

Latter Rain

Magazine of the Christian Israelite Church - Summer 1994



**When Will God's Greatest Gift
Return?**

Why "Latter Rain"?

"One shall say I am the Lord's; and another shall call himself by the name of Jacob; and another shall subscribe with his hand unto the Lord, and surname himself by the name of Israel." Isaiah 44:5

Christians (those who say I am the Lord's) believe in Jesus as their saviour and are looking for life after death. They believe it is no longer necessary to keep all the Old Testament laws given by God. The Jews (those who go by the name of Jacob) do not accept Jesus as their saviour. They have only the law and the justification that it brings for a life after death.

Christian Israelites (those who subscribe with their hand unto the Lord and surname themselves by the name of Israel) try to combine the two. Jesus, our example, lived by the Old Testament laws but he tempered them with love. He showed us a new way to live them.

With the help of the latter rain, that is Christ and the Holy Ghost, we can achieve life without death.

"Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the Lord your God; for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month."
Joel 2:23

The moderate early rain came in autumn. It was needed to prepare the ground for ploughing and planting the crops. It is symbolic of the first gift of the Holy Ghost, needed for the preparation and establishment of the early church. The heavier latter rain came in spring to help the crops mature for the harvest. We, like the plants, must grow spiritually before we have the strength to receive our latter rain. This second gift of the God's Spirits will prepare us for maturation in preparation for our harvest at Jesus' return.

This new production "Latter Rain" has evolved from what many readers have come to know as "Notes From Our Church Organ". The "Church Organ" will still exist but its function will be that of an internal newsletter for members and friends. It will come out more often than the quarterly "Latter Rain".

"Latter Rain" is the outreach magazine of the Christian Israelite Church, published quarterly.

Further information: If you desire further information on any of the topics dealt with in this publication please write to The Editor c/- P.O. Box 127, Singleton, NSW, 2330. Australia.

Articles contained in this magazine are not all doctrinal but rather seek to include thoughts and interesting facts which may assist in bringing the reader to a greater understanding of God.

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All quotations are taken from the King James version of the Bible unless otherwise stated.

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From the Inkhorn



We are in a season of the year when thoughts of gifts are paramount in the minds of many people. We have become accustomed to getting and giving gifts at Christmas. To some this is a custom of habit with no specific meaning. To others a remembrance of God's gift of Jesus for the salvation of all mankind. It is a time that has been blatantly commercialised by people for monetary gain with little respect for others. It's a time when the spirit of good-will seems to abound more than any other time of the year. It's a time when spiritual awareness can become subservient to material values.

In this issue our writers have presented new lines of thoughts on the subject of giving and receiving gifts and expanded on some of the gifts available from the Holy Spirit. Emphasis is on the gifts we give our God as well as His gifts to us. Debug challenges our understanding of days. The apostle discussed in this issue is Simon Zealotes. We hope you will read these and that it will give you a new perspective on the gifts which our Heavenly Father wants to give us if only we ask and act as if we want to receive them and the gifts we can give to Him to express our love for Him.

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Instruction: A Special but Unusual Gift.

How many of us have considered being told what we ought to do as being a gift? Chances are not many. Nobody is particularly amenable to restrictions on their life, be they from parents or from friends, no matter how much you love them, while some directives from distant authorities are met with considerable distaste. Yet, the fact is, directives or commands are generally made for our own good and ease of living. When coming from sources in which an intimate relationship is the focus, like parents or friends or spouses, such directions emanate from the intimacy and the love involved in the relationship.

From this premise then, it is possible to understand that the law God presented to the Israelites was, in fact, a gift.

When presented with the concept of being told by God what to do as being a gift, most people would respond by questioning how one could consider several books of instruction as a gift! The answer to this is inextricably involved with understanding the relationship between God and Israel, and considering why God chose Israel to be the object of His love and His covenant.

The love of God to His people Israel is often compared to the love of a parent for a child. Much of the wisdom of prophetic literature vividly describes God Almighty's love for Israel (also 'Joseph' or 'Ephraim and Manasseh'). If one was to ask a parent why they love their child, many would be unable to

answer easily. There is no real reason other than the basic human need for intimacy: a desire to adore and be adored, to receive and to give, to share, to be accepted - in short, to be loved. God offers no reason as to why Israel specifically should be His "peculiar treasure" (Psalm 135:4). As the writer of Deuteronomy dictates *"the Lord did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were fewest of all people. But because he would keep the*

oath which he had sworn unto your fathers, hath the Lord brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you out of the house of

bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt" Deuteronomy 7:7-8.

Considering this ideal parent-child relationship, what sort of behaviour generally results? Firstly, a desire on behalf of the parent for everything to be perfect for the child - for the child to have opportunities that perhaps the parent did not have. The parent often strives to guide the child, providing it with knowledge to cope with particular situations, or to help it overcome difficulties, without suffering needlessly either emotionally or physically. The parent often does this by setting down guidelines for the child to live by: from simple daily living tasks like 'washing your hands prior to meals', to the more moral and philosophical codes, like 'treating other people as you would like to be treated'.

**The spiritual gift of
faith is the key**

God, being the loving parent that He is, provides Israel with a set of codes to live by in the form of laws, statutes and judgments, found in the first five books of the Old Testament specifically the Four Books of Moses containing the laws. They are the gift of a loving parent to its child. God exhorts Israel to obey these commands (Deuteronomy 7:11). Like most children, Israel sometimes follows them, and at other times, blatantly defies them. In fact, the Old Testament testifies to the behaviour of Israel, sometimes good, mostly wicked, and God's undying love for His rebellious children. The writings of Hosea particularly illustrate this.

Accepting then that the laws are a gift and an expression of God's love, let's now consider the benefits of obeying them. Not only does God provide practical advice on living together as a society, on hygiene and cleanliness, and on moral codes both socially and individually, He provides a reward to Israel if they make the effort to try.

"Ye shall walk in all the ways which the Lord your God hath commanded you, that ye may live, and that it may be well with you, and that ye may prolong your days in the land which ye shall possess" Deuteronomy 5:33. "...for our good always, that he may preserve us alive as it is at this day" Deuteronomy 6:24. God offers life in return for loving and obeying him, as a child would its parent.

Throughout the Bible, there is a thread that tells of God's unaltered promise for Israel. Moses says of God, *"Know therefore that the Lord thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them*

that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations"

Deuteronomy 7:9. Even with all the bad things that Israel has done, God's promise and love remains unchanged. As a parent, He has endured grief over Israel's wickedness and apostasy, but also elation and joy in imparting blessings to them when they did what He asked.

God expresses His faithfulness to Israel, but **do we really have faith** that God will fulfil His part of the covenant? It would appear that Israel of old had real trouble accepting God's promise of love and consequently disregarded His guidelines, looking to other sources and other gods, all the time wandering further from the true God's will and His

presence. However, in the future, Israel as described in Revelation as the "144,000" or "the elect" in other New Testament books,

will have their faith in God's promise intact and will have it realised in them; they will follow His guidance without question, having His laws on their inward parts, as the writer of Hebrews reiterates from Jeremiah's prophetic writings (Hebrews 8:8-12, Jeremiah 31:31-34).

Life therefore, is the ultimate gift. The laws and their observance make this gift possible; one does not happen without the other. Jesus, of course, illustrated this. He was faultless in the law, and although He died, which was His mission - to die in our stead - "the grave" could not contain Him. His body did not decay, because there was no evil in it and His body was transformed through the Spirit of God. God has promised to Israel that they too will receive life, a life of immortality, just as Jesus did. Paul tells the Romans that

The law is a true gift.

Jesus was "the firstborn among many brethren" (Romans 8:29) and John in Revelation 14 describes the 144,000 standing with the Lamb (Jesus) being *"redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb"* Revelation 14:1-5.

This hope of living with God and Jesus Christ, with a transformed and perfect body, in a changed and perfect world, seems light years away from our existence today....but there's a catch. *"Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen"* Hebrews 11:1. The Israelites of old could not maintain their faith in God and His promises. Faith, which is itself a spiritual gift (1 Corinthians 12), seemed to be beyond the ability of Old Testament Israel for most of their existence. When they were seeking God and referring to His word for guidance, God blessed them temporally and spiritually, giving them

knowledge and wisdom which are two further spiritual gifts (1 Corinthians 12).

The law is a true gift. It not only provides a means of obtaining wisdom, knowledge and understanding of our Creator and the way He would have us to live and act, but through observing His instructions, the ultimate gift of life is possible. Revelation sums this up when it tells of those who obtain this victory, singing *"the song of Moses...and of the Lamb"* (Revelation 15:3). They know the meaning of the song of Moses - the covenant of the law and temporal 'life' - and the song of the Lamb - the renewed covenant through the death and life of Jesus, and spiritual 'life'.

The spiritual gift of faith is the key: do you have faith in the covenant of life ordained in the beginning, proved to be real through the life of Jesus, and promised to the faithful Israelites in the very near future?

Ode 32 - Odes of Solomon

Joy and Light

To the blessed there is joy from their hearts,
and light from Him that dwells in them:

And words from the Truth,
who was self-originate:
for He is strengthened by the holy power of the Most High:
and He is unperturbed for ever and ever. Hallelujah.

The Priceless Pearl

The diver was preparing to go down again. He had made a couple of searches that day, and had found some shells, which they told him had small pearls in them. He had a feeling that this was to be his special day, so he prepared to go down again. It was dark and cold down there. He wasn't afraid. He was conscious of the risks he was taking, but the odds of finding a big pearl, "a pearl of great price" kept him going.

You can imagine the impelling drive in such a situation. We are told that the Bible has within it many pearls: pearls of wisdom, pearls of knowledge, pearls of understanding, pearls of promise and greatest of all, the pearl of assistance - spiritual assistance. As we discern the Scriptures we receive some of these spiritual gifts, but the greatest gift is the Pearl of Great Price which Jesus alluded to in Matthew 13:46.

In the time of the Judges of Israel, Eli the priest realised that his sons were not performing their religious duties in a proper manner and said to them: *"Why do ye such things: for I hear of your evil dealings by all this people.....if a man sin against another, the judge shall judge him: but if a man sin against the Lord, who shall entreat for him..."* 1 Samuel 2:23-25. Years later this question, "Who would entreat for us if we sin against the Lord?" was answered by Zechariah. He told of the promise of the Saviour, and also spoke of the promised spiritual help that would come to mankind through the fountain that would be opened following Jerusalem *".....to the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem.....for sin*

and for uncleanness," Zechariah 13:1.

Who are the inhabitants of Jerusalem and the house of David? It is the man and woman on this earth, people like you and me, who are seeking to live in God's complete will.

Aren't 'sin' and 'uncleanness' the same, you may ask?

Not necessarily. Sins are the deeds that we perform and of which we need to repent; uncleanness is the inherent condition in which we are born; the condition that caused Jesus to speak of mankind, as being of *"your father the devil.."* John 8:44. It is this condition that caused the curse of death to be pronounced upon mankind, *"dust thou art and unto dust shalt thou return....."* Genesis 3:19.

This 'fountain' has the power to forgive our wrong, our sin, and also to have the cause of the sin, the evil or uncleanness, removed from within us. This cause of sin is the uncleanness, termed by some 'original sin'. This fountain is the 'Pearl of Great Price' the greatest gift that we can receive from our heavenly Father. Isaiah spoke of this great gift, *"for they shall see eye to eye when the Lord shall bring again Zion"*. Isaiah 52:8. Reading this verse in context this chapter is speaking of great joy and the watchmen (men and women watching for the promises to be fulfilled in them) shouting for joy.

Ezekiel chapter 16 verse 8 speaks of the vine tree, likening it to God's people and how He has turned His compassion and love to those who will seek to fulfil His complete will. *"....yea, I sware unto thee, and entered into a*

covenant with thee, saith the Lord God, and thou becamest mine. Then washed I thee with water; yea, I thoroughly washed away thy blood from thee and anointed thee with oil. I clothed thee...." Ezekiel 16:8. In this passage, which could also have been taken to apply at that time, is hidden the knowledge and comfort and reassurance that God is going to make a way for Israel to have their blood cleansed and then for it to be washed away as they come to live by the power of the Spirit rather than by the circulation of blood. They are then free of the 'curse' of physical death, and able to rise above the bondages of this mortal plane, into the realisation and greatness of the promises of God (Joel 3:21; John 15:10; Romans 12:1-2 and 11:33).

In Luke chapter 15:8-10 is recorded the parable of the woman who had ten pieces of silver, but she lost one. She searched diligently until she found it. The Scriptures list 9 gifts of the spirit, which are like the nine pieces of silver (Galatians 5:22; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11). All of these are portions of the same spiritual power from God. Possession of this power to dwell within us, guiding all our actions and thoughts, is a more embracing promise than to have the individual gifts of the Spirit. Paul rightly said later in the same epistle to the Corinthians that we need the different parts or facets of the Spirit, just as the body needs legs, arms, nose, face, etc. Each part or function compliments the other, but each is not the other, and the whole is not complete unless we have the guiding spiritual power.

To possess the spiritual power within our being, requires us to come to a similar standard that Jesus achieved when He lived on earth. In this condition we are truly the sons and daughters of

God, showing our Heavenly Father's will. We are, through the Spirit dwelling on us, prepared for the Spirit to dwell within us. We refer to this spiritual power as Zion Above, and it is the power spoken of as Christ and the Comforter, the Holy Ghost. Again it is referred to as the Two Immortal Spirits, or *"....two anointed ones that stand by the Lord of the whole earth"* Zechariah 4:14.

God's greatest gift to mankind is the 'fountain' that is available for these two immortal spirits to dwell within them. When we strive for this promise, we are accepting Paul's words in their ultimate challenge, *"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice (this physical body free of sin and uncleanness), holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable, and perfect, will of God"* Romans 12:1-2. It is for us individually to seek through the pages of the Bible to find how we can recognise and receive them. Jeremiah spoke of them being found through a covenant whereby *"....I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people"* Jeremiah 31:33. As Bible students, we are like the diver who is diving for shells to find the pearls, seeking always for the great pearl. Our aim is to do the complete will of God. Through the gifts of the Spirit, we are being prepared to receive the 'priceless pearl'. We will be able to show God's power, by our physical bodies overcoming death, fulfilling the statement Paul made, *"Death is swallowed up in victory"* 1 Corinthians 15:4.

Hymn No. 7

(Isaiah 54:1,2)

God hath declared in each time,
By His own holy power divine,
That men would build a house for Him,
That He, with them, would dwell therein.

'Twas in the first that Enoch came,
He was a priest unto His name;
His faith was like to purest gold,
With him man's perfect image mould.

Elijah in the second came,
And he with silver built the same,
And of the tribe of Levi he
Who from the dross was them to free.

Behold from Judah's tribe the Lion,
Chief corner-stone of house of Zion;
Foundation laid in earth and heav'n,
Engrav'd with spirits - eyes of sev'n!

Which did in the third time or age,
Break open wide the mystic page,
It shining forth unto their view,
Revealed to His chosen few.

That has been sought in ev'ry age,
By priest, and prophet, and by sage;
Bur now, the fourth time, it is here,
Revealed is in light most clear.

That by it now man might obtain
The endless power to live and reign;
His body a transparent light
Of God's immortal city bright.

That by it now man might obtain
The endless power to live and reign;
His body a transparent light
Of God's immortal city bright

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

There are also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another.

There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory.

So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption:

It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power:

It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.

Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?

The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.

But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 15:39-44;51-57

Healing

"There are magnificent promises in the Scriptures to do with prayer.....but that it may not be God's will for us to have them in reality is a contradiction in terms." (1).

God has given us many promises which form the foundation of our individual relationship with Him (2 Peter 1:4). We can be assured of this because God keeps His promises (2 Corinthians 1:20). When we pray we feel that we should pray according to God's will. How do we know God's will? The answer is simple - God's will is revealed to us in His promises and we must take every promise in faith. But what is faith?

Faith is *"the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen"*. Healing is inseparable from faith - *"the prayer of faith shall save the sick"* (James 5:15; also Mark 11:22,24). These promises regarding the prayer of faith are our assurance that God can heal today (Hebrews 11:6).

Spiritual Healing - Relationship with God - Healing the Mind

Although full healing will not occur until Jesus Christ returns, God can still heal our spirit, soul, and body including emotions today. "Spiritual healing comes through understanding the truth of God's love and mercy, and His plan of salvation and forgiveness (2). Spiritually we: become a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17,18); are given the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8); walk in the light (1 John 1:5-10; John 8:12); and are set free from our sinful nature to live by the Spirit (Galatians 5:1, 16-26; Titus 3:3-7).

Physical Healing

Jesus and His disciples performed

many acts of miraculous healing. See, for example, John 9:1-3; Matthew 20:32-34; Luke 4:38-40; Luke 5:17-25; Luke 17:11-19; John 21:25; Acts 3:1-10.

Is there a place for healing today?

The promise of healing in James 5:13-16 clearly reveals God's will for healing today. When asking for healing we must understand the Scripture ourselves. Being prepared to do what is required, we then take the step of saying a prayer of faith. Calling the elders of the church to pray over you signifies a wish to add their faith to your faith - God is the one who restores you.

Some people have a special calling in regard to the gifts of healing (1 Corinthians 12:9). These people are an instrument of God's power. God has given gifts to members of churches for the ministry of divine healing to those who seek healing. God has also given gifts of healing through health care professionals (doctors, osteopaths, naturopaths, etc.) who service our community. These professionals can use their God-given talents and God-guided wisdom in the care of their patients.

To consider optimal care today we should consider an appropriate balance between professional care and divine healing. To effectively do this one should consider the following:

1. To continue treatment as prescribed with a good conscience;

2. Tell your doctor you are seeking divine healing and keep them informed as to the results;

3. Do not let prognosis limit your faith expectation.

We should look to God and believe that with Him all things are possible. We must also patiently have faith in God's promise of healing as the majority of people receive healing progressively (3)

Emotional Healing

It is believed by many health professionals today that the majority of physical illnesses are emotionally caused. This means the presenting physical condition may be caused by an underlying emotional problem.

Very often "....the healing that we need most is the forgiveness and cleansing of past events" (4). Past experiences stored in our unconscious mind shape parts of our life in the present. Bad experiences, whatever they might be, hold us back from our true potential - from maturity in Christ. Anxiety, jealousy, fear and loneliness are some common problems today that may penetrate deeply into our hearts and control our lives. We require (at the appropriate times) truths. Truths about

ourselves, our responsibilities, about God's character and God's word. We also require the grace and the love that only Christ Himself is capable of giving, to heal and to nurture those deep inner parts of our soul we hide from His restoring love (5).

Through a divinely orchestrated process of character building, there may be obstacles placed on the pathway of life. These are not to diminish our faith, but to mould our character. Our quest for physical, emotional and spiritual healing could come into this category, and so we must, as Jesus did, seek strength to accept God's will (Matthew 26:38-43). Knowing that "*.....all things work together for good for them that love God,*" Romans 8:24-28. Remember Jesus' promise "*Come unto me and I will give you rest,*" Matthew 11:28

Conclusion

If God's promises reveal that it is His will to heal (James 5:14-16; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11) then should we not pursue this promise 'to heal' in our lives today? To do this we must focus and depend on God - we must believe this promise, have faith that He will fulfil His promise and have patience in this process. May God bless your lives as you pursue His promise of healing.

Bibliography

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Trees and "Trees"

On the third day of Creation, when God created *"the grass, the herb yielding seed and the tree yielding fruit"*, He saw that it was good for each to have a seed of its own kind within itself (*Genesis 1:11,12*).

When we behold God's wonders of Creation, we may see evidence of a vast array of differing seeds, all inspired with the zest of life and the desire to reproduce. Each plant has a "physical form", a living seed forming process within this form, and it depends on an external force, the sunshine, to give it proper growth and colour. No matter how stony and how dry the soil may be, a plant will struggle, and continue to struggle, to fulfil its life cycle in order to hand on its glorious achievement to its "descendants".

If we stop and look at deciduous trees in the winter time, we may see their "physical form", but there is no evidence of any inward life: however, let us pass the same way in Spring time, and what a **change** we see! Life, springing from within the tree, is bursting out in the form of buds and little green shoots, all revelling in the warm sunshine. Isaiah 6:13 speaks of these very "trees", "whose substance is in them, when they cast their leaves".

In the Scriptures, mankind is compared to trees and the symbolisation is a very significant one. Man is composed of a spirit, a soul, and a physical body, and a tree aptly illustrates these three components and their distinct functions.

The tree's physical form corresponds to mankind's physical body, which may be

seen and handled.

The tree's "substance within itself" symbolises the soul of man, which is not able to be felt, but from it springs the personality and faculties and it bears of its own kind in each successive generation. In each new generation the soul of man is present at the time of conception and grows with the body to maturity. Then the seed of the person comes from the maturity of the soul.

As the sap feeds the tree, so the life of the blood feeds the seed of man till it brings forth a mortal body with a living seed(soul), capable of reproducing more souls when mature.

The sunshine motivates the life within the tree; it is an energising force from without the tree, and may be compared to the spirit of man enlivening from without, the soul of man within his physical body. Whilst the spirit of that body shines upon its blood, the blood is the life of that body.

However, at death when the spirit is withdrawn and returns to God, the body and soul are laid in the grave. As in the case of a seed, so with man, the external physical form returns to dust and remains alive and sleeping until the time of re-awakening into a new life.

God said of the former Hebrews, *"I planted thee a noble vine, wholly a right seed, how then art thou turned into a degenerate plant of a strange vine unto me?"* Jeremiah 2:21. They were likened to a vine, wild by nature, and bearers of sour instead of sweet grapes because the evil seed of Satan within all Adam's posterity

causes all to have strong inclinations towards sinful works.

How did this degeneration come about?

If a piece of iron is before a fire, the fire will attract it to become hot. The fire will not be in the iron, nor the iron be in the fire, but by attraction, and when the fire is removed the iron will cease to be attracted. Similarly, whilst the evil, which belongs unto Satan, remains in man's body, Satan has been allowed by God to ply his art of attraction to that evil. He can attract only where there is evil. He does not dwell in man, nor does man dwell in Satan, but only through attraction.

This is just what the former Hebrews allowed Satan to do - to attract their evil within their bodies so that they were deceived and caused to commit sins, many and varied. The more a man's spirit hearkens to Satan, the more the evil of his body is cultivated and the more it grows, causing his soul to increase in sin. Sin is evil in action. Man's personality, his faculties, his seed, his conscience, all are parts that make up the total of 'his soul'. At first his conscience is sharp and active, and his sin against it worries him; but as time and repeated sins go on, his conscience becomes blunt and his soul has much sin to bear.

If he does not repent, his soul is liable to die the second death, "*for the wages of sin is death*" (Romans 6:13; Ezekiel 18:4).

The body dies the first death because its evil content is not removed, and it goes to the grave to remain there, eternally separated from the soul that rises at the resurrection. That is just what death is - a separation of the three components of man.

At the Day of Judgment the soul will

give an account of its conscience in relation to God's true Standard, and how it acted during its mortal lifetime. If it had repented and accepted the Saviour's saving Grace before the death of its physical body, it will have slept in the grave in the happiness of "*the answer of a good conscience towards God*" (1 Peter 1:4). "*It was sown a natural body, it was raised a spiritual body*", 1 Corinthians 15:44.

But, if the soul has sinned and not repented, it will not be allowed to re-unite permanently with its spirit, for its hindering sin still remains untaken away, and it will be separated a second time (referred to as the second death) and returned to the grave to sleep in further remorse for 1,000 years. At the end of the Millenium, that soul, and all such like, shall rise as the debtor in Luke 7:41-43, who owed more than the first resurrection debtor. Then, after gladly acknowledging the Saviour's Grace, it will enter into its share of Salvation (v.43).

Myriads of human bodies have died down through the ages and their souls are lying in that dust, awaiting the first resurrection and the judgment upon them, which will grant them life - or - life deferred. "*This corruptible must put on incorruption*", 1 Corinthians 15:53.

The family tree of the Israel of God has been cut down by death, again and again, and many times again, but the root has remained holy unto God. Scripture records "*so are the branches*" holy unto God in these latter days (Romans 11:16). God made many covenants of life without experiencing death with His chosen people, and in spite of their repeated unfaithfulness, He has declared "*I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed*", Malachi 3:6, by evil and sin.

In these latter days the spirit of each true son of Jacob shall be as *"a watchman on the walls of his body, not forbearing one moment"*, for each one's spirit will be *"the candle of the Lord"*, lit by, and radiating His Goodness and dispelling all Satan's works of darkness (Proverbs 20:17). His attraction will be of no avail when God has cleansed their blood as He had promised to do - see Joel 3:21; Zechariah 13:1; Romans 11:26. There will not be any evil remaining within their bodies for him to attract, nor any sin to burden their souls. Satan shall fall as lightning from them - Luke 10:18.

At that time the seed of Satan (the evil in man) shall have been cast out by the workings of the Spirit of God, and the seed of God will dwell within them and they will bear fruit of His kind. *"Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for His seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God"*, 1 John 3:9. Then they will *"be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified"*, Isaiah 61:3.

"Lord, how long" shall blindness be upon Thine Israel? - Isaiah 6:9-11.

Today, Israel may appear as deciduous trees to the world, but they are being awakened inconspicuously, and at God's appointed time, they will receive the 'change' and will spring forth unto life immortal of spirit, soul and body, for the *"holy seed shall be the substance"* of them (Isaiah 6:13) and no one shall be able to thwart its growth. *"This mortal must put on immortality"*, 1 Corinthians 15:53.

"He who testifieth these things saith, surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus", Revelation 22:20.

Look and Live.

They wandered on from day to day,
Those Israelites of old,
Through wilderness and desert way,
For many years we're told.

They could have reached the Promised Land,
Much sooner but we read
They disobeyed the Lord's command
His Word they would not heed.

When they were hungry God supplied
The Manna and the Quails,
His mercy always will provide,
His goodness never fails.

Sufficient water, too, we hear,
By God was always given,
And when there was no other near,
By Him the rock was riven.

But still they murmured every day,
Though nothing did they lack,
The Promised Land seemed far away,
They wanted to go back.

At last the Lord sent fiery snakes,
All who were bitten, died,
The people now saw their mistakes,
And soon for mercy cried.

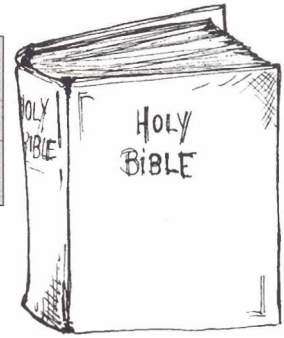
"Make now," to Moses came the word,
"A serpent on a pole,
"Who looks by faith," thus saith the Lord,
"At once will be made whole."

As Moses in the wilderness,
The serpent lifted high,
So Jesus on the shameful cross,
For sinners came to die.

If we to Him will look by faith,
We, too, shall surely live,
Believing all the Bible saith,
Our sins God will forgive.

Such wondrous peace within our souls
Will Christ our Saviour give,
And You, by faith, shall be made whole;
Will You, then, Look and Live?

Debug Your Bible:



Is a "Day" a day?

have got a confession to make. It's not easy, but I feel it needs to be done. The confession is that I have been one of those people whose always tried to explain the Days of Creation through Science. Recently I came to a realisation that by doing this I have been taking the 'black and white' in the Bible and turning it into 'shades of grey'. Let me show you what I mean.

Let's look at the days of creation.

I'm sure you've all heard the part of the Bible which describes creation, it's in the first chapter of the first book of the Bible - Genesis. It's also a chapter that has been hotly debated for years.

1 day = 1,000 years

Without quoting the whole chapter we can see that each of the seven days of creation are described in the following format: "*And the evening and the morning were the (first) day*" (verse 5). This is the same for the 'second day' and so on up to the 'seventh day'. One of the main questions which has been hotly debated is 'was each day a 24 hour period as we know it?' To which you may ask 'what's so important about that?' Well let's just look at four common theories which might lead you to question this to see whether it is important.

Science has tried to suppose the 'Big Bang' as a start to the Universe. So your theologian, not wishing to be compromised by the 'indisputable facts of Science' (sorry,

let me change that, 'disputable suppositions of Science') says "well the sequences described in Biblical creation are kind of like the sequences which would occur in Big Bang, so if we say that a Day of creation is actually a span of time then I can believe in Big Bang **and** Biblical creation." (I thought this for a long time.) So theory one says: We had a Big Bang, so 'Days of Creation' means 'spans of time'.

Science then says that life came about through 'evolution' (note that Big Bang and evolution aren't necessarily interrelated). So your theologian, believing science again to be 'indisputable' says

"Well the sequences described in Biblical creation are kind of in the same order as evolution would occur but evolution takes millions of years, so if I say that a Day of Creation is actually a span of time then I can believe in Evolution **and** the sequence of Biblical Creation". Now I won't go into the holes in evolution right now, but we can say that theory two also says: We have evolution, so Days of Creation means 'spans of time'.

The final two theories come not from science but from theology itself.

It has been proposed that in the original translation of the Bible into English, the Hebrew word 'yom' was translated into 'day' where it should actually have been

translated as 'time' or 'aeon'. This 'mis-translation theory' has been used in an attempt to harmonise the Bible with the above scientific theories or just a way of making exception for the concept of a 'day of creation' being too hard to grasp. So theory three says: The Word was translated incorrectly in the Bible, so 'Days of Creation' means 'spans of time'.

The fourth theory put forward, comes from the author of the Bible himself/themselves. The commonly accepted author of Genesis (and the other first five books of the Old Testament) is Moses. A theory exists that, as Moses was documenting the days of creation, that he was either wrong (and had been mis-informed), or that he tried to document the sequence in 'lay-man's terms' so the common man could understand creation. For this reason it is supposed that Moses used the term 'day' because the average Israelite could understand that. (Mind you, I don't know if the average Israelite would have had a problem conceptualis-

ing 'span of time' if this were actually the case!) The "Moses got it wrong" theory also

arises because people say that God didn't create the sun until the fourth day, so how can there have been 24 hour periods on the first 3 days (ref. Genesis 1:14). So theory four says: Moses used 'day' either because he was wrong or so the average man could understand creation, so 'days of creation' actually means 'spans of time'.

This is where I come to my confession. I was one of those people that tried to harmonise the scientific suppositions of Big Bang and evolution with days of creation. I was going pretty well too, until I realised the ramifications of what I was thinking. I was trying to create a 'shade of grey' between the black of Big Bang and the white of Creation - a shade of grey

between saying the Bible was right or the Bible was wrong. But is it right to have a shade of grey?

Well, what are the ramifications of a shade of grey? If we start using our own discernment and say the Bible is right in one respect and wrong in another, where do we stop? If the Bible is a mixture of truths and lies then where is our standard? Can we believe anything the Bible says? This is no small issue when we consider that we all base our religion and hence our lives on the Bible! But the issue extends further than that. We believe that the Bible is God's word which He has revealed to us so that we may know Him and have a relationship with Him. Would God allow Moses to write down the wrong 'truth' and further would God allow the translators of the Bible to introduce yet more error? Would God want us to base our lives and our actions on errors in the Bible? Would God want us to base our love for Him on lies? Perhaps I've extrapolated this idea a bit far

in this instance, but nonetheless it is a valid question.

So let's make the assumption that God doesn't want us

to base our judgments on mistakes and 'mistranslations' and go back to the days of creation and the 24 hour problem. I heard a fellow giving a lecture on geology and the Bible one time and he presented a method to solve this very problem. He said that we should look at the use of the word 'day' in the rest of the Bible and see if it is consistent, and if it is consistent then the context of 'day' in the creation sequence must also be consistent. Use the Bible to judge the Bible. So I tested his theory.

The word 'day' occurs in the Bible 1734 times (according to my computer). The Bible can use the word 'day' figuratively or literally. For example in 2nd Peter chapter 3 verse 8 we read "*one day is with*

1 day = 24 hours

the Lord as a thousand years" which is a figurative day. So I looked at all occurrences of the word 'day' which were referenced with a sequence such as 'first day', 'second day', 'seventieth day', and so on. Now every case of the word 'day' in this context in the Bible referred to a 24 hour period. The Bible was consistent in all respects of this word, so why should the days of creation be any different? I mean, anyone who doubts that God couldn't do it in 24 hours really doesn't understand God - but whether a day is 24 hours is another question.

So what does all this mean? It means we can use the Bible to judge the Bible. We can have confidence in the consistency in the standard which is the Bible that God has revealed to us and for us. It would be

easy to have a couple of mis-translations creep in, but there is a definite consistency. According to the Bible, and since there are no other plausible situations if we believe in the truth of the Bible, we may concede that the days of creation are 24 hours days and not spans of time as multiple theories would have us believe.

Perhaps we can use this simple test to remove a lot of the 'shades of grey' and change them back into 'black and white'. Just think, if Satan can't win you, perhaps he can go as far as creating 'shades of grey'. It's funny though, it took a man who studies geology - a science that lives in the 'shades of grey' - to point out the black and white in the Bible, and prove that a day of creation is actually a day.

*Thou must be true thy self,
If thou the truth would teach.
Thy soul just overflow, if thou,
Another's soul would reach.
It needs the overflow of heart,
To give the lips full speech*

GIFTS



Lots of stories in this booklet are about gifts; not the gifts that we receive for our birthday or Christmas, but gifts from God. You see, there are some gifts that we receive from God that you can't handle, gifts given to us from His Holy Spirit.

In the Bible, Paul wrote about these gifts or fruits of the Spirit. You can read about these in Paul's letter to the Galatians and you will find them listed in Chapter 5, verses 22-23. Here is a list of the things Paul wrote about:

LOVE

love is when we show people we care about them, You can show love today by giving Mummy or Daddy a big hug and saying thank you to them for all they do for you.

JOY

is being happy and contented, not wanting things other people have.

PEACE

peace is about not fighting with people. You can be peaceful when you play together.

LONG SUFFERING

this is about being patient, not giving up when things are a bit hard. Just like when mummy gives you something to do which is difficult and you stick at it and bit by bit you get it done.

GENTLENESS

gentleness is being **kind** and not being rough. That is like when you are playing with little children you must remember to look after them.

GOODNESS

goodness is about following God's ways. Doing what you know is right isn't always easy but it is always best.

FAITH

faith is believing in God. You can talk to God and ask for His help and He will hear you any time of the day or night.

MEEKNESS

meekness is about being thoughtful. We shouldn't always put ourselves first but should consider others.

TEMPERANCE

temperance is about being sensible. We should not be too greedy or selfish and we should share with others.

These are very special gifts because you cannot buy them with money. They are a different sort of gift. Most gifts we give to people get used up, break or get lost, but these gifts will last forever and they will make us feel really happy inside.

What a lot of wonderful gifts God's Spirit will give us. These gifts are only available if we ask God for them and try to follow His ways.

What a Name.

A M A S T E R J E S U S O
 L O L M A V B M A L S R Y
 P R I N C E O F P E A C E
 H N G U O R C R C R V S L
 A I H T U L H Q B O I O L
 D N T S N A R P A S O N A
 R G M E S S I A H E R O V
 E S I M E T S D L O E F E
 H T G M L I T O U F F M H
 P A H A O N C G F S I A T
 E R T N R G O F R H L N E
 H A Y U L F M O E A T Y O
 S B G E D A E N D R R A Y
 D B O L R T G O N O U W L
 O I D K O H A S O N T E I
 O M L J W E I D W X H H L
 G N A Z A R E N E N O T P

In the Bible, Jesus is called by many different names. All of them are very special. Find these special names in the puzzle and circle them.

Jesus

Nazarene

Everlasting Father

Prince of Peace

Truth

Wonderful

Messiah

Light

Lamb

Rose of Sharon

Morning Star

Good Shepherd

Omega

Emmanuel

Lily of the Valley

Son of God

Son of man

Counsellor

Mighty God

Word

The Way

Life

Master

Saviour

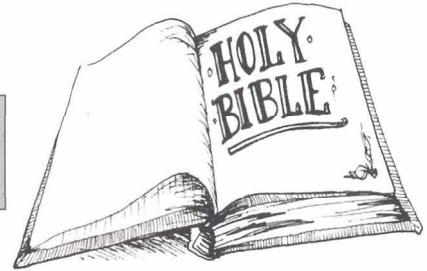
Christ

Door

Rabbi

Alpha

Expand Your Bible:



The Gifts - Prophecy

What is a gift? Something given freely and freely received. The gifts of the Spirit are indeed given freely and are many and varied. The interesting and wonderful thing is that it is the same Spirit from God that gives to each and everyone. The diversity of these gifts is exemplified by comparing them to the parts of the body and the uses of each part - even the most uncomely has its place. What do you think the most insignificant part of the body? Think about this part and evaluate its importance in the working of the body. Think of what to you is the least appealing part of the body and think through its importance and use. Every part is needed to work at 100% efficiency. So, too, every person is of importance and has some gift or special talent to be used for the group to work as a whole.

A prophet is described as an inspired teacher, a revealer or interpreter of God's will. The gift of prophecy we usually associate with the "prophets of old" who foretold the destiny of individuals and peoples. However, as our definition reads, a prophet may be concerned with everyday living as well as future events.

There are quite a few outstanding names, mostly from Biblical times which come to mind when thinking of the Spirit

of Prophecy - names such as Isaiah, Daniel, Ezekiel, Jeremiah, Amos are but a few. The prophet Isaiah especially made many wonderful and detailed prophecies relating to Jesus Christ's birth and mission. A separate article - "Isaiah's Prophecies" - is included in this magazine and highlights these prophecies.

The story of Balaam and his ass is an interesting one. Balaam was actually a prophet, but from the story (which can be read in the book of Numbers, Chapter 22) we imagine one who liked to have the good things of life and in a way thought he could prophecy what he wanted to or was paid to do. He thought he could 'rort' the system. So, when he was asked to curse the children of Israel who were moving across the country and was well paid to do it, he set off to do so, even though God had told him not to. However, he hadn't bargained on the power of His lowly ass. As he travelled through a narrow passageway the ass suddenly left the path and went into a nearby field, rider and all. Imagine Balaam's annoyance when this happened three times. He was about to whip and even kill the ass, when his eyes were opened and he saw an angel barring the way. "Truly," said the angel, "your ass is more righteous than you are! If you had continued on your way, you would surely

have been killed." So Balaam was told that instead of a cursing he must speak a blessing for the Israelite people.

Amongst other things the story shows that the gifts of the Spirit are freely given and cannot be bought or sold and should not be used for personal gain or promotion.

And what of modern prophets? Do we have such people today? Do we call them by other names and do we tend to ridicule them? Some of the world's greatest thinkers could come into this category.

As Christian Israelites we believe that John Wroe, the church messenger was a prophet as well as being a missionary and religious teacher. As a teacher He emphasised the renewing of the teachings of the Law as well as the Gospel, and also foretold or prophesied many things including forthcoming "inventions" such as carriages without horses, and travelling from Calais to

Dover on dry land - very really fulfilled with the opening of the Channel Tunnel, and of coming social and economic conditions - no hire for man or beast.

A very important series of prophecies which began in the time of Abraham and have been renewed by various prophets especially Isaiah, John the Divine, and we believe more recently by John Wroe, are those referring to a specific group of people called the "144,000" or the "Bride of the Lamb", a people to be redeemed and saved from death and destruction at the "end of the world". A special group of prophecies from the Old Testament relating to the promise of the Saviour show God's love and concern for His people, providing hope always for a fallen race. This bears out St. Paul's statement in Corinthians that no matter what gift of the Spirit is given, unless there is love, the gift is of no value. Love is the basis of all relationships.

Psalm 102:18-20 - *"This shall be written for the generation to come: and the people which shall be created shall praise the Lord. For he hath looked down from the height of his sanctuary; from heaven did the Lord behold the earth; to hear the groaning of the prisoner; to loose those that are appointed to death..."*

Please note: In Corinthians 13 in the King James Version of the Bible love is translated as charity.

**Somewhere is waiting a blessed work
Which your hands alone can do,
Something which God in his mercy wrought,
And placed in this world for you.
Search for it, find it, God's holy work,
It never is far away. Find it by doing
With heart and with soul
The duty that calls today.**

Isaiah's Prophecies

"He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him and with his stripes we are healed."

"He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter.....for the transgression of my people he was stricken."

".....he had done no violence neither was any deceit in his mouth."

".....he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors."

Just take a moment and imagine what these words conjure up in your mind. There is no doubt that they give a vivid portrayal of what Jesus suffered for us. The incredible reality of these verses is that they were not written by an eyewitness to Jesus Christ's life, but by a man who lived eight centuries before Christ's birth. They are found in Isaiah 53:5-12. They were written by the great prophet Isaiah.

Great! Why was he great? He was great because of his visions of God and visions of the glory in store for God's people. What he saw can only be equalled in the Book of Revelation. As a result, Isaiah is known as the head of the prophets in the Old Testament - prophet to Israel.

Isaiah's outstanding prophecies have been recognised throughout the centuries. His prophecies of Christ in Isaiah 9:1-7 were endorsed by the wise men that searched for the new King that would bring freedom.

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace."

Those who had studied the prophets were seeing these wonderful visions fulfilled. Luke in his book chapter 3:4-6 finally finds the fulfilment of Isaiah's chapter 40:3-

5 - *"The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God....."* - when John the Baptist commences his mission.

Jesus Christ Himself refers to Isaiah a number of times when revealing His mission. In St. John Chapter 10:11 He says: *"I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep."* This is traced to Isaiah 40:11.

Again Isaiah 61:1-4 is cited by Jesus in Luke 4:17-21: *".....the Spirit of the Lord is upon me.....this day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears."*

And yet again in Matthew 12:17-21 a direct quote and fulfilment of Isaiah 42:1-4: *"That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the Prophet, saying, Behold, my servant, whom I have chosen:and in his name shall the Gentiles trust."*

With this trust in Isaiah 45:23, Isaiah says *"every knee shall bow"* to (God) the Lord. This is reaffirmed in Philippians 2:10-11 where it states that every knee shall bow to Jesus and *"that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord"*. In his final chapters Isaiah again switches from current day prophecy to include glimpses of the ultimate plan for his people.

In Chapter 61:5-9 God's people are named the priests of the Lord. Going further to Chapters 63-66 Isaiah reveals the appalling pictures of the end of the world. He highlights the contrasting destinies for those who follow good or evil.

Isaiah, the book, is filled with prophecy from current day through to the end of the world. The above prophecies are just a glimpse of Isaiah's remarkable ability to be able to see into the future, but in these prophecies we are given a future. A future of love, peace and freedom as a result of Jesus Christ's sacrifice.

Statement of Belief

The Christian Israelite Church beliefs can be fully supported by the Scriptures. Here is an outline:

We Believe

- * In God Almighty creator of all things (Genesis 1:1).
 - * In the existence of Satan, the Devil, in whom God allowed iniquity to be placed (James 2:19; Ezekial 28:14,15).
 - * That God created a spirit-existence in which the devil manifested evil and caused some of the spirits to rebel against God (Isaiah 14:12-14; Jude 6)
 - * That God created our physical world, to which each person comes with a body and a soul made alive by a spirit from the spiritual creation (Luke 9:55; Genesis 2:7).
 - * That God gave His people instructions on the way they should live, which instructions were "for their good always" (Deuteronomy 6:24).
 - * That all have sinned and come "short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23; 2 Corinthians 5:19).
 - * That God has reconciled the (whole) world to Himself through the sacrifice of Jesus (John 3:16,17).
 - * That through belief in the sacrifice of Jesus believers are counted as righteous before God, and can be assured of the resurrection of their souls (a Spiritual body) at Jesus' return (1 Timothy 4:10; 1 Corinthians 15:44).
 - * That there will be a small number who will fully prove their faith by a work of true obedience to God's instructions and will thereby receive the prize of the highest calling of God, the redemption of spirit and soul and body - this living mortal Body made Immortal without seeing death (1 Thessalonians 5:23; Revelation 14:1-5; Hebrews 11:39,40).
 - * That Jesus Christ will return to this earth again, subdue the power of Satan and reign forever and ever (Revelation chapters 19 and 20)
 - * That the return of Jesus Christ is near and we are living in the period described in Scripture as the latter days (Matthew chapter 24; Mark chapter 13 and Luke chapter 21)
 - * That there are promises in the Scriptures especially to Israel - God's chosen people (1 Peter 2:9).
 - * That although Israel of old did not accept the challenge of spiritually being God's peculiar people, a remnant of their descendants will come forward in the latter days to fulfill the obligations and receive the promises (Revelation 7:1-8).
- That the Mission of the Christian Israelite Church is to awaken the lost ten tribes of Israel to this special inheritance to be the physical Immortal "Bride of the Lamb" and to be the vehicle for the task of bringing them all together at God's appointed time (Matthew 10:5,6; Revelation chapter 19).

We believe that God is the absolute Judge and Arbiter and that we as His servants have an obligation to respond to what He puts in each heart, and that whilst we seek to proclaim and discuss our beliefs, that we have no right to contend with other people about them.

All Round Health

Natural Therapies

"For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's" 1 Corinthians 6:20.

There are many common health conditions which respond quickly and effectively to various forms of natural therapies. Over the next few issues we will consider some of these calling upon the resources of readily available herbs, vitamins, minerals and homoeopathics.

When treating holistically, the key thing to remember is that the body is always striving to keep itself healthy. The symptoms that are produced when we are sick such as fever, pain, mucous, cough, etc., although unpleasant for the patient, are involved in restoring harmony and balance.

Pain, for instance, is a warning that something is wrong. The body is telling us to stop and rest or to take notice. Fever is capable of inactivating many viruses that attack the body. Mucous protects our respiratory and gastrointestinal tracts. In other words a runny nose has a protective job to do - it is not just a pest - and will carry off irritant material. A cough helps to expel the excess mucous from the body.

All these symptoms are present in the common cold, in fact, we may consider them the common cold and

attempt to suppress them. We may use aspirin or panadol to lower a fever, an antihistamine to dry up the runny nose, or a cough syrup to suppress a cough. But let's leave some more of this for the winter edition.

Many lay people are confused by the different forms of complementary medicine that are available. I say here 'complementary' because the 'standard' medical system provides a network of diagnostic testing and knowledge that can be shared by these other therapies. There are times when a medical drug or surgery may be the best answer to a health problem. But there are times where the answer provided from one part of the complementary medicine spectrum is more effective.

Of the many types of complementary medicine available I will draw information from publications of just a few.

Naturopathy: This system of treatment looks at the balance in the whole body. It is termed holistic because it looks at improving the health of the whole person rather than merely removing the symptoms of a complaint.

The naturopath looks at diet, fresh air, exercise and peace of mind. In adjusting the diet, quality and type of food is considered as well as supplementation with preparations of vitamins, minerals, enzymes, herbs and in some cases homoeopathic medicines. Often massage is used for relaxation or stimulation of blood flow.

Herbalism: As with naturopathy but the active principle is homoeopathic 'drugs'. Homoeopathy comes from the Greek 'homios' meaning 'similar' and 'pathos' meaning 'suffering'. The idea of 'similar suffering' arose from the discovery that in the correct quantity, a substance that produces symptoms similar to a disease process in a well person will also cure those symptoms in a sick person. Homoeopathy has quite a complicated process of prescription, no

toxic side effects and generally predictable results.

Osteopathy: This is my own field of training and I feel I must mention it here. Osteopathy is a mechanical science which looks at how disorder in the structure of the body will cause it to dysfunction. Defective structure influences by various bodily processes, a variation in the correct nerve supply, blood supply or lymphatic drainage from an essential part thereby producing poor function which leads to disease.

There are many other complementary forms of medicine but there is neither time nor space to consider them here. In our next issue we can begin to look at various means of self help available from these treatment modalities.

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Recipes

Potato and Onion Tart

Pastry

185g butter
1 tblsp iced water
1 tblsp lemon juice
2 cups wholemeal plain flour

Filling

1 tblsp olive oil
4 large brown onions, thinly sliced
2 large ripe tomatoes, peeled & chopped
1 tsp brown sugar
1 tsp malt vinegar
extra 1 tblsp olive oil
6 medium potatoes, peeled, thinly sliced
1 cup sour cream
1/2 tsp paprika

Pastry: Place butter, iced water and lemon juice into a large bowl. Add quarter cup of the flour and mix to form a paste using a fork. Add remaining flour and mix to form a smooth dough. Wrap in plastic wrap and refrigerate for 1 hour.

Filling: Heat oil in a large pan. Add onions and cook, stirring over a low heat until they are a golden brown. Add tomatoes, sugar and vinegar. Stir to combine. Simmer, uncovered, until thickened.

Heat extra oil in a large shallow pan. Add potatoes in a single layer. Cook, turning once, until potatoes are golden brown.

Roll out pastry between two sheets of greaseproof paper to fit a 23cm fluted flan tin.

Line tin with pastry and bake blind for 25-30 minutes or until crisp and golden brown.

Spread onion filling over the base of the cooked pastry. Arrange the potatoes on top of the onion filling. Spread over sour cream and sprinkle with paprika. Bake in a hot oven, 200degC, for 8 minutes or until top is golden brown. Serve hot or at room temperature. Serves 4-6.

Fruity Nut Bars

1/2 cup finely chopped dried apricots
1/2 cup mixed dried fruit
1/2 cup currants
1/4 cup unblanched whole almonds
1 tsp ground nutmeg
1/4 cup golden syrup
2 eggs, lightly beaten.

1/3 cup boiling water
1/2 cup sultanas
1 cup whole Brazil nuts
1 cup white self-raising flour
1 tblsp finely grated orange rind
1/4 cup orange juice

Brush 2, 8 x 26cm bar pans with melted butter or oil. Line the base and sides with greaseproof paper, then grease the paper.

Place apricots in a small bowl, pour over boiling water, and leave to stand, covered, for 20 minutes or until almost all the liquid is absorbed and apricots are plump. Do not drain.

Combine undrained apricots, fruits and nuts in a large mixing bowl. Add sifted flour, spice and rind. Stir until combined.

Make a well in the centre and add syrup, juice and eggs. Mix well. Spoon the mixture into prepared pans, smoothing the surface with the back of a spoon or knife.

Bake at 180degC for 20 minutes or until golden and a skewer inserted comes out clean. Leave to stand for 5 minutes before turning out onto a rack to cool. Makes 2 bars.

The Twelve Apostles



the Apostle to Yorkshire

This issue we are going to cover the mission work of Simon of Cana of Galilee also known as Simon Zelotes. If we relied upon the Bible for any information on Simon Zelotes, we would be left with very little other than he was one of the original 12 apostles. His mission work is not covered in the Bible, so for details of this we must reference ancient manuscripts.

Very little can be found in modern writings on Simon other than that he spread the Word through Egypt and Mesopotamia. Eastern Christians have a completely different history of Simon, so that nothing conclusive can be said of Simon. There is even no record of when, where or how he died in modern writings. Thus we will need to go back to the writings in the early centuries and see what our modern researchers have missed out or omitted.

Firstly, the name Zelotes. There are many reasons for the use of this surname. Firstly it is a geographical location rather than a sign of temperament giving us an indication of his origins. The Greek translation for the word Cana is Zelotes. Secondly, many Bible students have surmised that the name Zealot came from his enthusiastic

preaching - bold and fearless.

He was born in Cana of Galilee, travelled through Egypt, and Africa, then through Mauritania and all Lybia, preaching the Gospel and the same doctrine he taught to the Occidental Sea and the Isles called Britanniae.

In AD60 special mention is made of Joseph of Arimathea going to Gaul and returning to Britain with a second band of recruits, among whom is mentioned Simon Zelotes, one of the original 12. This was Simon's 2nd journey to Britain and his last. Cardinal Baronius and Hippolytus tell us that Simon's first journey to Britain was in AD44, during the Caludian war - he travelled to Britain from Gaul where he had been assisting the apostle, Phillip. His stay was brief and he returned to the continent.

Simon openly defied the barbarian Edict of Paulinus and Catus Decianus, to destroy anything or anyone Christian. He decided to conduct his evangelising on the eastern part of Britain - sparse habitation with a heavy Roman population and around the area now known as Yorkshire. He was noticed by Catus Decianus who was the Provincial Procurator of Britain who was staunchly anti-Christian. Simon chose the area in Britain with the greatest population of Romans so his work would surely have been difficult. He was arrested under orders of Catus Decianus for his refusal to abstain from any Christian practices. Simon was given a mock trial in Britain and condemned to death. It was in

Britain that Simon met his martyr's death when he was crucified by the Romans at Caistor, Lincolnshire and buried there around the 10th May AD61. Most trials of Christians were a mockery, they had no intention of hearing the Christian's point of view or of letting them live. We also know that it was the Romans who crucified Simon as the Romans were the only nation who practiced crucifixion. This form of punishment was unknown amongst the Britons.

The day of martyrdom of Simon Zelotes, the devoted disciple, is celebrated by both Eastern and Western churches on May 10. This day is also supported by Cardinal Baronius in his "Ecclesiastical Annals" giving the same date, description and location of the martyrdom and burial of Simon in Britain.

Of Simon Zelotes, Dorotheus, Bishop of Tyre in AD 300 writes: "Simon Zelotes traversed all Mauritania and the region of the Africans, preaching Christ. He was at last crucified, slain and buried in Britain."

Thus making Simon Zelotes the second British martyr from the intimate circle of Jesus Christ's followers. Aristobolus, brother of Barnabas, father-in-law of Peter, was the first to be martyred in Britain. He died at St. Albans a couple of years earlier. The record states he was martyred "in the 2nd year of Nero" which is around AD59.

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CHURCHWISE

Gifts for All

One of the fundamental teachings of the Christian Israelite church is what is referred to as UNIVERSAL RECONCILIATION - the belief that in the end God will fully overcome the power of Satan and will reconcile all to Himself.

David said in Psalm 68:18 *"thou hast led captivity captive; thou hast received gifts for men, yea, for the rebellious also...."*. That is, the effectiveness of the sacrifice of Jesus will loose even those who are prisoners to Satan, and take them captives or place them under the power of Jesus Christ. (See Isaiah 45:23 and Phillippians 2:10-11). Under this ultimate reconciliation, through Jesus, all people receive "a gift" from God. In 1 Corinthians chapter 15 verse 24, Paul says *"Then cometh the end, when he (Jesus Christ) shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father."* In verse 38 *"But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him"*. For even we who believe can only do so through the gift of faith.

Rather than see the belief in Universal Salvation as denigrating the sacrifice of Jesus in anyway we see it as extending its efficacy. But the gift we receive from God is different for each of us. Paul spoke

of the gifts of life that God will give as being like the glory of the sun, moon and stars. As they show varying glories of light, the gifts of life are different.

To be able to believe whilst we are in this life is a gift from God, to have a desire to be led by His Spirit to follow a more fully dedicated lifestyle is a further gift and to be able to fully follow His instructions requires an even greater gift from God of His Power. Jesus said *"No man can come to me except the Father which hath sent me draw him"* John 6:44.

To those who accept the great gift from God to receive His Power and live in obedience to His will, there is a further gift at the end. Because of the certainty of God's promises Paul spoke of it as a reward - a debt owing to those who had really only done as they were commanded! God not only gives us the Power to do the work, but rewards us when we have done it.

As Christian Israelites we believe that God gives gifts to all - both in the present and in the future. We also believe that as He gives different gifts to each of us, sometimes we must unwrap and use the first before we get the next.

If you will be visiting one of these areas over the next few months or would like to contact our group, please feel free to attend one of the following at the church addresses. All are welcome.

Melbourne	Regular Service held each Sunday evening - 7pm in Summer and 2.30pm in Winter.
Singleton	Regular discussions each week with the exception of the first Sunday of the month when there is a service at 7.15pm.
Terrigal	Discussion First Sunday evening in the month. Local papers will advertise services.
Sydney	Services and discussions alternate Sundays at 2.15pm.

For further information please ring or write to one of the following contacts:

Melbourne

Church: 193 Fitzroy Street,
Fitzroy, Victoria. 3065
(03) 416 0807
Write: As above.

Terrigal

Church: Cnr. Terrigal Dr & Serpentine Rd
Terrigal, NSW. 2260
(043) 84 3535
Write: 64 Erina Valley Rd.,
Terrigal, NSW. 2260.

Singleton

Church: Cnr Bishopgate Street and
Goulburn Street,
Singleton.
(065) 71 1269
Write: P.O. Box 127,
Singleton. NSW. 2330
(065) 72 2741

Windsor

Church: 340 Macquarie Street,
South Windsor.
(045) 77 2190
Write: Lot 24, Morilla Road,
Wilberforce. NSW 2756
(045) 763 264

Sydney

Church: 196 Campbell Street,
Darlinghurst. NSW 2010
(02) 331 5625
Write: P.O. Box 50,
Enfield. NSW 2136
(02) 642 4555

Kempsey

Church: 10 Marsh Street,
Kempsey. NSW 2440
No phone.
Write: 6 Seaview Street,
Bonny Hills. NSW 2445
(065) 854 495

U.S.A.

Write: c/- Mrs. M. Shafer,
4502 Shafer Drive,
Lafayette,
Indiana, USA, 47905
Phone: 0011 1 (317) 589 3221

Church: 1204N Rural Street,
Residence: Indianapolis. USA 46201
Phone: 0011 1 (317) 632 4746

Jesus said:
"If a man keep my saying,
he shall never see death."
John 8:51

It's true!