Bible pertaining to Isaac and the promises that God gave to him? In Chapter 22 of Genesis, we have the story of Abraham and Isaac when Abraham was going to sacrifice his son. We find part of this story in chapter 22.¹⁵ And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven ¹⁶ and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷ I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, ¹⁸ and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice." (ESV) Like his father Abraham, God blessed Isaac, we find this in Genesis 26: 3-5.³ Sojourn in this land, and I will be with you and will bless you, for to you and to your offspring <u>I will give all these lands</u>, and I will establish the oath that I swore to Abraham your father. ⁴ I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and will give to your offspring all these lands. And in your offspring all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, ⁵ because Abraham obeyed my voice and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws." (ESV) We had seen, in Genesis 17:20, that God would bless Ishmael with twelve sons. In Genesis 25:13-16, we learn the names of these twelve sons.¹³ These are the names of the sons of Ishmael, named in the order of their birth: Nebaioth, the firstborn of Ishmael; and Kedar, Adbeel, Mibsam, ¹⁴ Mishma, Dumah, Massa, ¹⁵ Hadad, Tema, Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah.¹⁶ These are the sons of Ishmael and these are their names, by their villages and by their encampments, twelve princes according to their tribes. (ESV) The question remains, what happened to the multitude of offspring that Abraham was to have through his other son Isaac. Recall that God's promised blessing was to be through Abraham's son, Isaac. Isaac had two sons, Esau and Jacob. Still, we haven't seen a great increase in children through Abraham or Isaac. Now, we flip a page and learn that of these two sons of Isaac, Esau and Jacob, we find the story of Esau selling his birthright to his brother Jacob. Genesis 25:29-33, ²⁹ Once when Jacob was cooking stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was exhausted. ³⁰ And Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stew, for I am exhausted!" (Therefore his name was called Edom.) ³¹ Jacob said, "Sell me your

birthright now." ³² Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" ³³ Jacob said, "Swear to me now." So he swore to him and sold his birthright to Jacob. (ESV)

After Jacob tricked his father, Isaac, to give him his brother's blessing, he was told to go to his uncle's house and seek a wife from his kin. On the journey, Jacob slept and had a dream. The dream is revealed in Genesis 28:13-15. ¹³ And behold, the Lord stood above it and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring. ¹⁴ Your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the north and to the south, and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed. ¹⁵ Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land. For I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." (ESV) Finally, we see that Jacob's, name was changed to Israel and he had twelve sons. The list of names and the appropriate mother is given in Genesis 35:22-26. ²² While Israel lived in that land, Reuben went and lay with Bilhah his father's concubine. And Israel heard of it.

Now the sons of Jacob were twelve. ²³ The sons of Leah: Reuben (Jacob's firstborn), Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun. ²⁴ The sons of Rachel: Joseph and Benjamin. ²⁵ The sons of Bilhah, Rachel's servant: Dan and Naphtali. ²⁶ The sons of Zilpah, Leah's servant: Gad and Asher. These were the sons of Jacob who were born to him in Paddan-aram. (ESV)

Let's do a quick review. Both sons of Abraham, Ishmael and Isaac, were to have numerous offspring. We found that Ishmael had twelve sons, and one generation later Jacob (Israel) had twelve sons. That would indicate that Ishmael was the uncle to the sons of Israel. There is one more item we need to understand. God did as He promised to Abraham. Both, Ishmael and Israel were blessed and both started out with the same number of sons, both sides also had one daughter. God was fair in His decision to start the generations with an equal number of sons. Another portion of the blessing upon Ishmael was that the nations that would make up the Arab (Islamic) nation had a large portion of the earth's oil. Yet, today, we see all this violence in the Middle East and wonder? Are the children of men so evil that they don't see the kinship relationship between family members and the hatred among these two groups of people?

What about the protesting by college students in many countries around the world? Some of the parents of these kids are surely Christians, be they in Europe or in North America. Did these parents forget to teach their children about the Word of God and about God's Christ? Surely, we are truthfully seeing the results of the general assembly's different traditions, along with the way they are now impacting our world as a whole.

Even so, we have another word search that we must make from Biblical text. The observation word we need to study is the word nation(s). Now, to my knowledge none of the mentioned sons of Ishmael and Israel have a nation named after their name, except one: that would be Israel itself. Now here is my next question. Since there are no nations named for any of the twenty four sons (both Ishmael and Israel), how is it that today these protesters claim that Israel has Zionistic colonies around the globe? I don't believe or find any record that Israel ever had an offshoot nation to come from Israel as the motherland. But, that leads to some awful embarrassing questions. We are still finding answers in the book of Genesis, and there are two locations where we see an adoption or a blessing enacted. The first of these is the adoption when Israel adopted and blessed the two sons of Joseph, Manasseh and Ephraim. This first blessing/adoption is found in Genesis 48:8-22. ⁸ When Israel saw Joseph's sons, he said, "Who are these?" ⁹ Joseph said to his father, "They are my sons, whom God has given me here." And he said, "Bring them to me, please, that I may bless them." ¹⁰ Now the eyes of Israel were dim with age, so that he could not see. So Joseph brought them near him, and he kissed them and embraced them. ¹¹ And Israel said to Joseph, "I never expected to see your face; and behold, God has let me see your offspring also." ¹² Then Joseph removed them from his knees, and he bowed himself with his face

to the earth. ¹³ And Joseph took them both, Ephraim in his right hand toward Israel's left hand, and Manasseh in his left hand toward Israel's right hand, and brought them near him. ¹⁴ And Israel stretched out his right hand and laid it on the head of Ephraim, who was the younger, and his left hand on the head of Manasseh, crossing his hands (for Manasseh was the firstborn). ¹⁵ And he blessed Joseph and said, "The God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked, the God who has been my shepherd all my life long to this day, ¹⁶ the angel who has redeemed me from all evil, bless the boys; and <u>in them let my name be carried on, and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac</u>; and let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth."

¹⁷ When Joseph saw that his father laid his right hand on the head of Ephraim, it displeased him, and he took his father's hand to move it from Ephraim's head to Manasseh's head.¹⁸ And Joseph said to his father, "Not this way, my father; since this one is the firstborn, put your right hand on his head." ¹⁹ But his father refused and said, "I know, my son, I know. <u>He also shall become a people</u>, and he also shall be great. Nevertheless, his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his offspring shall become a multitude of nations."²⁰ So he blessed them that day, saying, "By you Israel will pronounce blessings, saying, 'God make you as Ephraim and as Manasseh.' " Thus he put Ephraim before Manasseh.²¹ Then Israel said to Joseph, "Behold, I am about to die, but God will be with you and will bring you again to the land of your fathers.²² Moreover, I have given to you rather than to your brothers one mountain slope that I took from the hand of the Amorites with my sword and with my bow." (ESV) The other blessing statement is made in Genesis, chapter 49 and consists of the entire chapter. ¹ And Jacob (meaning Israel) called his sons and said, "Gather together, that I may tell you what shall befall you in the last days: ² "Gather together and hear, you sons of Jacob, And listen to Israel your father. (See, even the Bible made this a clear statement.)³ "Reuben, you are my firstborn, My might and the beginning of my strength, The excellency of dignity and the excellency of power.⁴ Unstable as water, you shall not excel, Because you went up to your father's bed; Then you defiled it—He went up to my couch.⁵ "Simeon and Levi are brothers; Instruments of cruelty are in their dwelling place.⁶ Let not my soul enter their council; Let not my honor be united to their assembly; For in their anger they slew a man, And in their self-will they hamstrung an ox.⁷ Cursed be their anger, for it is fierce; And their wrath, for it is cruel! I will divide them in Jacob And scatter them in Israel.⁸ "Judah, you are he whom your brothers shall praise; Your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; Your father's children shall bow down before you. ⁹ Judah is a lion's whelp; From the prey, my son, you have gone up. He bows down, he lies down as a lion; And as a lion, who shall rouse him? ¹⁰ The scepter shall not depart from Judah, Nor a lawgiver from between his feet, Until Shiloh comes; (meaning the second coming of Christ) And to Him shall be the obedience of the

people. ¹¹ Binding his donkey to the vine, And his donkey's colt to the choice vine, He washed his garments in wine, And his clothes in the blood of grapes. ¹² His eyes are darker than wine, And his teeth whiter than milk. ¹³ "Zebulun shall dwell by the haven of the sea; He shall become a haven for ships, And his border shall adjoin Sidon. ¹⁴ "Issachar is a strong donkey, Lying down between two burdens; ¹⁵ He saw that rest was good, And that the land was pleasant; He bowed his shoulder to bear a burden, And became a band of slaves. ¹⁶ "Dan shall judge his people As one of the tribes of Israel. ¹⁷ Dan shall be a serpent by the way, A viper by the path, That bites the horse's heels So that its rider shall fall backward. ¹⁸ I have waited for your salvation, O Lord! ¹⁹ "Gad, a troop shall tramp upon him, But he shall triumph at last. ²⁰ "Bread from Asher shall be rich, And he shall yield royal dainties. ²¹ "Naphtali is a deer let loose; He uses beautiful words. ²² "Joseph is a fruitful bough, A fruitful bough by a well; His branches run over the wall. ²³ The archers have bitterly grieved him, Shot at him and hated him. ²⁴ But his bow remained in strength, And the arms of his hands were made strong By the hands of the Mighty God of Jacob (**From there is the Shepherd, the Stone of Israel**), ²⁵ By the God of your father

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who will help you, And by the Almighty who will bless you With blessings of heaven above, Blessings of the deep that lies beneath, Blessings of the breasts and of the womb. ²⁶ The blessings of your father Have excelled the blessings of my ancestors, Up to the utmost bound of the everlasting hills. They shall be on the head of Joseph, And on the crown of the head of him who was separate from his brothers. ²⁷ "Benjamin is a ravenous wolf; In the morning he shall devour the prey, And at night he shall divide the spoil." ²⁸ All these are the twelve tribes of Israel, and this is what their father spoke to them. And he blessed them; he blessed each one according to his own blessing. ²⁹ Then he charged them and said to them: "I am to be gathered to my people; bury me with my fathers in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite, ³⁰ in the cave that is in the field of Machpelah, which is before Mamre in the land of Canaan, which Abraham bought with the field of Ephron the Hittite as a possession for a burial place. ³¹ There they buried Abraham and Sarah his wife, there they buried Isaac and Rebekah his wife, and there I buried Leah. ³² The field and the cave that is there were purchased from the sons of Heth." ³³ And when Jacob had finished commanding his sons, he drew his feet up into the bed and breathed his last, and was gathered to his people. (NKJV)

There is so much, so very much, that needs to be understood from these two passages of Scripture. The unfortunate thing is these two passages are not taught in mankind's churches. Ever since the Council at Nicaea in 325 has Satan had such a victory over God's people. Once again, please think about current world news and the statements being made in the Middle East from the nation of IRAN. What name is it that Iran calls the United States? Doesn't Iran call the United States "The Big Satan"? What name is it that Iran calls Israel? Doesn't Iran call Israel "The Little Satan"? Think for a moment, if Iran thinks that Israel is the little Satan, and the United States is the big Satan, and Iran is attempting to destroy Israel by and through its proxies. What do you think Iran will do toward the big Satan when they believe that they have taken care of the little Satan? I don't think that Iran will make a mad rush to come and kiss the United States under any pretense.

If God made a promise to Abraham that there would be **nations** and **kings** created from his offspring, who are these nations? We know that the nation of Israel never colonized any offspring nations. Israel is unique as the only Hebrew nation on planet Earth. So how is this promise from God to Abraham fulfilled? Let's look at some of the highlighted verses in some of these passages of Scripture. In the first passage where Israel adopts Joseph's sons, notice what he says in verse 16 of chapter 48 of Genesis. in them let my name be carried on, and the name of my fathers Abraham and *Isaac.* If this is Israel speaking, he is saying that the descendants of Ephraim and Manasseh are to be known as Israel. I am not joking with you, look at what it says, let my name be carried on. Isn't that meaning to go forward with? Iran must surely know something that Americans never understood to begin with. They know that the two sons of Joseph are the birthright nations of Israel. Very quickly, I'll confirm this as a fact. Turn to 1 Chronicles 5:1-2, ¹ Now the sons of Reuben the firstborn of Israel—he was indeed the firstborn, but because he defiled his father's bed, his birthright was given to the sons of Joseph, the son of Israel, so that the genealogy is not listed according to the birthright; ² yet Judah prevailed over his brothers, and from him came a ruler, although the birthright was Joseph's. (NKJV) There it is in plain black and white text. The scepter belongs to Judah (the House of Judah, the Jews). Genesis 49:10, The scepter shall not depart from Judah, Nor a lawgiver from between his feet, Until Shiloh comes; And to Him shall be the obedience of the people. The birthright belongs to Joseph's sons. That birthright is the birthright of Israel (Jacob). It is through the House of Israel that the principal birthright of all Israel exists, not just in the small nation of present day Israel. Allow me to explain this further. There are two groups of people that make up the total house of Israel. Recall that after the reign of King Solomon that the land of Israel divided into two kingdoms. There is the ten tribe portion of northern Israel that is the House of Israel

and there is the two tribe portion of southern Israel that makes up the House of Judah. Those of the House of Israel are not Jews, but the House of Judah (the Jews) are Israelis. This is the same as saying all Californians are Americans, but not all Americans are Californians.

Let's continue with this thought. If the birthright belongs to Joseph's sons, what nations do they represent today, this day? Once again, I turn to the Word to find an honest answer. Turn to Genesis 48:19. *He also shall become a people, and he also shall be great.* Nevertheless, his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his offspring shall become a multitude of nations. In this verse, we find Manasseh, the older of the two sons of Joseph, becoming a people and a great nation. The second portion of this verse pertains to Ephraim, the younger son of Joseph, becoming a multitude of nations. We clearly see that we have two nations that are represented as brothers. Please tell me, from history, what two nations are called brothers? Since I'm now approaching the age of eighty, I was taught a different form of world history. Today, it seems there is very little world history that is taught, and no one seems to know what I'm talking about. It used to be that there were two nations that were called brother John and brother Jonathan. Brother John (John Bull) was Great Britain and brother Jonathan (Yankees) was the United States (See Wikipedia article Brother Jonathan). In our Biblical reference, Ephraim represents Great Britain, a multitude of nations under the British Empire, and Manasseh represents the United States, a single nation who becomes GREAT. Remember what else is stated in verse 16, that they shall be called **Israel!** When I first understood the meaning of this one verse, I thought how could this be, that the younger brother became the older nation and the older brother became the younger nation. Then it hit me that Manasseh was living among the peoples of Ephraim until Manasseh decided to establish a colony in New England, in the name of religious freedom. Our forefathers took it upon themselves to write a Constitution that was based on Biblical principals and allowed religious freedom. Manasseh went so far as to fight against his brother Ephraim, and we call it the American Revolutionary War.

If you understand and accept the Bible as the Word of God, then surely you can see from the words of the Bible that God was faithful to the promise given to Abraham, and that there are nations and kings that have descended from Abraham's offspring. At the same time, you should also see the underlying hatred of the world toward the United States and Great Britain along with the nation of Israel. It is all three nations, and/or, group of nations that make up modern day Israel, not just the small nation in the Middle East that is called Israel.

Because of the Arab Empire of the sixth century, we can find great knowledge of math, science and other fields of study throughout the various nations that made up the Arab Empire. Along with these nations, we understand that this empire is referred in many places as a singular entity and called a nation, therefore fulfilling the promise God made to Abraham (Ibrahim in the Quran) concerning Ishmael, making him a great nation. I have to also make reference to the hadith. The hadith is the second most important book to all Islam. <u>The following is quoted from Wikipedia</u>:

Thus for many, the "great bulk" of the rules of Sharia are derived from hadith, rather than the

Quran.[11][Note 1] Among scholars of Sunni Islam the term hadith may include not only the words, advice, practices, etc. of Muhammad, but also those of his companions.[13][14] In Shia Islam, hadith are the embodiment of the sunnah, the words and actions of Muhammad and his family, the Ahl al-Bayt (The Twelve Imams and Muhammad's daughter, Fatimah).[15] A manuscript of Ibn Hanbal's Islamic legal writings (Sharia), produced October 879.

<u>Unlike the Quran, not all Muslims believe that hadith accounts (or at least not all hadith accounts) are divine revelation.</u> Different collections of hadith would come to differentiate the different branches of the Islamic faith.[16] <u>Some Muslims believe that</u>

Islamic guidance should be based on the Quran only, thus rejecting the authority of hadith; some further claim that most hadiths are fabrications (pseudepigrapha) created in the 8th and 9th centuries AD, and which are falsely attributed to Muhammad.[17][18] Historically, some sects of the Kharijites also rejected the hadiths, while Mu'tazilites rejected the hadiths as the basis for Islamic law, while at the same time accepting the Sunnah and Ijma.[19][20]

Because some hadith contain questionable and even contradictory statements, the authentication of hadith became a major field of study in Islam.[21] In its classic form, a hadith consists of two parts—the chain of narrators who have transmitted the report (the isnad), and the main text of the report (the matn).[22][23][24][25][26] Individual hadith are classified by Muslim clerics and jurists into categories such as sahih ("authentic"), hasan ("good"), or da'if ("weak").[27] However, different groups and different scholars may classify a hadith differently.

What I personally have learned from the Quran and the hadith is that under the law, in most nations, if testimony is given that someone says they heard from someone else, and that person is not available to testify on their own accord, then the statement is hearsay and not permitted to be used in any court of law. While there are those nations that are Islamic and strictly follow the Quran, there are other nations that hold a stronger belief in the hadith. There seems to be a reason for this belief. I have found it to be that those who follow the hadith do so because of the rebellious, jihad warfare presentations in the hadith. These do not have to be the thoughts and words of Muhammad, instead a companion of Muhammad who recorded the so-called thought in the hadith. I also find it most amazing that both the Torah and the Gospel are mentioned in the Quran:

{3:65} Ye *People of the Book*! (For this passage the search phase has got to include both Jews and Christians.) Why dispute ye about Abraham, when the <u>Torah</u> and the <u>Gospel</u> were not revealed until after him? Have ye no understanding? {3:66} Ah! Ye are those who fell to disputing (even) in matters of which ye had some knowledge! (*It is interesting to read the commentary at this point, the reference is to the various sects among Jews and Christians and the difference in their own religions.*) But why dispute ye in matters of which ye have no knowledge? (*The specific reference is toward Abraham and* the commentary says that neither had a right, at this point, because Abraham was not alive when *their particular system evolved, thus they did not have knowledge.*) It is Allah who knows, and ye who know not! (Extracted from my book, *People of the Book, Are You Listening?* Available at my website: www.vqpub.org.

We are still gathering information pertaining to the nations and the relationship of nations toward Abraham. We have seen how the name Israel should now also have a meaning for the remnant of the British Empire and the United States. Furthermore, we have brought in information pertaining to Ishmael and the followers of Muhammad, viewed as a single nation.

Let's take this a step further. Are you aware that there are three judgments that are clearly defined in Biblical text. The first judgment that we should all be aware of is the Bema Judgment for all believers at the first resurrection. This judgment shall be conducted after the Rapture of the saints, both those who are asleep in Jesus, and those who are alive at that moment. The second judgment is the judgment of the nations on the earth after Jesus returns to set up His kingdom on earth for the millennial period of one thousand years. The third judgment is after the thousand year reign of Christ, and will be conducted in Heaven before God at the Great White Throne. This is the second resurrection judgment

and will be conducted for all nonbelievers, and also for those who accepted Christ as their Savior during the tribulation or the thousand years of Christ's reign on earth.

Let's look a little deeper to the second judgment. The actions Christ takes at that judgment are recorded in Matthew 25:31-46.³¹ "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. ³³ And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left.³⁴ Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; ³⁶ I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.'³⁷ Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink?³⁸ When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? ³⁹ Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' ⁴⁰ And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.' 41 Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: 42 for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' ⁴⁴ Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?'⁴⁵ Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.⁴⁶ And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life." (NKJV)

Present day facts indicate that there are many people throughout the entire earth who are coming to Christ as their Savior and Lord. This appears to be in two different means. First, there are revival services going on in many parts of the world, and many have accepted Christ. But, we must also understand that revival is personal. It is strictly on an act of faith that these people are coming to Christ. However, there is another revival that is not taking place. Step up from the personal level and take a look at the institutional level. Do you see any denomination that is having a denominational revival? Are there general assemblies that are joining together with other denominations in a reforming level to change the church body into a truly Church of the First Born (Heavenly) level? Do all of the denominations who are experiencing revival, on the personal level, even consider that there needs to be a repentant reformation at the church body level? If the church body, as the bride of Christ, believes that there is really no need for all believers to begin to think on a unified, repentant body as the Church of the First Born, someone should explain the parable of the 10 virgins to me.

There is also the second means that people are hearing about Christ, and turning their life around to believe in Christ as Lord and Savior. The ministry of *Faith Comes By Hearing*, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, has a goal of reaching every indigenous tribe who only interacts with each other in a communal manner. They do not know how to read their own language and must be able **to hear** the Word, and not see the word! *Faith Comes By Hearing* says that there are over 7,000 languages in the world, and that they have been working with translation companies so that they will have all languages capable of hearing the Gospel by 2033. They have about 2,000 languages to go and are working to reach the entire world by the 2033 date. These tribal communities are actually closer to the true Church of the First Born than most churches of the General Assembly. The reason is they are hearing the Gospel in their mother tongue language as stated in the Bible. They are not hearing from three or four different denominations giving them their traditional teachings. The denominational viewpoint has almost become political as they attempt to see who can get the most believers signed up for their church and not some other denomination. Read once again the verses from Matthew 7:13-14. ¹³ "*Enter*

by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to <u>destruction</u>, and there are many who go in by it. ¹⁴ Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it. (NKJV) Now turn to Revelation 9:11. ¹¹ They have as king over them the angel of the bottomless pit. His name in Hebrew is Abaddon, and in Greek he is called Apollyon. (Abaddon means destruction, Apollyon means destroyer) (ESV) Isn't Christ trying to give mankind a warning in the Matthew 7 verse? Doesn't the verse tell us that the broad way leads to destruction? Doesn't the verse in Revelation tell us that the king over the bottomless pit is destruction? Isn't destruction still the same word in both verses and doesn't it speak of Satan as destruction? Then why would anyone want to be traveling down the broad way to destruction? I, personally, don't intend to march myself to hell (the bottomless pit). I can only pray that you understand that as a watchman I'm only trying to forewarn you of what is ahead, and get you to accept that it is strictly your choice as to where you will spend eternity. You can spend eternity with God and Christ in the Kingdom of God, or you can spend eternity with Satan and all the demons and evil spirits in the Kingdom of Satan undergoing everlasting punishment. It really is your choice! Please choose wisely!

Let's ask some more questions about the Church of the First Born. Here's a big one, which day do you think will be a day of rest? Yes, I understand that we will worship both God and Christ everyday, but which day is the day of rest? I really do not think it will be Sunday! Yeshua honored God, the Father according to the fourth Commandment. That Commandment was given by the Father and was recorded on the stone tablets presented to Moses to set before the people. It specifically states in Exodus 20:8-11, 8 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. 9 Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: 10 But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: ¹¹ For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it. (KJV) Allow me to take this one step further. Do you know, or do you recall, that God even went further and set a test for mankind and gave mankind His sign? I'll give you the verse reference in just a moment, but, do you understand that this sign from God is the counter to the mark of the beast in Revelation? Turn 11 chapters over from Exodus 20 to Exodus 31:12-17. ¹² And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ¹³ "Speak also to the children of Israel, saying: 'Surely My Sabbaths you shall keep, for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am the Lord who sanctifies you. ¹⁴ You shall keep the Sabbath, therefore, for it is holy to you. Everyone who profanes it shall surely be put to death; for whoever does any work on it, that person shall be cut off from among his people. ¹⁵ Work shall be done for six days, but the seventh is the Sabbath of rest, holy to the Lord. Whoever does any work on the Sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death. ¹⁶ Therefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations as a perpetual covenant. ¹⁷ It is a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever; for in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed.' " (NKJV) I'll complete this with these words, God's sign will allow you to enter the Kingdom of Heaven during the tribulation, however, with gaining eternal life you may have to give up your earthly life. Of course, the opposite can also be said. You can go through the tribulation and accept the mark of the beast and live on earth, but because of another verse from Revelation, you give up your eternal life in the Kingdom of Heaven. Instead you will spend eternity in the Kingdom of Satan, with its everlasting punishment. Here are those verses from Revelation 14:9-13. 9 And another angel, a third, followed them, saving with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and its image and receives a mark on his forehead or on his hand, ¹⁰ he also will drink the wine of God's wrath, poured full strength into the cup of his anger, and he will be tormented with fire and sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. ¹¹ And the smoke

of their torment goes up forever and ever, and they have no rest, day or night, these worshipers of the beast and its image, and whoever receives the mark of its name."

¹² Here is a call for the endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus. ¹³ And I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." "Blessed indeed," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!" (ESV)

I hear you! You claim to be a New Testament believer and the stuff from the Old Testament no longer applies. That is really funny to me. You claim to be enlightened by being a New Testament believer, and that you can do whatever you desire to do, because the Ten Commandments and the teachings of the Old Testament have been exchanged for the New Testament covenant that the church has replaced Israel and the Jews. You really have been misled, and lied to, in believing that deception. Go and read some of the parables of the New Testament. Read Matthew 19:16-22. ¹⁶ And behold, a man came up to him, saying, "Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?" ¹⁷ And he said to him, "Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only one who is good. If you would enter life, keep the commandments." 18 He said to him, "Which ones?" And Jesus said, "You shall not murder, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, ¹⁹ Honor your father and mother, and, You shall love your neighbor as yourself." 20 The young man said to him, "All these I have kept. What do I still lack?" ²¹ Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." ²² When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. (ESV) Yeshua taught that the Commandments were to be upheld as an everlasting instruction from Yahweh (the Father). Yeshua did not do away with the Commandments, in fact He added one in John 13:34-35. ³⁴ A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. ³⁵ By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." (NKJV) Stop for a moment and think about what Yeshua said in these two verses. If the body of the church (the General Assembly) would take it upon themselves to love one another, as toward a denomination, and the denominations worked together to rid all the counterfeit traditions of man from the Word of God, the body of the church would be more in-line with the concept of a unified Church of the First Born. It would be a blessing on that day and the church would truly be the bride of Christ, and prepared for the Marriage Feast!

Consider the other portion of what God instructed from the Old Testament. He established seven feast days throughout a year, and He intended that these feast would be kept by all who believed in His Son, Yeshua, and followed His Son's teachings. I understand that you don't believe that either, that there is nothing in the New Testament that teaches you to follow any of God's feast days. Well, I hate to tell you this, but if you really read the New Testament, you will find that Christ observed the Feasts His Father established. Now, I admit that I cannot find every feast named in text, however, there are at least 15 reference verses to the Passover, and Unleavened Bread, one reference is given in Matthew 26:17. ¹⁷ Now on the first day of the Feast of the Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying to Him, "Where do You want us to prepare for You to eat the Passover?" (NKJV) In John 10:22, we find Christ attending the Feast of Dedication (also known as Hanukkah beginning on the 25th of Kislev, Nov-Dec time frame). 22 Now it was the Feast of Dedication in Jerusalem, and it was winter.²³ And Jesus walked in the temple, in Solomon's porch.²⁴ Then the Jews surrounded Him and said to Him, "How long do You keep us in doubt? If You are the Christ, tell us plainly." ²⁵ Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father's name, they bear witness of Me. (NKJV) We can also find Yeshua attending the Feast of Tabernacles (Booths). The Feast of Tabernacles begins on the 15th of Tishrei (Sep-Oct time frame and is called Sukkot). The New Testament reference for this is John 7:2. ² Now the Jews' Feast of Tabernacles was at hand. (NKJV) There are good reasons that many believe that Christ was born at the time of this festival. One of the



reasons is that there was no room at the inn. I, personally, believe that Christ was born five days before this festival on Yom Kippur (The Day of Atonement - 10th of Tishrei), because Christ is our atonement from sin, and because God uses His feast days for special events. Another reason is the blowing of trumpets on the 1st of Tishrei. Isn't the blowing of trumpets a call to come together, or for some special reason, i.e. going to war? Wouldn't the birth of the Christ Child be a super special event to God, the Father? The last reference we have in the New Testament is found in John 7:37. ³⁷ On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. ³⁸ Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'" (ESV) This is the last day, after the seven days of staying in booths, of the Feast of Tabernacles as stated in Lev 23:36. ³⁶ For seven days you shall offer an offering made by fire to the Lord. On the eighth day you shall have a holy convocation, and you shall offer an offering made by fire to the Lord. It is a sacred assembly, and you shall do no customary work on it. (NKJV) Be very careful concerning this last entry. There are those denominations who do not honor First Fruits as a springtime feast, and add this eighth day as an extra fall feast in order to have seven feasts in a year's time. Test the spirits as Paul teaches to either accept or deny this order of God's Holy Feast Days. Finally, with regard to God's Feast Days, there is a verse that requires a man to appear before God on three different feast days. This is given in not one, not two, but in three different references: Exodus 23:14, ¹⁴ "Three times you shall keep a feast to Me in the year: (NKJV) Exodus 34:23, ²³ Three times in the year all your men shall appear before the Lord, the Lord God of Israel. (NKJV) Deuteronomy 16:16, ¹⁶ Three times a year all your males shall appear before the Lord your God in the place which He chooses: at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, at the Feast of Weeks, and at the Feast of Tabernacles; and they shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed. (NKJV) This last entry provides those three times a year that every male shall appear before the Lord.

I must also forewarn you of the negative side. There are many verses that tell who will not be able to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Here are a few of those verses. John 3:3, 5, 3 Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."...⁵ Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. Luke 18:17, 17 Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it." Luke 13:22-28, ²² And He went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem.²³ Then one said to Him, "Lord, are there few who are saved?" And He said to them, ²⁴ "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able.²⁵ When once the Master of the house has risen up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open for us,' and He will answer and say to you, 'I do not know you, where you are from,' ²⁶ then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets.' 27 But He will say, 'I tell you I do not know you, where you are from. Depart from Me, all you workers of iniquity.' ²⁸ There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves thrust out. Matthew 7:21-23. ²¹ "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. ²² Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' 23 And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!' Galatians 5:19-21, ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, ²¹ envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. Ephesians 5:5-7, ⁵ For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in

the kingdom of Christ and God. ⁶ Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. ⁷ Therefore do not be partakers with them. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, ⁹ Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, ¹⁰ nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. ¹¹ And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God. Finally, Revelation 21:8, ⁸ But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

There is also a warning that is given to those who would stand in the way of another trying to enter the Kingdom of God. Read the following, Matthew 23:13. ¹³ But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut up the kingdom of heaven against men; for you neither go in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in. Read also, Matthew 5:19-20. ¹⁹ Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ or I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.

Our final selection of material that we need to review to understand, even in some small way, the very nature of the Kingdom of God is how Yeshua's teachings speak of eternity and the impact upon our soul and spirit. Let us begin in the Old Testament with a passage from Daniel 2:44-45. 44 And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.⁴⁵ Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold—the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure." Revelation 5:10, ¹⁰ And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth." John 14:6, ⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. Revelation 21:3-7, ³ And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." ⁵ Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful." 6 And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. ⁷He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. Revelation 1:5-8, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, 6 and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen.⁸ "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End," says the Lord, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty." Matthew 25:31-46, ³¹ "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. ³³ And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. ³⁴ Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger

and you took Me in; ³⁶I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.³⁷ Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? ³⁸ When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? ³⁹ Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' ⁴⁰ And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.' ⁴¹ Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: ⁴² for I was hungry and you gave *Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink;*⁴³ *I was a stranger and you did not take Me in,* naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' ⁴⁴ Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' ⁴⁵ Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.⁴⁶ And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life." 1 Corinthians 15:50-54, 50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. ⁵¹ Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed—⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. ⁵³ For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. ⁵⁴ So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." 1 John 5:13, ¹³ These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.

Let's reexamine a passage of Scripture from the book of Matthew, Matthew 24:4-14. ⁴ And Yeshua answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. ⁵ For many will come in My name saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many. ⁶ And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. ⁷ For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. ⁸ All these are the beginning of sorrows. ⁹ Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. 10 And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. ¹¹ Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. ¹² And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. ¹³ But he who endures to the end shall be saved. ¹⁴ And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.

Over the course of time, I have learned to accept what Yeshua said and meant by this passage. Through this review of the Kingdom of God, there is no indication to me that there will be a second opportunity for mankind to stand before Almighty God at the second resurrection judgment to learn of Yeshua and have an opportunity to accept Yeshua as Lord and Savior. It just doesn't fit into what I read in the Bible. Yes, there is the Old Testament passage pertaining to dry bones being raised up, but that does not fulfill Scripture pertaining to who will and who will not be allowed to enter into the Kingdom of God. People really must understand that Satan is very happy to mislead you into believing false doctrine. Be careful of what you accept as truth. Even the Bible tells us to check and test all things! Look around you. We are now living in an age when technology is advancing at a rate that doubles about every three months. Our world is in a rush to get to wherever, and if it doesn't happen fast enough to suit the players, they move on to something else, and lose faith in whatever was new last week. Please understand who Yeshua is, what His message is and where the Kingdom of God shall be. I will ask one more time, what church do you believe will be the church in Heaven. Do you believe it will be Baptist, Methodist or some other denomination? Don't you think the body of believers in Heaven will follow the guidance of God, the Father for all eternity? Your eternal state of affairs depends on how you answer the questions in this little booklet, and what you accept as right according to the Word of God. Repent now, be baptized and change your ways!

Maranatha

