

#50 *FORUM POST TO A JEHOVAH WITNESS

This thread begins with a discussion on the False Prophet.

Dear FaithWillDo,

I agree to some of what you are saying, but I think we can simplify what takes place with people, who become only believers, but never invite God's Holy Spirit into their lives.

1a. That spirit of antichrist cannot co-exist (co-inhabit) within a **born again believer** at the same time.

1b. Once the Holy Spirit of Christ enters within us, all evil spirits (legion) are vanquished immediately.

Mat. 12:28

Mark 3:27

2a. Luke 11:20-26 reveals a person who comes to Christ for forgiveness of sins, who is then cleansed of sin, BUT never goes forward to ask God for the Gift of His Holy Spirit to dwell within them. Luke 11:13.

All of such are open and extremely vulnerable for re-occupation by that spirit of antichrist

2b. However, once they do allow Christ to enter into them (Rev. 3:20), all evil spirits (legion) are vanquished immediately, and can never return into that person (1b).

God the Father, through His Son, will have taken up permanent residence within the believer, who in that very moment has now become born again, being "sealed" by the Holy Spirit, unto the Day of redemption.

Hope this helps.

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Hope this helps.

Edit: there are MANY Bishops, Pastors and lay people who are in the condition of item 2a. Most of such teach and preach about the historical Jesus, but cannot teach or preach about the spiritual Jesus.

1 Cor. 2:5

E_____

Dear E_____,

A person is not converted after they are called out from the world and enter the church. At the time when they are "called out", Christ only gives them the Early Rain of the Spirit. The Early Rain is ONLY the small amount of the full amount which will be given when Christ "comes again" with the Latter Rain of the Spirit. However, Christ only comes the second time to His chosen Elect. "Many" people are called out from the world and will enter the church but only a "few" are them are actually chosen to receive the Latter Rain and salvation.

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

And now that the church has become apostate with the indwelling of the spirit of anti-Christ, an Elect believer will no longer fellowship with them after he is converted and can see the truth of Christ. It is the truth of Christ which reveals and slays the Man of Sin within the Elect believer.

Since a converted Elect believer will no longer fellowship with the fallen away believers who walk in darkness in the apostate church, there are no converted Elect believers in any of the churches. There may be a "few" Elect believers in the churches but that is only because they have not yet received the Latter Rain and been converted. When an Elect believer is converted, they have their spiritual blindness healed at that time. For that reason, they will not remain in the apostate church when they see it for what it is.

You said:

God the Father, through His Son, will have taken up permanent residence within the believer, who in that very moment has now become born again, being "sealed" by the Holy Spirit, unto the Day of redemption.

The "sealing" is when an Elect believer receives the Latter Rain of the Spirit, not the Early Rain. The Latter Rain "seals" them until their Day of Redemption (bodily resurrection) which will occur at the end of this age.

The verse below is speaking of the spiritual resurrection which occurs when the Latter Rain is poured out. From this resurrection, the believer's salvation is secured and they will never fall away again (never die).

John 11:26 And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?

You mentioned:

Mat 12:28 But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.

The Kingdom of God comes with the Latter Rain of the Spirit.

Mar 3:27 No man can enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he will first bind the strong man; and then he will spoil his house.

The "strong man's house" is a believer with only the Early Rain of the Spirit. When the spirit of anti-Christ comes to a called out believer, he will bind the strong man and spoil his house (the believer will lose their salvation). This is how the church became apostate.

Also, you mentioned Luke chapter 11 and the prayer asking for the Holy Spirit (verses 9-13). Christ's comments on the prayer are directed to His disciples (the Elect, the sons who are heirs). They are the only ones who will ask for and receive the Holy Spirit (Latter Rain) in this age.

The prayer also applies to the "lost" of the final age. It is presented in the parable told in the preceding verses 5 - 8. It is at that time the "lost" will ask for the Holy Spirit and because of their persistence, Christ will pour out the Holy Spirit (Latter Rain) upon them.

This is the key verse of the parable:

Luke 11:7 And he from within shall answer and say, Trouble me not: the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give thee.

The Elect are already saved and the door has been shut. This parable can only apply to the final age when the full harvest of mankind is brought into the barn (the Kingdom of Heaven).

One other point: There is a rigid pathway to salvation that Christ causes all of this Elect to fully travel before they die.

The major events which occur on the Pathway to Salvation for Christ's Elect include:

- Receiving the Early Rain of the Spirit and entering the church.
- Falling away and becoming a Man of Sin.
- The second coming of Christ to the Elect believer.
- Receiving the Latter Rain of the Spirit and entering the Kingdom of Heaven. This is when the Elect believer is sealed.
- Judgment of the Day of the Lord.
- Time of testing.

- The bodily resurrection at the end of the age.

Note: Unlike for the Elect, the judgment of the Day of the Lord will precede the gift of the Latter Rain for the “lost” of the final age. Because of this difference, the “lost” of the final age will experience wrath during their time of judgment whereas the Elect do not.

God established that mankind’s salvation will occur in two groups and at two different times.

The first group of mankind to be saved is the called & chosen group. They are the Elect, the First-Fruits of the harvest. They are saved in this present age "at His coming" (**1Cor 15:23**). No one can "choose" themselves into this group. God chose everyone in this group from the foundation of the world. For that reason, they are said to be "blessed".

The second group to be saved is the balance of mankind. They will be saved at the end of the next and final age.

When Christ’s work is finished, 100% of mankind will be converted into a child of God - that is the meaning and purpose for this creation.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

Yes, but I must emphasize that Jesus is the Firstborn from the dead, and all we who are Born again of His Spirit, are having part in His resurrection now. Rev. 20:6.

Yes, our resurrection is **a two stage process**. First by His Spirit, then secondly in the day of His Glorious appearance in His Immortality, whereby we will become Immortal also, after His likeness.

In all actuality, there are **three manifestations** of Jesus.

First- in mortal flesh to Israel only.

Second- since Pentecost, by His Spirit, making Himself available to all the world, for whosoever will. Rev. 3:20 is the born again experience now, of being made into a NEW creature.

Third- from Heaven in the Glory of His Immortality. Redemption to His chosen, destruction to all others. Luke 17:28-29.

E_____

Dear E_____,

You said:

Yes, but I must emphasize that Jesus is the Firstborn from the dead, and all we who are Born again of His Spirit, are having part in His resurrection now. Rev. 20:6.

Yes, Jesus is the first born from the dead and because He rose, we will, too. In fact, Jesus is the Kingdom of Heaven. When we enter the Kingdom of Heaven, we enter Christ. And because we

are "in Christ", we are "one" with Him as He and His Father are "one".

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

Because we are "in Christ", we will share in His glory and will reign with Him as Kings and Priests over the "lost" in the final age for the purpose of their salvation. Everything that Christ does in this creation is ultimately done because of His love for mankind.

As for the symbol "First Resurrection" mentioned in Rev 20:5, it is referring to the events of chapter 19. Those events include the Marriage of the Lamb, Marriage Supper of the Lamb and the Thousand Year Reign (judgment of the believer). All these events combine to make up the "First Resurrection" which is a symbol for the conversion process.

You said:

Yes, our resurrection is a two stage process. First by His Spirit, then secondly in the day of His Glorious appearance in His Immortality, whereby we will become Immortal also, after His likeness.

I agree - first comes the spiritual resurrection which happens when the Latter Rain is poured out on the believer. This will be followed by the bodily resurrection which happens at the end of this physical age.

You said:

In all actuality, there are three manifestations of Jesus.

First- in mortal flesh to Israel only.

Second- since Pentecost, by His Spirit, making Himself available to all the world, for whosoever will. Rev. 3:20 is the born again experience now, of being made into a NEW creature.

Third- from Heaven in the Glory of His Immortality. Redemption to His chosen, destruction to all others. Luke 17:28-29.

There are only two manifestations of Christ in this world.

This verse applies:

Heb 9:28 So Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.

You are confusing number 2 and 3 as being separate events. They are not - they are one and the same.

I'll explain below:

First, Christ will send a converted Elect believer "in the spirit of Elijah" to the fallen away Elect believer.

Jam 5:17 Elijah was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months (**time between the Early and Latter Rains**). **18** And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain (Latter Rain), and the earth brought forth her fruit. **19** Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one turns him back (**causes him to repent**) **20** Let him know, that he which turns the sinner back from the error of his way shall save their soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.

The converted believer will make the call of Elijah for the fallen away believer to repent from their "works". This call of Elijah is the same call mentioned in Rev 18:4 and in Mat 25:6.

Once the fallen away believer repents, they will become watchful and sober. This will make the pathway "straight" for the Lord to come. This is the "second coming of Christ". This is the same pattern which the Jewish Elect followed when John the Baptist made his call to repent.

When Christ comes the second time, He will knock on the believer's door.

Rev 3:19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. **20** Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

Those who hear His voice are the ones who have repented. When they open the door, Christ will enter into the believer as the Latter Rain of the Spirit. This is the Marriage of the Lamb (Rev 19:7).

With the believer now being born again and having "eyes that can see", Christ will "sup" with him and will feed him milk, bread, meat and New Wine. This is the Marriage Supper of the Lamb (Rev 19:9).

This truth which the believer consumes will cause Christ to "appear". Christ's appearance will then bring on the judgment of the Day of the Lord (**Rev 19:11-21**). This judgment is the Thousand Year Reign (Rev 20: 1-6).

FYI: the Thousand Year Reign has two parts to it: 1). When Christ and the believer reign in judgment over the believer's own carnality and 2). When Christ and the believer reign over the "lost" in the final age.

When Christ appears, His brightness will reveal and then destroy the Man of Sin, whom the believer used to be (**2Thes 2:1-8**).

These verses apply to the destruction of the Man of Sin and also to the Great Harlot:

Mat 24:40 Then shall two (**one believer, one flesh**) be in the field; the one shall be taken (**Man of Sin**), and the other left (**child of God**).

Mat 24:41 Two women (one believer, one flesh) shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken (the Great Harlot), and the other left (child of God).

In case you are unaware, the Great Harlot represents mankind's carnal nature. When the Great Harlot is destroyed (**Rev ch. 18**), she is shown to be the "habitation of devils" (the spirit of anti-Christ):

Rev 18:2 And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.

Mankind's carnal nature is represented by many symbols in scripture.

Here is a list of most of the symbols:

Woman

Eve

Sodom

Egypt

Mystery Babylon the Great Harlot

Old Jerusalem (the one "below")

Damascus

One final point: all end-time prophecy is teaching the pathway to salvation. That includes the prophecies in Luke 17 & 21 and Matthew 24 plus nearly all of the book of Revelation. Also, Paul's conversion (shown in Acts chapter 9) teaches the Pathway to Salvation in "type" and is very detailed. Christ Himself teaches the pathway to salvation frequently in the Gospels, but usually just "here a little and there a little" (**Isa 28:9-12**).

Does any of what I presented above make sense to you?

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

I agree in what you say, and how you say it. However, I do see the symbolic 1000 years as not being literal years, nor is it to be tacked on the end, right after Jesus returns in flaming fire. I see the 1000 years as symbolic, as being the Lord's day now, which is still now, ever since Jesus' first appearance.

The only issue that is going to end God's Age of Grace, the symbolic 1000 years, of people being born again of/by/through His Holy Spirit, is by no more people will be coming to God in repentance.

The mark of the beast will clinch that for everyone, and shall be the very instrument that will effectively and effectually separate the goats from the sheep.

E_____

Dear E_____,

I agree, there is no literal thousand year reign of Christ upon the earth after this age ends. That is a carnal understanding of scripture.

I explained the Thousand Years reign in my previous post. It is symbolic of the Day of the Lord (judgment). It occurs now when each of the Elect are judged during their physical lifetimes and later in the final age when the balance of mankind is judged. Both times, Christ and the Elect reign in judgment.

Do you have a verse that says this is the "age of grace"? I have not seen that term before and it contradicts many scriptures.

"Grace" is an attribute of Jesus Christ, so much so, that it is not wrong to say that Jesus Christ is the manifestation of the Grace of God the Father.

Christ's grace, like His love and mercy, never changes nor does it ever come to an end. Christ will eventually come to all mankind and cover them with His blood of the New Covenant of Grace through Faith. It is the only way a person can be saved.

The "mark of the Beast" occurs when a called out believer become indwelt with the spirit of anti-Christ.

The Elect take the "mark of the Beast" and because of such, they must die. The "natural man", who is made "worse than the first" (**Mat 12:43-45**) by the spirit of anti-Christ, cannot inherit the Kingdom of Heaven. He must be destroyed. And just as the Elect repented and received the Latter Rain, so will the "lost" of the final age. Joel chapter 2 teaches this truth.

Do you believe that Christ is going to fail in His mission which His Father gave Him to accomplish?

1John 4:14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Savior of the world.

If you believe that Christ is going to fail, can you explain why you believe this will be the case?

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

I keep informing you that I do agree with much (90%) of what you say.

Of the 10%, I hear it and entertain it, but by Christ's mind within me, your understanding of the born again experience/existence, as the start of becoming new a creature now, is being misconstrued with a future additional 1000 years on earth with the unsaved.

In other words, I perceive that you are thinking that an additional 1000 years on earth, is for "the rest of the dead", who are unsaved. The unsaved, co-existing with the resurrected, immortal saints??

Not going to happen. There is only one resurrection of the just. All who do not now enter into it, before they breathe their last breath, are forever lost and perished.

In the three manifestations of Christ: **Flesh, Spirit, and Immortality**, the "church age" is purposely avoiding and eclipsing Jesus' **Spiritual presence** in the world among us all. And of course they (the religious) would, it is the most crucial point of our salvation. Rom. 8:8-9, 1 Cor. 2:5 and 1 John 5:12-13.

You appear to be avoiding that, as well as Luke 17:28-29.

E_____

Dear E_____,

I do NOT believe that there is a literal thousand year reign on the earth. The "thousand year reign" is a spiritual symbol which represents the JUDGMENT of Christ when the Elect will reign (judge) with Him. It has two parts to it as I explained earlier. The "thousand years" is not literal time nor does it occur only in one age - it spans over two ages of time.

Scripture does teach that there is another age coming though. It is commonly called the Lake of Fire age. During that final age, the resurrected "lost" will be judged until they have "paid the last penny":

Luke 12:59 I tell you, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny."

After they have paid the last penny, Christ will have pity (mercy) on them and will pour out the Early and Latter Rains.

It is also during this final age when the elders and chief priests (who crucified Christ) will be saved:

Mat 21:31 Which of the two was obeying his father?" They replied, "The first, of course." Then Jesus explained his meaning: "I assure you, corrupt tax collectors and prostitutes will get into the Kingdom of God before you do.

It is not a question of "IF" Christ is going to save all mankind, it is only a matter of when it happens. The elders and chief priests who crucified Christ will be saved by Christ & the Elect in the final age. They will not be "heirs" or First Fruits and they will not receive "life" during the ages. Their salvation will come at the very end of the final age.

This verse applies to the end of that final age:

John 7:37 In the last day, that great day of the feast (Feast of Tabernacles), Jesus stood and cried, saying, if any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. 38 He that believeth on

me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

The Feast of Tabernacles is an Old Testament "type" which represents the final harvest of mankind which will occur at the end of the final age. The First Fruits are represented by the Feast of Weeks and are only the early portion of the harvest. They are NOT the full harvest as "many" believe.

This verse below also applies to that time.

Rev 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

Since the First Fruits are harvested early, the ends of the ages are said to come upon them now:

1Cor 10:11 Now all these things happened to them as types, and have been written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages are come.

The ends of the ages are NOT complete when this present age ends. This age is only for harvesting the First Fruits. There is still one more age of time left for Christ to bring in the full harvest of mankind.

So I take it that you do not believe there is another age coming?

There is a great deal of scripture which talks about the next age. Most of Joel chapter 2 takes place in that final age. It is in the final age when this verse is fulfilled:

Rev 5:10 And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

Finally, you did not answer my question about Christ fulfilling the mission His Father gave Him.

Are you going answer it?

Joe

Dear E_____,

You also said:

In the three manifestations of Christ: Flesh, Spirit, and Immortality, the "church age" is purposely avoiding and eclipsing Jesus' Spiritual presence in the world among us all. And of course they (the religious) would, it is the most crucial point of our salvation. Rom. 8:8-9, 1 Cor. 2:5 and 1 John 5:12-13.

You appear to be avoiding that, as well as Luke 17:28-29.

Once a believer is converted, they will remain in the presence of Christ forever. His "presence" is

a continuation of the Second coming of Christ when He "appears" to the converted believer. Once Christ appears to them at His second coming, He will continually be with them as they live out the rest of their days in the flesh.

Luke 17:28 Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; 29 But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all.

As for Luke 17:28-29, it is teaching on the Day of the Lord which immediately follows the Marriage Supper of the Lord. See Revelation chapter 19. The destruction of Sodom is a "type" which teaches the destruction of a believer's worsened carnal nature (the Great Harlot).

I'm not sure what point you are trying to make with this verse.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

The words "Age of God's Grace" is based on the assumption that the victory over death, by the sacrificial and shed blood of Jesus, is the only form of atonement that is acceptable to the Father for the forgiveness of sin.

Therefore, in the Day of Jesus' visible return from Heaven, the time for forgiveness of sin will have ended. John 3:16

Because the time shall come, when men will no longer repent towards God through faith in Jesus, it is at that time that Jesus shall be sent by the Father on His return trip, to redeem/resurrect/change all of His Saints into the likeness of Jesus' immortality, both those who have been dead, and those who are alive in that day. All others shall be destroyed, as if they had never been born.

E_____

Dear E_____,

You said:

The words "Age of God's Grace" is based on the assumption that the victory over death, by the sacrificial and shed blood of Jesus, is the only form of atonement that is acceptable to the Father for the forgiveness of sin.

Yes, a blood sacrifice is the only acceptable way to forgive sins.

However, the term "age of God's Grace" is not in scripture and is not even implied. Someone who doesn't understand the truth of scripture has taught you this falsehood.

You said:

Therefore, in the Day of Jesus' visible return from Heaven, the time for forgiveness of sin will have ended. John 3:16

Again, there are no scriptures which teach this belief. John 3:16 certainly doesn't teach it.

This is what scripture teaches:

Lam 3:22 The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end;

The nature and character of Christ never changes. He will always love His enemies and have mercy upon them. There is no time limit on the Grace of God.

In this age, Christ is only coming to and saving those people who were chosen from the foundation of the world. They are the First Fruits. No one else will be saved in this age. Their salvation will come at the end of the final age when Christ brings in the full harvest.

Don't confuse the First Fruits of the harvest as being the only ones who Christ will harvest. Christ is not going to leave most of mankind in the field to rot.

You said:

Because the time shall come, when men will no longer repent towards God through faith in Jesus...

Again, this is not true and is clearly contradicted by scripture.

2Pet 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

The penalty of sin is death. However, since Christ loves us all, He is not willing that any should perish and that all mankind come to repentance.

If Christ is not willing for anyone to perish, who can stop Him from saving us all?

Dan 4:35 And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; and he doeth according to his will in the army of the heavens, and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?

Mankind's "will" is NOTHING for Christ to overcome.

However, believers who have the spirit of anti-Christ within them think that mankind can stop Christ from accomplishing all that He has said He would do. Those believers have no faith, none at all.

Isa 55:11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

These fallen away believers say that mankind's supposed "free will" is too powerful for Christ to overcome or that some people are just too evil to save. These beliefs are lies from Satan. These fallen away believers have become a Man of Sin who sits in God's Temple and claims to be God. They are suffering from the "strong delusion" (**2Thes 2:11**). Christ has not "appeared" to these believers and they are not converted.

However, when Christ is ready to save these fallen away believers, Christ will come to them and give them the free gift of the Holy Spirit - if He doesn't come to them in this age, He will in the next age. With the free gift of the Holy Spirit within them, they will repent and call Jesus "Lord" - they can do nothing else:

1Cor 12:3 Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Spirit.

Do you believe this scripture below?

Phi 2:10 That at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 and that every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

From what you has stated, I'm sure you do not believe this scripture. Where is your faith to believe Christ?

You said:

All others shall be destroyed, as if they had never been born.

Again, this is not taught in scripture. You are making Christ out to be a monster who hates and kills His enemies. This belief is heresy and it is a lie taught by the ministers of Satan.

Here is what scripture teaches:

1Tim 2:3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior; 4 who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; 6 who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

Col 1:19 19 For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell; 20 And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.

1Cor 15:20 But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. 21 For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

Why do you not believe these verses? Have you never read them before or do you just believe Christ is just too weak or unloving to save everyone?

If you are receiving your "truth" from outside of scripture, you are never going to find the truth of Christ.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

The Apostle Paul gives a good description of what shall take place when the Lord is revealed from Heaven.

2 Thes. 1

[7] And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,

[8] In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

[9] Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;

[10] When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.

It is a simultaneous event of redemption for His Saints, and destruction of all who do not have the Spirit of Christ. Luke 17:28-30, Rom. 8:8-9.

E_____

Dear E_____,

Paul is teaching about the conversion process of a fallen away believer. It happens when Christ is "revealed from Heaven" within a believer (Latter Rain event). When Christ is revealed, judgment falls on the natural man who has been made "worse than the first" (**Mat 12:43-45**).

At that time, the child of God is born and gathered together to dwell with Christ in heaven (spiritually speaking). This is when a believer is glorified.

After a believer is converted, they will enter Christ's "rest" which Paul is presently experiencing (v. 7).

You're understanding scripture in a carnal way and not in a spiritual way.

Don't you realize that those who live by the Sword, must die by the Sword?

Do you understand what dying by the Sword means?

Those who receive the Early Rain of the Spirit have taken up the Word of God (Sword, Christ)

but to be saved, they must die by the Word of God (Sword, Christ). This is conversion.

This verse, too:

Isa 66:16 For by fire and by his sword will the LORD plead with all flesh: and the slain of the LORD shall be many.

The natural man is condemned already because he has sinned. But from that death, Christ will give us a new life as a child of God. Again, this is conversion.

John 12:24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.

Again, this verse above is teaching about conversion.

And this one, too:

Jer 18:4 And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it.

Christ is going to destroy the natural man (old vessel) and make us into the New Man (New Vessel). He does this because of His grace and not because of ANYTHING that mankind might do (no works required).

All the death and destruction which occurs because of judgment is a necessary part of conversion. And since all mankind is going to be converted, all mankind must spiritually die.

Do you believe this?

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

I already believe much of what you are saying, but I do not believe that all of mankind will be saved. Rom. 8:8-9.

When we were created, we were created with free will. Even after our conversion of being born again, while still in this body of death, we still have free will.

E_____

Dear E_____,

Mankind does NOT have a "free will". There are ZERO scriptures which teach this lie.

Consider what scripture actually teaches:

Joshua 24:15 Now if it seems bad to you to serve Jehovah, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve....

It is clear from this verse that mankind has the ability to choose. But having the ability to choose DOES NOT mean that a person has a FREE WILL ability to choose.

Here is the definition of FREE WILL: **The power or capacity to choose among alternatives or to act in certain situations independently of natural, social, or divine restraints.**

Scripture teaches that mankind's "will" definitely has divine restraints and is not free:

Prov 16:1 The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the LORD.

Prov 20:24 Man's goings are of the LORD; how can a man then understand his own way?

Prov 21:1 The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will.

Isa 26:12 O Jehovah, Thou appointest peace to us, for, all our works also Thou hast wrought for us.

Isa 64:8 But now, O LORD, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand.

Jer 10:23 I know, Jehovah, that the way of man is not his own; it is not in a man that walketh to direct his steps.

Jer 18:4 And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it.

Dan 4:35 And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; and he doeth according to his will in the army of the heavens, and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, what doest thou?

John 1:12 But as many as received him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: 13 which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

The verses above ALL teach that there are divine restraints on mankind's "will" and ability to choose. There are NO VERSES that state differently.

ONLY GOD THE FATHER HAS A FREE WILL ABILITY, MANKIND DOES NOT.

If we claim this free will ability for ourselves, we are making ourselves out to be God:

2Thes 2:1 Now we beseech you, brethren, by the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, **2** that ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. **3** Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there comes a falling away first, and that Man of Sin be revealed, the son of perdition; **4** who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

The MAN OF SIN is a spiritual symbol for all fallen away Christians. All called out Christians experience this “worse than the first” spiritual condition (**Mat 12:43-45**) shortly after receiving the Early Rain of the Spirit.

The Early Rain of the Spirit is the work of Christ within an unbeliever when He gives them a measured amount of the Holy Spirit and calls them out from the world. However, shortly after they have entered the church, the believer will fall away because they remained carnally minded and spiritually blind (**Mark 8:21-25**) after receiving the Early Rain. Because of these deficiencies, Christ (who is the Truth) is veiled from their understanding. At this time, the believer is deceived by Satan. After Satan's deceptions run their course, the called out believer will spiritually become worse than the first and they will turn to a works-based belief system (religion) for salvation. This system is what our carnal nature prefers:

Luke 5:39 No man also having drunk old wine straightway desireth new: for he saith, the old is better.

Because of our carnal nature's preference, the new believer will readily accept Satan's leavened bread (**Mat 13:33**). This is the false truth which comes from the light of this world (sun/moon). It is not the true bread/light which comes from heaven.

Coming out from religion is vitally important because salvation only comes to us by the New Covenant of Grace through Faith in Jesus Christ. Salvation cannot come to us by our own works or a mixing of our works with faith. Our faith must be solely based on Christ and His spiritual works.

Because we must come out from religion to be saved, it necessitates that Christ come to us a second time. This second coming event is when Christ gives a chosen believer the Latter Rain of the Spirit (also called the Baptism of the Holy Spirit). When Christ comes to His Elect with this gift, He will heal their spiritual blindness and appear to them. With the Latter Rain, the believer is born again.

The judgment of the Day of the Lord will then immediately follow the gift of the Holy Spirit. This judgment comes from God's Word when its truth is revealed to the believer. From its “brightness”, the Man of Sin who practices religion (**2Thes 2:8**) is destroyed. It is at this point that the believer will enter into the rest of Christ and will cease trying to be acceptable to Christ by their own works.

Mankind lives and makes choices ALL by the will and work of God. Understanding and believing this truth requires FAITH because mankind has no ability to observe the spiritual work of God which He does within us.

Ecc 3:11 He has made everything fitting in its season; However, He has put obscurity (the world) in their heart so that the man may NOT find out His work, that which God does, that which God does from the beginning to the end.

Mankind is blinded from seeing (understanding) God by our carnal nature. It is this foundation of spiritual blindness that gives support to the false Doctrine of Free Will.

Even Christ does not have a "free will":

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

Mankind is no different.

Jer 10:23 I know, Jehovah, that the way of man is not his own; it is not in a man that walketh to direct his steps.

Where is mankind's supposed "free will" in the verse above? It is not there.

When a believer has been deceived by the Doctrine of Free Will, that deception will cause them to have a "works" based belief system. This system is from Satan and is "of this world". A believer who approaches Christ with this "works" based system is not saved and has become a Man of Sin. They have not received the Latter Rain, nor have they been converted.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

Mat. 12:43-45 is speaking to/about the house of Israel and no other people.

Unfortunately, through your belief system, you are ignoring the three manifestations of Jesus' coming to mankind.

1. Past: in mortal flesh to Israel only. *Mat. 15:24, Mat. 23:37-39.*

2. Present- by His Holy Spirit to all the world. *Acts 2:16-18, Rev. 3:20*

3. Future- in Immortality to redeem all who are His, and to destroy all who are none of His. *Rom. 8:8-9. 2 Thes. 1:7-10.*

All the above scriptures are in your Bible, but for some reason you either have not read them, or you discount them to mean something else.

In my opinion, "church-ianity" prefers to ignore and disregard item #2 to a large extent, thereby causing all within it to become apostate, trading it off for the traditions and the doctrines of men.

1 Cor. 2

[5] That your faith should **not stand in** the wisdom of men, but [stand] in the power of God.

Though you speak of "the age to come", you are extremely unaware that we all are now in item #2, being that of the age of His Grace, of which will "suddenly" come to an end through item #3. 2 Pet. 3:7-13.

E_____

Dear E_____,

Much of what you said in this post is not true and is not in scripture. It has been taught to you by spiritually blind men.

There is no "age of Grace". Show me the scriptures if you have any. Show me the verses that say Christ's love and mercy have an end.

The false teaching of the "age of Grace" contradicts the very nature and character of God. Can't you see that?

Also, Mat 12:43-45 is a teaching which applies to the church (all believers who are "called out").

When the one unclean spirit leaves the new believer, it comes back with SEVEN more (**spirit of anti-Christ**) because the believer has not replaced their false beliefs of this world with the truth of Christ. It is not possible for them to replace them at this point. Why? Because the Early Rain is ONLY a small amount of the full amount (Latter Rain). Because the Early Rain is only given in "measure", the new believer remains carnally minded and spiritually blind. They are easy prey for Satan and that is why ALL called out believers "fall away" and become a Man of Sin. This is part of the Pathway to Salvation that the Elect must travel to be saved.

Salvation only comes with the Latter Rain of the Spirit.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

It relates to your concept that all humanity, both the converted and the unconverted shall be saved, whether they want it or not.

God never knocks down the door of our free will (the heart of our being), but instead waits patiently outside knocking, hoping for us to open the door, that He may enter into us.

In the day of our mortal death, the Lord can no longer knock upon our door.

Today, while we still have breath, is the day of our salvation. Therefore, either we will answer the door for our conversion, or we will not. And of course, all who do not, will suffer the results

of 2 Thes. 1:8-9, due to their own neglect.

Rev. 3

[20] Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: **if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.**

E_____

Dear E_____,

None of what you stated is true. You are understanding scripture "carnally" and not spiritually.

God's "will" rules supreme within His creation. He has repeatedly stated that He loves all mankind and that He will save all mankind. I have posted many verses which state this truth. However, you seem to have no ability to believe them at this time.

Mankind is only saved because it is God's "will" to save us.

John 1:12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: 13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, BUT OF GOD.

Mankind, in our created state, is carnally minded and hates God. In this state, we cannot understand Him nor can we seek Him out.

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

Rom 3:10 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: 11 There is NONE that understandeth, there is NONE that seeketh after God.

No amount of supposed "free will" ability can change what these two verses above say about mankind. Mankind is totally and completely at the mercy of Christ to come and save us. Mankind has no ability to contribute anything towards our own salvation, "lest any man should boast". In this spiritual condition, no man can make a confession of faith or call Jesus "Lord".

The only solution is for Christ to come to each of us and change us from "within".

When Christ comes to an unbeliever, He does not ask their permission to give them the Spirit nor can they reject His gift.

1Cor 12:3 Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Spirit.

It is only AFTER Christ has given a person the Holy Spirit can anyone call Jesus "Lord". And with the Holy Spirit, no man can reject Christ.

Paul is a "type" for how Christ gives a person the Holy Spirit.

1Tim 1:16 Howbeit for this cause, I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.

Paul was on his way to persecute the church in Damascus when Christ suddenly came to Paul. Christ gave Paul the Early Rain and Paul immediately fell to the earth and called Jesus "Lord". Three days later in Damascus, Paul was given the Latter Rain and was converted. Only then was Paul able to eat "meat". This is the only way a person's confession of faith happens. Mankind's "will" plays no part in it. If it did, our salvation would include man's "works" and we would have something to boast about.

Christ has promised to make this change within all mankind, but "every man in his own order".

1Cor 15:20 But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. 21 For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection from the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. 23 But every man in his own order: Christ the first-fruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming. 24 Then comes the consummation, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. 25 For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. 26 The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. 27 For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him. 28 And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all.

All mankind has died "in Adam" and this same "all" will be made alive "in Christ". Who can this possibly leave out?

After Christ has delivered up the Kingdom of Heaven which will contain 100% of mankind, God will be "all in all" and this verse below will be TESTIFIED to be true:

1Tim 2:3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior; 4 who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; 6 who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

Do you have enough faith to believe that Christ can actually do all that He has said He will do?

Or will you continue to believe the teachings of man over the teachings of Christ?

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

And what was it that Jesus said about that?

John 10:3-35,

[34] Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, **Ye are gods?**

Yes! Indeed we are gods, by which "that spirit of antichrist" operates, being seated in the temple of God (made by and for God), our mortal bodies, showing itself as God.

E_____

Dear E_____,

God the Father is the one supreme God. However, Jesus Christ is mankind's God because the Father made Him to be our God.

Being a "god" does not mean that we have a "free will". This is not taught in scripture.

Even Satan is the god of this world and he does not have a "free will" to operate independently from God's "will".

Only God the Father has a "free will". Everyone who God the Father has created as a "will" but their "will" is ALWAYS subservient to God the Father's "will". At no time did Christ claim that He could do as He pleased. He only did the Father's "will".

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

I don't think that you are seeing our free will since creation. Adam and Eve were created having only innocence, which is having no knowledge of evil or good at all.

From that point, they were introduced to the Tree of Life, and the Tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Both of which are symbolic, being that which is God's free will, as opposed to that which is human free will. In essence, by God, man was being allowed to make a choice by their own will. That is how we are made in the image of God.

That situation was brought about by God for no other reason but to allow mankind to have free will, so that they may choose whose will they desire to live by.

For us to say that man has no free will to choose, is to say that we are nothing more than "robots"

E_____

Dear E_____,

You said:

In essence, by God, man was being allowed to make a choice by their own will. That is how we are made in the image of God.

No, that is completely untrue. There are ZERO scriptures which teach that false belief. That understanding comes from outside of what scripture teaches.

Here is what scripture teaches:

Jer 18:4 And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it.

Rom 8:20 For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, 21 Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. 22 For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.

Adam and Eve were created spiritually marred and subject to vanity. This spiritual flaw made Adam and Eve "carnally minded". It is their carnal mind which caused them to sin.

Eve even displayed the three carnal reasons of why mankind sins BEFORE she even sinned.

Gen 3:6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food (LUST OF THE FLESH), and that it was pleasant to the eyes (LUST OF THE EYES), and a tree to be desired to make one wise (PRIDE OF LIFE), she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

Christ even placed Satan in the Garden of Eden to tempt Eve so that she would sin. With Eve being carnally minded and spiritually blind, Eve could make no other choice but to sin.

Her sin was planned and caused by God for it to happen. Why? Because this creation is for the purpose of creating new children for God. And because God wants His children to be like Him, we must have a knowledge of "good and evil". For that reason, God made Adam and Eve spiritually flawed and subject to vanity so that evil would come into the world.

You said:

For us to say that man has no free will to choose, is to say that we are nothing more than robots.

I have no "free will" and I do not consider myself a "robot".

Mankind makes choices but God controls what choices we make. You are attributing the attributes and the reasoning of mankind onto God. However, God is not like mankind nor does He reason as mankind's carnal mind reasons.

Prov 14:12 There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

You should stop using your carnal mind to understand God. You must learn to rely solely on

scripture to understand Him.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

Of course! Jesus allowed the Father's will to have priority and authority over him. Though He Himself was eternal with the Father, before the world was, the beginning of His sacrifice, in mortal flesh while on earth, was to submit to His Father's will, of Whom is Greater than Himself.

E_____

Dear E_____,

Christ "allowed" nothing. Christ could not possibly do anything that was not in compliance with His Father's "will", even to the point of His own death.

Gal 1:4 Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:

You're using human reasoning to understand God and it will fail every time because:

Isa 55:8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Joe

Dear E_____,

I believe this discussion as run its full course. Until you are given "eyes that can see" and the faith to believe what scripture teaches, I am not going to be able to help you.

Christ has a plan for your salvation and He will not let you down. If you have not been chosen as a First Fruit, there is nothing you or I can do to change it.

My work is to make the call of repentance to "called out" believers, just as John the Baptist made the call to the "called out" Nation of Israel. For those who respond to the call, Christ will come to them a second time and bring salvation. For those who don't respond, their salvation will be given to them at the end of the final age. I can only make the call, it is up to Christ as to who responds to it. You nor anyone else has a free will ability to deviate from God's plan and purpose for their life. We all must wait on the Lord to act.

John 12:32 And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.

Thanks for the discussion.

Joe