#86 FORUM POST ON BEING TRIED BY FIRE

Dear all,

Let's talk about the fires of purification which are spoken of in scripture. I know that at some point at least our works will be tried by fire in heaven? That if they survive the fire that it is treasure in heaven for us or something? And lately I am being led to believe that maybe some saved souls will also go through that fire? Is this correct or not?

What can you tell me about this?

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Dear M____,

This is probably the scripture you are referencing:

1Cor 3:13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. 14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. 15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

The setting for this scripture is the White Throne Judgment where Christ separates the sheep from the goats (Mat 25:31-46). It is at this time that the Elect (the sheep) will receive their reward of life during the ages and the honor of reigning with Christ in the final age.

Those who "suffer loss" are the goats. They will be cast into the Lake of Fire where they will eventually be saved by that fire.

This verse applies:

Mat 23:23 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law: justice, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

Before the "lost" perish in the Lake of Fire, Christ will have mercy upon them and give them faith. With this faith, the pathway for Christ to come to them will be made "straight" (Isa 40:3). When Christ comes to them, He will pour out the Early and Latter Rains of the Spirit which will birth the new child of God. Immediately after the child of God is born, the child will be gathered up to heaven. The child of the devil will remain in the Lake of Fire where he will perish. This satisfies "justice".

This entire spiritual process is called conversion.

So why does God's Word say that the lost are saved by "fire"?

Christ words are "spirit" (John 6:63) and they carry meanings that are different from what man's wisdom teaches (1Cor 2:13).

The spirit word "fire" represents Christ's judgment. It is not literal fire.

This verse applies:

2Pet 3:7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, <u>reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men</u>.

Since Christ loves mankind and came to save us, He longed to start that process of conversion:

Luke 12:49 "I came to send fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled!

Scripture says that all mankind will be judged (Mark 9:49) because judgment is a necessary component of conversion. Conversion is the spiritual process which destroys the child of the devil (mankind) and creates the new child of God.

These verses teach about conversion:

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.

Mat 26:52 Then said Jesus unto him, put up again thy sword into his place: for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword.

Mat 3:11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: <u>he shall baptize you with the Holy</u> <u>Spirit, and with Fire</u>.

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.

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.

Here is what most people do not understand: Christ is going to save all mankind.

It is for that purpose that Christ came into the world:

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

To complete the mission the Father gave to Christ, Christ established a two-fold plan which spans over two ages of time.

In this age, Christ is only saving (converting) those blessed individuals who have been <u>chosen</u> from the foundation of the world.

Eph 1:4 According as <u>he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world</u>, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: 5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, <u>according to the good pleasure of his will</u>, 6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

These blessed individuals are called the Elect. During this age, Christ is not saving anyone else.

Because the Elect are harvested early, the Elect are also called the First Fruits of the harvest. This early harvest is represented by the <u>Feast of Weeks (First Fruits)</u>. The remainder of the crop (the rest of mankind) will be harvested at year's end which will occur at the end of the final age. This final harvest is represented by the <u>Feast of Ingathering (Tabernacles</u>).

This verse applies:

Exo: 34:22 And thou shalt observe the <u>Feast of Weeks</u>, of the firstfruits of wheat harvest, and the <u>Feast of Ingathering</u> at the year's end.

In the final age, when the last day of the Feast of Ingathering arrives, Christ will make this call to the "lost":

John 7:37 In the last day, that great day of the feast, 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.

This is when Christ shows mercy to those who are being judged in the Lake of Fire and when He gives them the faith they need.

This same call is also presented below:

Rev 22:17 And the <u>Spirit and the bride</u> 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.

Notice in the verse above, the Elect (the Bride) are added to the call. It is for this purpose of helping Christ bring in the final harvest of mankind that the Elect were harvested early in this present age.

Joel chapter 2 presents the harvest of the "lost" at year's end - it is worth reading.

After the last person of mankind has been converted, this scripture will then be testified to be true:

1Tim 2:3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior; 4 <u>who will have all</u> <u>men to be saved</u>, and to come unto the <u>knowledge of the truth</u>. 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, <u>to be testified in due time</u>.

Joe

M_____ never responded.

Here is another post from another thread concerning Matthew 24 and spiritual blindness:

Dear FaithWillDo,

The disciples asked a twofold question if you look.

Matthew 24:3

And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of t he world?

So Jesus answers both, and Jesus begins His apocalyptic description of the future and outlines the events that will precede His second coming. We see Him conlude at verse 14. 14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

Jesus also answers the first part of the question, the events that will happen during the lifetime of the disciples in verse 15.

15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand

16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:

17 Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house:

18 Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes.

19 And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days!

20 But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day:

This clearly is the destruction of AD 70 in which the believers in Jerusalem fled and none were lost. From there He moves into the future, through what we call the Middle and Dark Ages, and ends with His return of which He says 'that day and hour knoweth no man'.

H____

Dear H____,

In your understanding of Matthew chapter 24, you are forgetting that Christ's words are 'spirit". To understand spirit words, we are to compare spiritual words and with spiritual words. After their true meaning is discerned, the message should be applied spiritually (within) a believer. You are treating Christ's words as if they are "carnal" words. The meaning of carnal words comes from this world and there is nothing concealed about their meaning.

Here is what Paul says about the end of the ages:

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

Paul says that the "ends of the ages" are coming upon the Elect now. That is true because the "ends of the ages" is a spirit phrase which represents the time an Elect believer is <u>converted and</u> <u>saved</u>. All of Matthew chapter 24 is teaching about the spiritual events which happen within each Elect believer as they travel the pathway to salvation & conversion. When a person cannot understand Christ's true message in chapter 24, it is because they are spiritually blind. The scales have not yet fallen from their eyes (Acts 9:18) and they are still in Damascus where they cannot eat or drink the truth of Christ.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

If you spiritualize Adam and Eve, and the days of Creation, then what. We're is the Creator.....gone as the deceiver desires...

H

Dear H____,

Adam and Eve and everything that is recorded in the OT is actual history. But as Paul said, they are 'types" which teach spiritual truths to the converted Elect (upon whom the ends of the ages have come):

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

Spiritually blind believers cannot "see" what these types are teaching - they only see the OT stories as history. However, for converted believers who have been given spiritual eyes (Mark 8:21-25), those stories teach a great deal more than just history. They teach spiritual truths which are fulfilled under the New Covenant. It is for this reason that Christ mentions the stories of Lot and Noah in Matthew 24 where He teaches about the "ends of the ages" coming upon the Elect. The historical <u>physical events</u> of each story represent the <u>spiritual events</u> which occur when an Elect believer is <u>converted</u>.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

But some claim they can see to lead others and yet they are spiritually blind, we have to be able to see the signs of the times right before our eyes.

H

Dear H____,

Many claim that they can see when they cannot:

Mat 24:11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.

By the start of the 1st century, 100% of the churches the apostles started had become apostate. The apostasy is what produced the <u>religion of orthodox Christianity</u> which mixes man's works with faith. That is why when an apostate believer is given the Latter Rain of the Spirit and has their spiritual blindness healed, they will <u>always</u> "see" the Abomination of Desolation that had previously occurred within themselves (God's temple).

Mat 24:15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand. 16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains: 17 Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house: 18 Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes.

If a believer has not seen this <u>sign of the times</u>, it means that they are still under the deceptions of the spirit of anti-Christ. Satan's deceptions are so powerful that no one is spared from them:

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

So when is a believer given "eyes that can see"?

Christ answers this question in the scripture below:

Mark 8:15 And he charged them, saying, take heed, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, and of the leaven of Herod. 16 And they reasoned among themselves, saying, it is because we have no bread. 17 And when Jesus knew it, he saith unto them, why reason ye, because ye have no bread? perceive ye not yet, neither understand? have ye your heart yet hardened? 18 Having eyes, see ye not? and having ears, hear ye not? and do ye not remember? 19 When I broke the five loaves among five thousand, how many baskets full of fragments took ye up? They say unto him, Twelve. 20 And when the seven among four

thousand, how many baskets full of fragments took ye up? And they said, Seven. 21 And he said unto them, <u>how is it that ye do not understand</u>?

In the verses above, Christ is giving His disciples a lesson on the spiritual language of God's Word - His language. At this point in time (before they were converted at Pentecost), the disciples had only received the <u>Early Rain of the Spirit</u> and had not yet received the <u>Latter</u> <u>Rain of the Spirit</u> (Baptism of the Holy Spirit). Because of such, the apostles were still <u>spiritually blind</u> and could not understand what Christ was teaching them.

Christ ends His comments above by asking the apostles this question: "<u>How is it that ye do not</u> <u>understand</u>"? No response from the Apostles is recorded in scripture. However, Christ answers His own question in the very next four verses.

Mark 8:22 And he cometh to Bethsaida; and they bring a blind man unto him, and besought him to touch him. 23 And he took the blind man by the hand, and led him out of the town; and when he had spit on his eyes, and put his hands upon him, he asked him if he saw ought. 24 And he looked up, and said, I see men as trees, walking. 25 After that he put his hands again upon his eyes, and made him look up: and he was restored, and saw every man clearly.

Since Christ is the Word of God, He teaches His converted Elect not only by parables and analogies but also by the things that He did. These teachings are called "types". In answering the question that He proposed to the disciples in verse 21, Christ goes to Bethsaida and gives us His answer in type by the healing of a blind man.

In verse 23, Christ leads a blind man out of the city. Once outside the city, Christ places spit on his eyes and touches him with His hands. These actions occur as the blind man is looking down which symbolizes the carnal aspect of His healing. Christ does not have to tell the blind man to look down, the blind man just does it <u>naturally</u>. The spit (water) Christ places on the man's eyes symbolizes the <u>Early Rain of the Spirit</u> with its accompanying vision (understanding). This event represents the time when an unbeliever is called out from the world and enters the church.

With the Early Rain of the Spirit, the new believer will no longer be totally blind but will instead be near-sighted. This happens because the Early Rain of the Spirit is only given in <u>measure</u> (a small amount) and will leave the believer carnally minded. In other words, the new believer will understand the teachings of Christ in a <u>carnal way</u> which will leave their house empty of the truth of God (Mat 12:43-45).

Because the new believer has almost no ability to understand the spiritual teachings of Christ, Satan will come to them and deceive them with his "another gospel" which mixes works with faith. The believer's deception happens quickly because Satan's false teachings are very pleasing to the believer's carnal nature.

Luke 5:39 No man also having drunk old wine straightway desireth new: for he saith, <u>The</u> old is better.

Scripture says that Satan is the crooked serpent (Job 26:13). Satan is called the crooked serpent because he teaches the crooked way of salvation by man's works. As a result, Satan's gospel mixes man's works (religion, Old Covenant) with the works of Christ (faith alone, New Covenant).

This false gospel is very deceptive to carnally minded believers:

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

When a believer accepts Satan's false gospel, they will mix the Old Wine with the New Wine. This will cause the believer to become "lukewarm" (Rev 3:16) and they will fall from grace (Gal 5:4).

Adding "works" to faith is the "sin that leads to death". John mentions that sin in 1John 5:16 and Paul mentions it in Heb 6:1-6.

These verses below apply to mixing the Old Wine with the New Wine:

Isa 1:21 How is <u>the faithful city become an harlot</u>! it was full of judgment; righteousness lodged in it; but now murderers. 22 Thy silver is become dross, <u>thy wine mixed with water</u>:

Prv 23:29 Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes? 30 They that tarry long at the wine; <u>they that go to seek mixed wine</u>. 31 Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. 32 <u>At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder</u>.

Next in the story, Christ asks the blind man what he can see. The man looks up and says that he can see men "walking as trees". "Walking as trees" is a spiritual symbol for called out believers who walk by sight rather than by faith. At this point, the blind man is a type for a carnally minded believer. The man's blindness is not total any longer but he is still very near-sighted and can only see Christ "in the flesh" (carnally).

In the final verse of the story, Christ lays His hands upon the man's eyes again, but as He does, Christ has the man look up instead of down. This second healing represents the <u>Latter Rain of</u> <u>the Spirit</u> when clear spiritual vision is given to an Elect believer. The man's upward gaze represents the spiritual aspect of the healing in contrast to the carnal aspect when the blind man was looking down at the earth.

The man is now shown to be a type for a <u>called AND chosen believer</u> (the Elect) who receive both the Early and Latter Rains of the Spirit.

James 5:7 Be patient therefore, brethren, <u>unto the coming of the Lord</u>. Behold, the farmer waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and <u>hath long patience for it</u>, until he receives the <u>EARLY and LATTER RAIN</u>. 8 Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: <u>for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh</u>.

It is at this time that the man has been given "eyes that can see". He is now ready for the <u>Marriage Supper of the Lamb</u> where Christ will feed the believer His truth. After the believer is sufficiently nourished with bread, meat and New Wine, the believer will come out from Satan's deceptions and will begin walking by faith.

Joe

Below is more on the pathway to salvation from another thread.

Dear FaithWillDo,

"Early Rain", "Latter Rain" "Manifest Sons of God", no matter what you call your false **religion** by which you spiritualize beyond its Divinely-inspired meaning what God has foretold through the prophets, it's your own false religion that you are adhering to which is produced in the carnal imaginations of men.

The abomination of desolation that you refer to is this:

1 Corinthians 6

17 But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.

18 Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body.

19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

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

That's where it starts, and when the saints collectively follow false doctrine and engage in fornication with the harlot of the Revelation (the kings of the earth committing fornication with the harlot), it becomes the abomination of desolation in the holy place - the man of sin/son of perdition in the temple of God.

ALL born-again believers in Jesus who read it 1 Corinthians 6:17-20 believe it. Some will pay more attention to it than others, and many will not hearken, as according to 2 Thessalonians 2, there will be a general apostasy in the body of Christ involving this very abomination of

desolation in the holy place/temple of God.

You have taken the plain and literal meaning of the Divinely-inspired scripture and twisted and corrupted it - making yourself guilty of being a false prophet/false teacher.

Get out of your "Early Rain/Latter Rain/Manifest Sons of God" heresy now before you blaspheme God and grieve the Holy Spirit.

I.O.W, repent now before it's too late for you. Because your false **religion** has already led many to the exaltation of the creature to the status of the Most High. Man is NOT Christ. The only Man who is Christ is Jesus the Messiah.

Z

Dear Z____,

You must be lumping my understanding in with others because there are things in your comments that I have never said nor do I believe.

You said:

The abomination of desolation that you refer to is this:

1 Corinthians 6

17 But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.

18 Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body.

19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

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

What this scripture above teaches <u>is what I have been stating to you</u>. The Abomination of Desolation happens 'within" a fallen away believer when the spirit of anti-Christ enters them. There will be no rebuilt physical temple in Jerusalem as most believe. Under the New Covenant, a believer who has the Holy Spirit (even just the Early Rain of the Spirit) is the temple of God. This is where the A of D occurs.

In Matthew chapter 24, Christ is teaching about when the Kingdom of Heaven (salvation) comes to one of His Elect. He is teaching about the spiritual pathway that He causes each of them to follow. As they travel that pathway, Satan will kill them (Mat 24:9). Satan kills the Elect when he plants his seed (spirit of anti-Christ) within them. This will cause the believer to follow Satan's crooked way (works) instead of Christ's straight way (faith alone). This is the sin that leads to death and is when the Abomination of Desolation occurs within an Elect believer.

When Christ returns with the Latter Rain, the believer's spiritual blindness will be healed and they will then be able to "see" the Abomination of Desolation that previously occurred within themselves (Mat 24:15:16). When they see this sign of the times, they should flee to the mountains because Christ is about to judge them. When Christ judges them, He will remove the spirit of anti-Christ and the Great Harlot (represents the worsened carnal nature of the person) and cast them into the Lake of Fire for destruction. This judgment event will complete the believer's conversion.

This scripture applies:

Mat 24:40 Then shall two (one believer) be in the field; the one shall be taken (spirit of anti-Christ), and the other left (Holy Spirit). 41 Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken (Great Harlot), and the other left (new spiritual nature of the Holy Spirit).

This scripture above is referring to <u>one believer</u> who has both the spirit of anti-Christ and the Holy Spirit within them. This is what Christ meant when He said you can't serve two masters. This concept is also taught by the Parable of the Wheat and the Tares. Also, notice that the believer is in the <u>field</u> or at the <u>mill</u>. Both places symbolize that the believer is "working" and has not yet entered into the rest of Christ.

Below, Christ teaches how the Abomination of Desolation happens to a new believer:

Mat 12:43 When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. 44 Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished. 45 Then goeth he, and <u>taketh with himself SEVEN other spirits more wicked than himself</u>, and they enter in and dwell there: and the <u>last state of that man is worse than the first</u>. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.

The spiritual symbol of an unclean spirit represents a spirit which teaches Satan's false truth through lies and deceptions.

Since a new believer remains <u>spiritually blind</u> (Mark 8:21-25) after receiving the Early Rain of the Spirit, they cannot replace their worldly false beliefs with the truth of Christ. ONE unclean spirit leaves but comes back with SEVEN more. The number "seven" represents perfection. In this case, the number seven represents the perfection of Satan's lies/deceptions which come to a believer by the indwelling of the spirit of anti-Christ. Now, instead of ONE unclean spirit within the believer, they now have EIGHT. The number eight is a spiritual symbol which represents a <u>new spiritual condition</u>. In this case, the new spiritual condition is <u>worse than the first</u>.

This "worse than the first" spiritual condition causes the believer to become a <u>False Prophet</u>, a <u>Man of Sin</u>, a <u>Minister of Satan</u> and a <u>Seven Headed Beast with Ten Horns & Crowns</u>.

Don't think that you or anyone else who has received the Early Rain of the Spirit (and has entered the church) can avoid becoming a Man of Sin. Christ said that these things <u>must</u> happen:

Mat 24:6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: <u>for</u> <u>all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.</u>

The "end" that Christ mentions above occurs when the Kingdom of Heaven comes to an Elect believer. This is when they are converted. After they are converted, the "ends of the ages" will have come upon them (as Paul says below):

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

The "ends of the ages" which Christ is teaching about in Matthew chapter 24 occurs when a believer is converted. The "signs of the times" are spiritual signs which happen <u>within</u> a person. They are not outward world events which happen at the literal end of the age.

Remember that Christ said that the Kingdom of Heaven comes without observation and that it is "within you":

Luke 17:20 And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: 21 Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.

And since Christ words are "spirit", they must be spiritually applied <u>within</u> a person and not out into the world as carnally minded believers apply them.

All the destruction and judgment shown in the verses that Davidpt quoted in this thread are teaching about the spiritual events which occur during a person's judgment. Those events will <u>not</u> happen out in the world where human eyes can see them.

You said:

You have taken the plain and literal meaning of the Divinely-inspired scripture and twisted and corrupted it - making yourself guilty of being a false prophet/false teacher.

The teachings of Christ are not "plain and literal".

Christ teaches with "spirit" words which have meanings not taught by man's wisdom. He then uses those spirit words in parables, analogies and types to teach His spiritual messages. Only the Elect who have been "weaned from the breasts" (those who have received the Latter Rain) will have the ability to understand His messages. But even then, it is a long and difficult process to find His hidden treasure: Prov 2:1 My son, if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments with you, 2 making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; 3 yes, if you call out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, 4 if you <u>seek it like silver</u> and search for it as for hidden treasures, 5 then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

Christ does not keep His truth hidden and this is not what He taught.

14 The sower sows the word.

15 These are the ones on the path where the word is sown: Whenever they hear, immediately Satan comes and snatches the word that was sown in them.

16 These are the ones sown on rocky ground: As soon as they hear the word, they receive it with joy.

17 But they have no root in themselves and do not endure. Then, when trouble or persecution comes because of the word, immediately they fall away.

18 Others are the ones sown among thorns: They are those who hear the word,

19 but worldly cares, the seductiveness of wealth, and the desire for other things come in and choke the word, and it produces nothing.

20 But these are the ones sown on good soil: They hear the word and receive it and bear fruit, one thirty times as much, one sixty, and one a hundred."

21 He also said to them, "A lamp isn't brought to be put under a basket or under a bed, is it? Isn't it to be placed on a lampstand?

22 For nothing is hidden except to be revealed, and nothing concealed except to be brought to light.

23 If anyone has ears to hear, he had better listen!"

24 And he said to them, "Take care about what you hear. The measure you use will be the measure you receive, and more will be added to you.

25 For whoever has will be given more, but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him."

It is to do with the condition of the human heart. It is NOT CHRIST "KEEPING HIS TRUTH HIDDEN SO THAT".

You have twisted the teaching of Christ in your own carnal human mind and are teaching a false doctrine based on your own carnal thoughts and not on the Word of God, showing that you have no spiritual understanding.

This is also not the only way you twist the doctrine of the Lord and His chosen apostles. You continue to do this in many ways in the statements you make regarding scripture and what it teaches.

What lies you preach, friend. God does not cause the apostasy of any part of His elect, the church. He never has, and He never will. Your claim is tantamount to saying that God caused Adam's apostasy. What you assert is a blasphemous insult to God. God is not responsible for the apostasy of Israel or of the church. The human heart is - and the proof already lies in the fact that your own doctrine is apostate, and antichrist.

No believer was on a pathway "up to their conversion". Christ condescended to come and die for our sins and rose again from the dead. Salvation is all His work and the work of the Holy Spirit calling those to faith in Christ who are born of His Spirit when they receive Him.

You are the one who is spiritually blind and makes Christ out to be a "blood thirty monster".

I suggest Joe, that you earnestly need to do what you are calling those who Christ knows because they belong to Him, to do - because your posts are FULL of false doctrines NOT taught by Jesus or by His apostles, or by any of the prophets of God (I have not even listed them all).

Your false doctrine, twisting of Christ and His apostles' doctrine, arrogance and pride betray one who is not born of God and does not understand. As a result you have been completely unable to make any positive contribution to this thread whatsoever. Go hurl abuse at the man in your mirror when you find the beam in his eye - and you truly need to look for that beam - because it's there, and very obvious to all believers in Christ except yourself.

Z

Dear Z____,

You are ignoring all the scriptures that I have posted. The few scriptures that you have posted in no way <u>contradict</u> what I have stated.

John says that apostate believers (those who have the spirit of anti-Christ) will deny that Christ ever came to them in the flesh:

1John 4:3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

John is not referring to the time when Christ walked the earth. John is referring to the time when Christ first comes a person and gives them the Early Rain of the Spirit. The Early Rain of the Spirit leaves the new believer carnally minded and spiritually blind. <u>Because of such, the new believer can only see Christ "in the flesh"</u>. In other words, the new believer has only a carnal understanding of God's Word (Christ). They are not "weaned from the breasts" (Isa 28:9-12).

Because all apostate believers are in this same spiritually blind condition, they will deny that Christ ever came to them in the flesh - and most will deny that there is even such a thing as the Early Rain of the Spirit. They are just too spiritually blind to see it this "great mystery of Christ and His church" (**Eph 5:32**).

Below is a short teaching on the Early and Latter Rains of the Spirit:

The Early and Latter Rain symbols are used in the farming analogy. In that analogy, Christ is the Farmer, the Rain is the Holy Spirit and a child of God is the crop that Christ is growing.

Consider these scriptures below:

Hos 6:3 Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and <u>he shall come unto us as the RAIN, as the Latter and Early Rain unto the earth</u>.

James 1:18 Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of <u>First Fruits</u> of his creatures.

James 5:7 Be patient therefore, brethren, <u>unto the coming of the Lord</u>. Behold, the farmer waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, <u>UNTIL he receives</u> <u>the EARLY and LATTER RAIN</u>. 8 Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: <u>for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh</u>.

The pathway to salvation begins for a person when Christ first comes to them and plants His seed <u>within</u> them. Mankind is the "field" where the seed is planted.

Mat 13:24 Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field:

The seed is the <u>Early Rain of the Spirit</u>. But before the seed can grow into wheat (child of God) and be ready for harvest, Satan comes to the new believer and plants his seed within them, too:

Mat 13:25 But while men slept (time of spiritual blindness), his enemy (Satan) came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way.

Satan's seed is the spirit of anti-Christ. When it is grown, it produces a tare. The tare is a symbol for the Man of Sin (worsened child of the devil).

Since the field (the Elect believer) now contains both good and bad seeds, the parable says that the farmer (Christ) will let them both grow to maturity.

Mat 13:30 Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to

the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

It is during this time (when both the good and bad seeds are within the believer) that a <u>spiritual</u> <u>war</u> is fought (**Eph 6:12**). This war is presented in many scriptures - some of them were presented by Davidpt in his original post.

During this spiritual war, Satan will <u>temporarily win</u> and begin governing the believer. This is when Satan kills the believer (causes them to lose their salvation) and when the believer becomes a <u>Man of Sin</u> (worse than the first, **Mat 12:43-45**).

The believer will remain as a Man of Sin until they physically die <u>OR</u> until Christ "comes again" to them.

Most apostate believers will die in their sins and be resurrected to judgment. They simply were not chosen by God to be a part of the early harvest of mankind. They were 'called" but not "chosen":

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

However, for those who have been chosen from the foundation of the world (the Elect, the "few"), their days as a Man of Sin will be "shortened" (**Mat 24:22**). For them, Christ will come to them a second time before they physically die. When Christ comes, He will pour out the Latter Rain of the Spirit, followed by the baptism of Fire (judgment). With these two baptisms (**Mat 3:11**), the spiritual war will resume and this time it will be won by the Christ and His Bride (**Rev 19:11-21**). This victory will result in the conversion of the Elect believer who will then be harvested into the Kingdom of Heaven as a First Fruit.

The converted Elect believer (child of God) is symbolized as "wheat" and as the "precious fruit of the earth".

With this understanding of the farming analogy which I have presented above, consider what these verses below teach:

1Sam 12:17 Is it not wheat harvest to day? I will call unto the LORD, and he shall send thunder and RAIN (the Latter Rain); that ye may perceive and see that your wickedness is great, which ye have done in the sight of the LORD, in asking you a king.

Jer 3:3 Therefore the showers have been withholden, and there hath been no <u>Latter Rain;</u> and <u>thou hadst a whore's forehead, thou refusedst to be ashamed</u>.

Because all Early Rain believers who have been "chosen" will become a Man of Sin, they will "perceive and see" that their "wickedness is great" when Christ heals their spiritual blindness

with the Latter Rain.

Also, at that time, they will "see the Abomination of Desolation" (Mat 24:15-16) and the Man of Sin (themselves) will be revealed (2Thes 2:8).

After they see who they became under Satan's deceptions, judgment will immediately follow to remove the spirit of anti-Christ and the Great Harlot (**Mat 24:40-41**). This judgment is represented by the burning of the tares. After the tares are burned, the wheat (the new child of God) is ready to be harvested into the Kingdom of Heaven. In other words, the believer is now saved and converted.

This moment of conversion is when the "ends of the ages" come upon them (1Cor 10:11).

Can you now see how the Early and Latter Rain teach the pathway to salvation?

The pathway to salvation as taught by the farming analogy does not stand alone in scripture - it is taught in many other places.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

There is no point in quoting scriptures and then completely twisting their meaning the way you have done.

You have no spiritual understanding of the scriptures. For example, in Hosea God has been prophesying against the Northern Kingdom of Israel (Ephraim) as well as against the Southern Kingdom (Judah), and this continues in chapter 6, where we find the metaphor in verse 3:

1 Come and let us return to the LORD. For He has torn, and He will heal us; He has stricken, and He will bind us up.

2 After two days He will bring us to life; in the third day He will raise us up, and we shall live in His sight.

3 Then we shall know, if we follow on to know the LORD. His going out is prepared as the morning; and He shall come to us as the rain, as the latter and former rain to the earth.

Then comes the subject that the metaphor pertains to:

4 O Ephraim, what shall I do to you? O Judah, what shall I do to you? For your goodness is like a morning cloud, and as the early dew it goes away.

5 So I have cut them down by the prophets; I have slain them by the words of My mouth. And your judgments were as the light that goes out.

6 For I desired mercy and not sacrifice, and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings. 7 **But, like Adam, they have broken the covenant. They have acted like traitors against Me**

<mark>there.</mark>

It's referring to the Old Covenant, and to Old Testament Israel. In your false doctrine you have used the metaphor in verse 3 to spiritualize the (metaphorical) reference to the early rain and the latter rain, and taken a prophecy applying to Old Testament Israel and Judah, and superimposed it onto believers in Christ,

using it to turn the way God works in those individuals who believe in Jesus, and the way God works in the in the church/es, into your own version of a kind of "Pilgrim's Progress", and you have done this after twisting the scriptures all out of proportion

- but you do not even ATTEMPT to provide even one place in the gospels where Jesus taught your application of Hosea, or one place in the epistles where the Apostles taught it - because it's not there - and it's not there because your application is false doctrine.

A real EXAMPLE of the progress of the individual who is saved by Christ can be found in the REAL Pilgrim's Progress book - not in your twisted non-biblical adaptation of it.

ALL the scriptures you quote in support of your false doctrines DO NOT support them, because you are misapplying scripture to suit what in your puffed up human imagination you assert viz yourself and all other believers, where you are the one who is spiritual and the rest who believe in Christ are an abomination of desolation and lost.

It's pathetic self-exultation of the worst kind done by someone who accuses others who belong to Christ of "not being saved".

Ζ

Dear Z____,

The physical Nation of Israel will be saved in the same manner as all mankind will be saved. They must be converted into a spiritual child of God. The flesh counts for nothing.

Rom 2:28 For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: 29 But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.

You quoted:

1 Come and let us return to the LORD. For He has torn, and He will heal us; He has stricken, and He will bind us up.

2 After two days He will bring us to life; in the third day He will raise us up, and we shall live in His sight.

3 Then we shall know, if we follow on to know the LORD. His going out is prepared as the morning; and He shall come to us as the rain, as the latter and former rain to the earth.

Then comes the subject that the metaphor pertains to:

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5 So I have cut them down by the prophets; I have slain them by the words of My mouth. And your judgments were as the light that goes out.

6 For I desired mercy and not sacrifice, and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings. 7 But, like Adam, they have broken the covenant. They have acted like traitors against Me there.

Yes, Hosea 6:1-7 applies to the physical Nation of Israel.

The <u>number two</u> represents the witness of God. These are the Elect.

The <u>number three</u> represents a spiritual process.

Hosea 6:1-3 is teaching about the <u>salvation</u> of the Nation of Israel.

When the scripture says that "after two days He will bring us to life", it is referring to the <u>timing</u> of their salvation. The two days does not mean literal time. That is a carnal understanding of those spirit words. Being saved after two days means that the physical Nation of Israel will be saved <u>after</u> the full harvest of the Elect (the number 2) is complete in this age. That only leaves the final age for the Nation of Israel to be saved.

To accomplish the physical Nation of Israel's conversion (the third day, a spiritual process), Christ will give them the Early & Latter Rains of the Spirit just as He gave earlier to the Elect in this age.

Hosea 6:4-7 then tells the Nation of Israel why they were not saved by the Old Covenant of Law.

What I have presented above is what Hosea 6:1-7 is actually teaching.

In the final age, this scripture below will apply to all the "lost" who are being judged by the Law:

Mat 23:23 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law: justice, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

When the "lost" are judged in the final age, Christ will NOT omit justice, mercy and faith during their time of judgment.

Before the "lost" perish (the true penalty of sin), Christ will have mercy upon them. His mercy comes to them in the form of the Early Rain of the Spirit. With the Early Rain, they will have the

necessary faith to make Christ's pathway straight for Him to "come again" and pour out the Latter Rain of the Spirit. With both the Early and Latter Rains of the Spirit, the "lost" will be "born again". The new child of God will then be gathered up to heaven. Justice will be served by the destruction of the child of the devil. This spiritual process is called conversion.

Joel 2:1-27 teaches the salvation of the physical Nation of Israel. Christ's army who reign with Him are the Elect. Then in verse 18, it says that the Lord will pity His people. Then in verse 23, it shows the Nation of Israel receiving the Early and Latter Rains.

Paul says this about the timing of the physical Nation of Israel's salvation:

Rom 11:25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. 26 And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: 27 For this *is* my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins.

What Paul said above is supportive of what Hosea 6:1-3 says.

Also, notice that Paul says the Nation of Israel's salvation will come only after the full salvation of the Gentiles.

After the Nation of Israel is saved in the final age, these scriptures will be testified to be true:

1Tim 2:3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior; 4 <u>who will have all</u> <u>men to be saved</u>, and to come unto the <u>knowledge of the truth</u>. 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, <u>to be testified in due time</u>.

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.

Rom 5:15 But shall not the act of favour be as the offence? For if by the offence of one the many have died, much rather has the grace of God, and the free gift in grace, which is by the one man Jesus Christ, abounded unto the many.

Salvation is truly a free gift from God. It is for this reason that the Father sent Christ into the world:

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

You said:

- but you do not even ATTEMPT to provide even one place in the gospels where Jesus taught your application of Hosea, or one place in the epistles where the Apostles taught it - because it's not there because your application is false doctrine.

I presented you many scriptures from the Gospels which teach the truth of the Early and Latter Rains. You just can "see" them because Christ teaches in "another language" that you do not understand. Plus, Christ teaches His truth "here a little and there a little". He teaches in this way so that believers who are spiritually blind will "fall backward, be broken, and snared and taken":

Isa 28:9 Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts. 10 For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: 11 For with stammering lips and <u>another language</u> will he speak to this people. 12 But the word of the LORD was unto them precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line; here a little; that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken.

Not only does the farming analogy use the Early and Latter Rains, that concept is also used by the marriage analogy taught by the Parable of the Ten Virgins. Can you see the Early and Latter Rains in that parable?

The Early and Latter Rains is also taught by the story of the woman taken in adultery (**John 8:3-10**) and by the healing of the blind man in Mark 8:15-25. Can you see the Early and Latter Rains in those teachings?

Also, Paul's conversion experience in Acts 9 is a "type" which teaches the pathway to salvation (**1Tim 1:16**). It shows when Paul received the Early and Latter Rains.

Joe

Z_____ never responded.