

#5 FORUM POST ON THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

Dear all,

There are two comings. One for the body of Christ before the tribulation and one for Israel at the end of the tribulation.

Christ will come, I believe, before the tribulation for the body, the dead in Christ will rise first then we which are alive.

After the tribulation Christ will come to take the believing remnant of Israel into the kingdom on earth (Luke 12:32).

1 Thessalonians 4:15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

4:16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

4:17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

The saints, the body of Christ, will be with Christ forever in the heavenly places. The body of Christ must appear before the judgment seat of Christ for rewards (2 Corinthians 5:10).

1 Thessalonians 3:13 To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.

The above verse speaks of the mystery resurrection of the body of Christ; Christ comes and brings the saints (believers) up to himself. This verse is not speaking of his coming for believing Israel. The body of Christ will NOT come back with Jesus at his coming for Israel and the establishment of his kingdom.

Look at Jude 1:14 And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,

Now look at Deuteronomy 33:2 And he said, The LORD came from Sinai, and rose up from Seir unto them; he shined forth from mount Paran, and he came with ten thousands of saints: from his right hand went a fiery law for them.

Now look at Acts 7:52 Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers:

7:53 Who have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept it.

Deuteronomy and Acts above are speaking of the saints as being the angels, who were mediators of the law; saints are angels as well as believers. Also the body of Christ had not yet been formed when Deuteronomy was written; the body was not revealed before Paul (Ephesians 3:5).

Matthew 16:27 For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.

Matthew clearly states the angels will come with Christ to establish the earthly kingdom for believing Israel.

One last point, Jude in 1:14 above, could not have prophesized anything about the body of Christ because it was hid in God and only revealed first to Paul (Ephesians 3:9).

Angels are the ten thousands of saints that come with Christ.

D _____

Dear D _____,

I want to focus on 1 Thes 3:13 because it is vital for a correct understanding of the second coming of Christ.

First of all, the verse is not properly translated. It should read:

1 Thes 3:13 To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his holy ones (angels).

When Christ returns, He comes to the saints and He does so with His holy angels.

Christ's purpose for coming to an Elect person is to make their hearts blameless before the Law so that they are "ready" (faithful & blameless) for judgment to begin (Day of the Lord). Christ makes an Elect person blameless by giving them the Latter Rain of the Spirit (the baptism of the Spirit). After He does, the Day of the Lord will commence for that person to complete their conversion.

This second coming event is an Elect person's moment of salvation:

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.

The verses below are referring to the same salvation event:

1Cor 1:8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end (by the Latter Rain), that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Mat 24:30 And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. 31 And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

2Pet 3:13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. 14 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

1Thes 5:23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2Thes 1:7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, (converted, entered into the rest of Christ) when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, 18 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

Christ is only revealed to a person after their spiritual blindness is healed. It is healed when they receive the Latter Rain of the Spirit (Spirit of Truth). This truth is taught in Mark 8:15-25 and also by Paul's conversion when the scales fell from Paul's eyes. In fact, the book of Revelation is about the unveiling of Christ within His Elect. And because it happens before they die, the sayings of the prophecy will shortly come to pass for each of them.

Rev 1:1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified *it* by his angel unto his servant John:

Consider this:

If a person is saved before they die, are they not then "blameless" before the Law? According to Paul they are.

So the real question is: When is an Elect person saved?

Does it happen before they physically die or is it only at the literal end of this age?

Consider what Peter said when He was converted:

Acts 2:14 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words: 15 For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day. 16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; 17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: 18 And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: 19 And I will show wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke: 20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, BEFORE the great and notable Day of the Lord come come: 21 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Peter is describing the second coming of the Lord when He pours out the Latter Rain of the Spirit. After Christ does, the sun and the moon are darkened for the person because the newly born child of God will not receive their truth (light) from the natural sun (Satan) or the natural moon (bondwoman/Old Covenant) any longer. They will now receive their truth from the Sun of Righteousness which has just risen within them. Peter ends his statement by saying that this is when a person is saved.

In the story of the adulterous woman (**John 8:3-10**), Christ is teaching when a person is made blameless before the Law. Christ's writing in the earth symbolizes when He writes the law of the Spirit within the heart of the woman. The first time He writes in the earth represents the Early Rain of the Spirit. After He does though, the Pharisees still accuse the woman and do not drop their stones (symbol for the Law). But after Christ writes in the earth a second time (the Latter Rain), the woman is made blameless before the Law. The Pharisees then drop their stones and leave.

The second coming of Christ is a reoccurring event when He brings salvation to each of His Elect. It happens to each of the Elect before they die. And because each person's life is like a vapor that vanishes quickly (James 4:14), Christ said this about His second coming:

Rev 22:20 He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

An Elect person does not have to wait to the literal end of the ages to receive their salvation. The "end of the ages" is a symbol for when a person is converted & saved. For the Elect, the end of

the ages will come upon each of them before they die.

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

None of what is commonly taught about the end-times (end of the ages) and the second coming of Christ is true.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

Saints are holy as well, so you can't base which is which on this verse alone.

FaithWillDo said:

The second coming of Christ is a reoccurring event when He brings salvation to each of His Elect. It happens to each of the Elect before they die. And because each person's life is like a vapor that vanishes quickly (James 4:14)

Are you saying Christ is not coming back at the end of the tribulation to save Israel?

D

Dear D_____,

You said:

Saints are holy as well so you can't base which is which on this verse alone.

You are exactly right. That is why we must look to other scripture to find out who comes back with Christ when He brings the Latter Rain and salvation.

2Thes 1:7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, (converted, entered into the rest of Christ) when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, 18 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

Here is the verse again:

1 Thessalonians 3:13 To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his holy ones (angels).

Paul is writing to unconverted Thessalonian believers (babes). They have received the Early Rain

of the Spirit and are waiting for the Lord to return with the Latter Rain. When they receive the Latter Rain, they will be made blameless when they are judged during the Day of the Lord. This happened to the Thessalonian Elect before any of them physically died which would have been somewhere around 55 - 70 A.D.

A second reason for why the holy ones are angels is because there are no Elect available to come with Christ when He comes to the other Elect believers. The Elect are not available because the bodily resurrection from the grave does not occur until the end of this age. So when Christ comes a second time to the Thessalonian Elect, all the other Elect are either still in the flesh or they are in the grave waiting for the resurrection. The only holy ones available to come with Christ are the holy angels.

Mat 25:31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

Mar 8:38 Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.

Luke 9:26 For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and *in his* Father's, and of the holy angels.

You said:

Are you saying Christ is not coming back at the end of the tribulation to save Israel?

As I stated in my first post, NONE of what is commonly taught about end-time prophecy is true.

The end of the ages is a spiritual symbol which represents the conversion of the Elect. It is not talking about literal time. When the end of the ages comes upon an Elect person, they will be converted and made blameless. Immediately after they are made blameless, the Day of the Lord will commence and remove all the spiritual things (chaff) within them that has made them carnally minded and sinful. After this judgment is complete, the believer will be converted.

Also, there is no time of tribulation that happens at the literal end of this age. The great tribulation is referring to when an Elect believer experiences a time of being indwelt with the spirit of anti-Christ, causing them to become "worse than the first" (**Mat 12:43-45**). This is when they become a man of sin, a seven headed beast with 10 horns & crowns, a false prophet and a minister of Satan.

All the Elect since Paul's "departing" will experience a time of great tribulation right before Christ returns to convert them. This is one of the signs of the times.

Consider this verse:

Mat 24:14 And this gospel of the kingdom (Satan's false gospel) shall be preached in all the world (completely within the believer) for a witness unto all nations (all the beliefs of the believer); and then shall the end come (time of conversion).

After an Elect believer has received the Latter Rain and has their spiritual blindness healed, they will see the Abomination of Desolation that previously occurred within themselves (God's Temple) when the spirit of anti-Christ indwelt them.

Mat 24:15 When ye (not "if") 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: (because judgment is about to fall).

In verse 16, Christ is referring to the "type" taught by Lot fleeing Sodom and Gomorrah.

The one who flees to the mountains (Lot) represents the newly born child of God who is not judged. Only the man of sin & Great Harlot are judged. Sodom (also called the Great Harlot) represents the carnal and religious spiritual nature of the marred spirit. It's judgment is also presented in Revelation chapter 18 and in Mat 24:37-41.

As for the physical Nation of Israel, they will die in their sins during this present age and will be resurrected to judgment in the final age. But before any of them perish from their time of judgment (symbolized by the Lake of Fire), Christ will have mercy upon them and give them the faith they need to be saved (**Mat 23:23**). This will happen to them AFTER the last of the unbelieving Gentiles are saved:

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:

The only event that happens at the literal end of this age is the bodily resurrection from the grave. It is shown here:

Rev 20:12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God (the sheep/Elect; only the Elect can "stand" before God); and the books were opened: and another book was opened,

which is the book of Life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works (**works of faith**). 13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead (the goats, all unsaved mankind) which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works (**works of their hands**).

Psa 1:5 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

I am having a hard time following your doctrine so correct me if I am wrong

I take it you are saying we get the Spirit in installments per se whereas the Bible says we receive it all and are sealed

[2Co 1:22 KJV] 22 Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.

[Eph 1:13 KJV] 13 In whom ye also [trusted], after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

Also, the Bible says we go to Christ upon death[2Co 5:8 KJV] 8 We are confident, [I say], and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

The resurrection of the body for the body of Christ occurs before the end of the age..... [1Th 4:16-17 KJV] 16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17 Then we which are alive [and] remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

I take the Bible literally and believe the coming of the Lord.

D_____

Dear D_____,

You said:

I take it you are saying we get the Spirit in installments per se whereas the Bible says we receive it all and are sealed

Yes, the Spirit is given in TWO installments. Even the Apostles and Paul are shown to have received the Spirit in TWO installments.

Here is Eph 1:13 again with my comments inserted:

Eph 1:13 In whom ye also trusted (because of receiving the Early Rain), after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom ALSO AFTER that ye believed (after a time of waiting), ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise (by the Latter Rain),

When the Apostles called Jesus "Lord", it was before they received the Latter Rain on the Day of Pentecost. How was that possible in light of what Paul says below?

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.

The Apostles called Jesus "Lord" because they were given the Holy Spirit when they walked with Christ in the flesh (**Mat 16:17**). However, it was only the small measure of the Spirit (Early Rain) and not the baptism that they received on the Day of Pentecost.

Also, Paul received the Early Rain on the Damascus Road and that is when he first called Jesus "Lord".

Acts 9:6 6 And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?

After Paul's time of waiting, he received the Latter Rain. That is when Paul's spiritual blindness was healed:

Acts 9:17 17 And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.

After a person is given the Early Rain of the Spirit, they will have a measure of faith and will be "called to be a saint". If they are chosen, Christ will come to them a second time and pour out the Latter Rain.

Mat 22:14 For many are called (Early Rain), but few are chosen (both the Early & Latter Rain).

The Early Rain is a small measure of the Spirit but it will give the person a "measure of faith" and certain spiritual gifts. Consider what Paul said to the Corinthian church (babes) who had only received the Early Rain:

1Cor 1:2 Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, CALLED TO BE SAINTS ...

1Cor 1:6 Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you (by the Early Rain): 7 So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: 8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end (Latter Rain), that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

James says it takes both the Early and Latter Rain before an Elect person is ready to be harvested.

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

James is writing to unconverted babes who have only received the Early Rain of the Spirit. James tells them to be patient because the "coming of the Lord draweth nigh". James correctly understood the second coming of Christ and that it was not a far off event in the life of an Elect person.

Consider these scriptures:

Hos 6:3 Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the LORD (after being given the Early Rain): his going forth is prepared as the morning (when the Sun rises/Latter Rain/conversion); and he (Christ) shall come unto us as the Rain, as the Latter and Early Rain unto the earth.

Job 37:6 For he saith to the snow, Be thou on the earth; likewise to the small rain (Early Rain), and to the great rain (Latter Rain) of his strength.

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

The Latter Rain comes to an Elect believer after a time of waiting (as James & Paul both said).

Job 29:23 And they waited for me as for the rain; and they opened their mouth wide as for

the Latter Rain.

You said:

But the Bible says we go to Christ upon death...

Scripture never says that we go to Christ upon death. When a person dies, their spirit returns to God and their body returns to dust. They remain in a state of death (no consciousness) until the resurrection from the grave. Upon a person's resurrection, their consciousness returns. An Elect person will then be with Christ, having no knowledge of any time passing.

Read 1Thes 4:13-18 again. Paul was asked by the Thessalonians about their loved ones who had died in Christ. Paul answered them by telling them about the resurrection from the grave. If a person immediately goes to Christ upon their death, Paul would have told them so here - but He doesn't. Paul tells them about the coming of the resurrection.

You said:

I take the Bible literally and believe the coming of the Lord.

Babes in Christ are spiritually blind and understand scripture in a carnal (literal) way. But Christ's words are "spirit" (**John 6:63**) and they carry meanings that are different than how mankind understands them:

1Cor 2:13 These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things (words) with spiritual (words).

Paul also said this:

1Cor 2:7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:

Paul teaches the truth of Christ in a mystery. He does it by using spirit words which have spiritual meanings.

When Christ came in the flesh, He spoke Hebrew just like the other Jews did. But His Hebrew was made up of spirit words which made His language "another language". I call this language Christ's spiritual language.

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 (the converted Elect). 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 another language (spiritual language) 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, line upon line; here a little, and there a little; that they (babes who draw milk) might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken.

The spiritual language of Christ requires a person to have the Spirit of Truth (Latter Rain) for understanding to take place. When a person has the Spirit of Truth, it will guide them in their understanding of Christ's spiritual language. Without the Spirit of Truth, a babe will remain spiritually blind which will cause them to "fall backward, and be broken, and snared and taken" by Satan. The spiritual blindness of babes is what gives Satan the ability to deceive them and make them "worse than the first" (Mat 12:43-45).

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

Where are you getting this concept of early and latter rain being the Spirit and not just an illustration?

Eph 1:13 In whom ye also trusted (because of receiving the Early Rain), after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom ALSO AFTER that ye believed (after a time of waiting), ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise (by the Latter Rain).

In the verse "also after" does not warrant saying there is a waiting time.

D

The Early and Latter Rain concept is taught in scripture but the apostate churches of this world are blind to it. The concept is at the core of the "great mystery of Christ and His church" (Eph 5:32). I had many more scriptures on the Early and Latter Rain in my earlier post but I had to remove them to make the post under the 10,000 word limit.

Let's look at another analogy that uses the concept to teach the pathway to salvation. This analogy is the marriage analogy.

When an unbeliever is given the small amount of the Spirit, they will have a measure of faith and certain spiritual gifts. At this point, the person becomes a "chaste virgin" who is espoused to Christ. After the engagement occurs, the Bridegroom (Christ) goes away to prepare a place for His prospective bride with the promise to return later. There is no set amount of time that the virgin must wait - but she must remain faithful while she waits. If the Bridegroom returns and finds His virgin to have been unfaithful to him while he was away, the marriage will not take

place.

After Paul's departing, the spirit of anti-Christ came into the church and devoured all the sheep (babes, Early Rain only). Nothing has changed in the church since that time. All new believers will spiritually fornicate with Satan while they wait for Christ to return for the marriage.

Spiritual fornication is when a virgin accepts Satan's crooked way of trying to make oneself righteous before God. Adam and Eve did this when they covered themselves with figs leaves. The babes in the church do this when they mix their own works with faith.

Prov 23:26 My son, give me thine heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways. 27 For a whore is a deep ditch; and a strange woman is a narrow pit. 28 She also lieth in wait as for a prey, and increases the transgressors among men. 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; they that go to seek mixed wine. 31 Look not thou upon the wine when it is red (Old Wine), when it giveth his color in the cup, when it moves itself (man's works) aright. 32 At the last it bites like a serpent, and stings like an adder.

The Old Wine represents the Old Covenant which is based on the works of man. The New Wine represents the New Covenant which is based solely on the works of Christ. When a babe mixes the two together, they have committed spiritual fornication with Satan. This sin is the one and only sin that leads to death. When a babe becomes unfaithful, they cannot be renewed to Christ by repentance. The only way they can be renewed is for Christ to "come again" and pour out the Latter Rain of the Spirit. With the baptism of the Spirit, the virgin will be made "ready". And since the baptism will heal the babe's spiritual blindness, Christ will then appear to them. When He does, He will find them ready and the marriage will take place.

Rev 19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready (faithful, repented from works).

The marriage analogy is used in the parable of the Ten Virgins. The extra flask of oil that the wise virgins have represents the Latter Rain of the Spirit. Since the foolish virgins do not have the extra oil, they are forced to turn back. Also, notice that all ten virgins sleep at night while they wait for the Bridegroom to return. In Christ's spiritual language, "sleep" represents that they have all spiritually died and "night" represents their spiritual blindness. Then, at the deepest part of their blindness (midnight), the call goes out that the Bridegroom is returning. Since the wise virgins have the extra oil (Latter Rain), they use it and go out to meet the Bridegroom.

Here are a few more verses on the Early & Latter Rain and the time of waiting that happens in

between them.

Joel 2:23 Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in Jehovah your God; for he giveth you the Early Rain in just measure (small amount), and he causes to come down for you the Rain, the Early Rain and the Latter Rain, in the first month.

Psa 72:6 He shall come down like RAIN (Latter Rain) upon the mown grass (fallen away babe): as showers (Latter Rain) that water the earth.

Jer 14:22 Are there any among the vanities of the Gentiles that can cause rain? or can the heavens give showers? art not thou he, O LORD our God? therefore we will wait upon thee: for thou hast made all these things.

Jer 3:3 Therefore the showers have been withheld (time of Elijah's drought), and there hath been no Latter Rain; and thou hadst a whore's forehead (apostate), thou refusedst to be ashamed.

Job 29:23 And they waited for me as for the rain; and they opened their mouth wide as for the Latter Rain.

Isa 40:29 He gives power to the weak (Early Rain), and to those who have no might, He increases strength. 30 Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall (fall away/spiritually die), 31 But those who wait on the LORD shall renew their strength (by the Latter Rain); they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Isa 30:18 And therefore will the LORD wait, that he may be gracious unto you, and therefore will he be exalted, that he may have mercy upon you: for the LORD is a God of judgment: blessed are all they that wait for him.

Deu 32:2 My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small Rain (Early Rain) upon the tender herb, and as the showers (Latter Rain) upon the grass:

Jer 5:24 They do not say in their heart, “Let us now fear the LORD our God, Who gives rain, both the early and the latter, in its season. He reserves for us the appointed weeks of the harvest.” (day of salvation)

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

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.

This verse has to be qualified by noting that this was a time of church establishment which was the purpose of the gifts and is not the case for us.

D_____

Dear D_____,

There is no scripture that supports your statement. The reason the churches of today do not have the gifts is because they are apostate.

Also, for a person to have faith in Christ, Christ MUST give the person the Early Rain of the Spirit (the small amount). Without the Spirit, the gospel will be foolishness to them.

1Cor 2:14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

Christ is the one who decides to whom He will give the Early Rain. After He gives them this free gift, they will 100% of the time make a confession of faith after they are presented the gospel. The person has no works that they can claim as their own.

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

If a person never makes a confession of faith during their lifetime, it is only because Christ did not give them the Early Rain of the Spirit. But Christ does give the Early Rain to "many".

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

The Early Rain is what causes a person to start following Christ and is when they are "called to be a saint". But only a "few" of the individuals who are called to be a saint will actually become a saint. They become a saint after they are given the Latter Rain, followed by judgment. This is when a person is converted and when the marriage of the Lamb takes place.

John the Baptist mentions conversion in the verse below:

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: he shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit, and with Fire.

The baptism of the Holy Spirit is the Latter Rain and the baptism of Fire is the judgment of the Day of the Lord.

Christ is the Savior of mankind. He does everything that is necessary to save a person. A person has no works that are necessary to add to His works. Christ works are spiritual works and they happen "within" a person. When He does His works, He causes the person to "will and do of His good pleasure":

Phil 2:13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

It is not within mankind to direct their own steps:

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.

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

When Christ is ready to save a person, He will save them. And since Christ came to save the world (**1John 4:14**), He will not rest until all mankind has been saved. The Elect are being saved in this present age. They are the early harvest of mankind (First Fruits). The main of harvest of mankind will occur at the end of the final age. After Christ has saved the last person, this scripture 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.

We all must wait on the Lord for our salvation.

James 1:4 But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

The mystery is hidden in God but has been revealed to Paul and can be read in his epistles.....I don't think there is some secret spiritual meanings in scripture.

D

Dear D _____,

Yes, the mystery of God was revealed to Paul but Paul also says that he teaches it in a "mystery". He does so by teaching it using Christ's spiritual language.

I know that the "many" teach that truth is clearly presented in scripture but the scriptures that I posted teach differently. You are just not hearing them.

I will give you an easy example of Christ's spiritual language using the verse below:

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.

Does Christ really mean that if you use a sword to kill others, then you must likewise be killed with a sword? Literally, that is what He is saying. However, if we understand this verse literally, that statement can easily be proven to be false. There are countless examples of people who have used violence to kill others but then do not die from that same type of violence - it almost goes without saying. Is Christ mistaken or is His message something else?

In Matt 26:52, Christ is using the spirit word SWORD to teach His spiritual message. To understand what this spiritual symbol represents, we must look at how it is used elsewhere in scripture. As Paul said to do, we must compare spiritual words with spiritual words (1Cor 2:13).

Eph 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

Heb 4:12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edge sword...

Rev 1:16 And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword...

From the verses presented above, it is easy to understand that the spiritual word SWORD represents the Word of God who is Christ.

Christ's hidden spiritual message He is teaching in Matt 26:52 is that all who take up the Sword (those who have been given the Early Rain of the Spirit and have been "called to be a saint"), will later perish by the Sword (death of the child of the devil). This death is a necessary part of the conversion process which happens when the Word of God (Christ, the Sword) comes to a person a second time and gives them the Baptism of the Holy Spirit (Latter Rain), followed by the Baptism of Fire (judgment):

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: he shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit, and with Fire.

This same conversion event presented above is what the Apostles experienced on the Day of Pentecost:

Acts 2:1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of FIRE, and it sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the HOLY SPIRIT, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

In the spiritual language of Christ, the Apostles took up the Sword and then died by the SWORD. But because the Apostles were “born again” (Latter Rain) as a child of God prior to being slain by the Sword, their lives continued on as a new creation of God. It is in this way that Christ will convert all mankind into His children.

In light of what I presented above, do you understand what this verse below is teaching?

Isa 66:16 For by fire (judgment) and by his sword (Word of God) will the LORD plead with all flesh (all mankind): and the slain of the LORD shall be many.

Like Mat 26:52, the verse above is teaching about the baptism of Fire which occurs during the conversion event. And like all of Christ’s New Covenant teachings, its message is hidden in the spiritual language of Christ. The “many” who are “slain of the Lord” is a prophecy that is teaching that all mankind will be converted & saved. This death will only occur after each individual has been given their new birth as a child of God. To know that this is the case, we must look to other scripture (Isa 28:9-12, “here a little and there a little” applies).

Rom 5:18 so then as it was by one offence towards all men to condemnation, so by one righteousness towards all men for justification of life. 19 For as indeed by the disobedience of the one man the many have been constituted sinners, so also by the obedience of the one the many will be constituted righteous.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

1Co 14:4 He that speaketh in an [unknown] tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church.

Gifts were to edify the growing church.

D_____

Dear D_____,

The true church is made up of individuals who are in need of maturing into a perfect man. Their individual growth is the purpose for the gifts.

1Cor 13:8 Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. 9 For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. 10 But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. When I was a babe, I spoke as a babe, I understood as a babe, I thought as a babe: but when I became a man, I put away things of babes.

Just before my wife & I were converted in 2005, my wife was given the gift of prophecy. We had both been in the apostate church for over 20 years but she was not given that gift during those years because Christ was not ready for her to have it. But when her time for conversion came, she began prophesying in the Spirit. In 2008, Christ removed her gift because it was no longer necessary. Our conversion testimony is posted on our website. There is a link to it below my member name if you care to read it.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

FaithWillDo said:

Christ's hidden spiritual message He is teaching in Matt 26:52 is that all who take up the Sword (those who have been given the Early Rain of the Spirit and have been "called to be a saint"), will later perish by the Sword (death of the child of the devil). This death is a necessary part of the conversion process which happens when the Word of God (Christ, the Sword) comes to a person a second time and gives them the Baptism of the Holy Spirit (Latter Rain), followed by the Baptism of Fire (judgment):

You cited scripture about the sword being the word which is ok but to give your above interpretation is not backed by other scripture.

D_____

Dear D_____,

I did support it with scripture by showing how Christ uses His Sword to convert a person.

Look at this verse:

Rev 13:3 And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast (Man of Sin/apostate babe).

When Christ gives an unbeliever the Early Rain, he is striking a blow to their head (Satan) with the Word of God (Sword). But when the babe is indwelt with the spirit of anti-Christ, the deadly head wound by His Sword is healed so that the person not only remains unconverted, but they become "worse than the first" (**Mat 12:43-45**).

It sounds like you don't understand the spiritual process of conversion. Conversion requires the death of the child of the Devil. To slay the child of the Devil, Christ uses His Sword; the Word of God.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

You are right in saying I don't understand.....thanks for the respectful exchange.

D

Dear D_____,

I want to leave you with one last comment.

Understanding is only given by Christ. That is why Christ says to ask Him for understanding. If you read my conversion testimony, you would see that I asked for understanding just before Christ poured out the Latter Rain upon me.

Jer 33:3 'CALL TO ME, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.'

1Sam 12:17 Is it not wheat harvest to day? (day of salvation/conversion) I WILL CALL UNTO THE LORD, and he shall send thunder and RAIN (Latter Rain); that ye may perceive and see (spiritual blindness healed) that your wickedness is great (have become apostate/man of sin), which ye have done in the sight of the LORD, in asking you a king.

Zec 10:1 ASK YE OF THE LORD rain in the time of the Latter Rain; so the LORD shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain, to every one grass in the field.

If you look at Paul's conversion pattern (**1Tim 1:16**), he is shown to be praying just before he received the Latter Rain. And from other scripture, we can know that Paul must have been praying for understanding of all that had befallen him the last three days.

Acts 9:11 And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and enquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth.

Joe

I thought we had finished our discussion but D_____ posted to me again.

Dear FaithWillDo,

You said.....Christ's hidden spiritual message He is teaching in Matt 26:52 is that all who take up the Sword (those who have been given the Early Rain of the Spirit and have been "called to be a saint"), will later perish by the Sword (death of the child of the devil). This death is a necessary part of the conversion process which happens when the Word of God (Christ, the Sword) comes to a person a second time and gives them the Baptism of the Holy Spirit (Latter Rain), followed by the Baptism of Fire (judgment):

You did give quite a few verses with the word sword but none that could uphold any assertion about devil child etc being found in those scriptures

D_____

Dear D_____.

All mankind has sinned which means that all mankind are the children of the Devil.

1John 3:8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. 9 Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. 10 In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

You have to remember that Christ teaches His New Covenant truth "here a little and there a little" (**Isa 28:9-12**). To understand the full truth of a subject, verses from different places in God's Word must be considered to complete the teaching. In the case of the Sword analogy, other scripture (like the one I quoted above) must be considered to know that the blow to the head of a person is a blow to the head of a child of the Devil.

Note: The head of the child of the Devil is Satan. The head of a child of God is Christ.

Because all mankind are the children of the Devil, all mankind is "condemned already":

John 3:18 He (the child of God) that believeth on him is not condemned: but he (the child of the Devil) that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

The verse below applies to why mankind is condemned already:

Eze 18:4 Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die.

Because every person who has ever lived is condemned by the Law of Sin and Death, it is necessary for Christ to give all mankind a new birth as a child of God BEFORE anyone perishes from the penalty of sin.

The work that Christ is doing under the New Covenant to accomplish the new birth of mankind is just getting started.

In this age, Christ is converting the "few" who have been chosen to be saved in His early harvest. They were chosen for this blessing from the foundation of the world. They are called the Elect; the first fruits of His harvest of mankind. Christ is not converting anyone else at this time.

Conversion is a spiritual process that happens within a person. The process starts by Christ giving an Elect person the Early Rain of the Spirit. Then, after a time of waiting, the Elect person will be given the Latter Rain of the Spirit.

This time of waiting for the Latter Rain was "typed" by Elijah's 3 1/2 years of drought. During this time of drought, the "babe" will fall away from faith. Since Paul's departing (**Acts 20:29-31**), falling away happens to everyone one who is called to be a saint, including the Elect.

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

The indwelling of the spirit of anti-Christ is what causes a babe to fall away. When this happens, the Abomination of Desolation occurs within God's Temple (the babe). As a result, the blow to the head of the child of the Devil by the Sword of Christ is healed and the person remains unconverted. And since the spirit of anti-Christ now indwells the person (a child of the Devil), they are made "worse than the first" (**Mat 12:43-45**).

This worsened child of the Devil is called a man of sin, minister of Satan, false prophet and is represented by the Seven Headed Beast presented in Revelation chapter 13. The second beast of that chapter represents the spirit of anti-Christ.

For just the Elect, Christ will come again to the person who is now a man of sin. When Christ comes to them, He will pour out the Latter Rain (the baptism of the Spirit/Spirit of Truth). Now with both "installments" of the Spirit, the person will be born again as a child of God.

With the healing of the person's spiritual blindness, they will now see the truth of what happened to them. This is when they see the Abomination of Desolation that previously occurred within themselves.

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:)

Immediately after the person's new birth, Christ will strike a second blow to the head of the child of the Devil who is now a man of sin. The second blow by the Sword happens because the baptism of the Spirit comes with power & strength. This blow will quickly destroy all the spiritual components within the person which has caused them to be carnally minded and sinful (a child of the Devil). Those components are the Great Harlot (the carnal and religious spiritual nature of the marred spirit) and the spirit of anti-Christ (also called "the" false prophet). After they are removed and destroyed by judgment and by the Sword, the child of the Devil will be slain.

This judgment is shown in Mat 24:37-41 and in Rev 19:11-21 and in the verse below:

Isa 66:16 For by fire (judgment) and by his sword (Word of God) will the LORD plead with all flesh (all mankind): and the slain of the LORD shall be many (all mankind).

After this judgment upon the child of the Devil is complete, all that will remain within the person will be the Holy Spirit. With the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, the person's spirit will be transformed, giving it a divine spiritual nature. With this new divine spirit, the person's carnal mind will be transformed into the mind of Christ. The person is now converted from being a child of the Devil to being a child of God.

By the end of the final age, Christ will have converted all mankind into the children of God.

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 (end of the final age).

After the last person is saved, mankind (children of the Devil) will cease to exist - but the Kingdom of Heaven will be that much fuller.

This creation that began nearly 6,000 years ago is for the purpose of producing God's offspring. This is the meaning of life that seems to elude most people.

Gen 1:26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

And since God never fails at anything, it is a certainty that no one will be lost.

All mankind has a glorious future waiting for them as the children of God! Amen.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

Can I ask did you get saved by reading scripture at the time you were saved?

D_____

Dear D_____,

Please read my conversion testimony on my website: www.greatmysteryofchrist.com for the details.

My conversion started with a prayer for understanding. Then three days later, Christ lead me to a website that gave me the answer to my prayer. Christ then gave me the Latter Rain so that I could receive the truth of the scripture that the website presented.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

Do you believe we are saved by only believing the gospel that Christ died for our sins (to pay our sin debt for forgiveness of all our sin) and was buried and was raised for our justification?

D_____

Here is what scripture teaches:

The New Covenant is "grace through faith". Faith is not our salvation but it is why Christ saves

us.

True faith is believing and trusting Christ for all the needs of our salvation. We contribute nothing.

Christ's physical work at the cross is one of our needs. From that sacrifice, Christ was resurrected. But since no man can have faith in Christ in our present carnal state of being, it is necessary for Christ to provide our faith, too. He does this by freely giving us the Spirit. He gives us this gift without our asking for it and without our permission.

Paul's experience on the Damascus Road is the pattern for when Christ gives a person the Early Rain.

Once a person has the free gift of the Early Rain of the Spirit, they will have faith and will make a confession of faith. 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.

But when a babe takes credit for their faith in Christ (the most common work), they are mixing in their own works with Christ's works. In other words, they are saying that Christ doesn't really give them all that they need to be saved. They say that they must do something themselves - even if it is just providing their own faith and confession. When a babe has this mindset, they are mixing the Old Wine with the New Wine. When they do mixing, the serpent bites them and they become unfaithful. In that unfaithful condition, Christ will not save them.

Because all babes will fall away, the Latter Rain is necessary to restore them to repentance and faithfulness.

With the baptism of the Spirit, a fallen away babe's spiritual blindness will be healed. When they are shown the truth of their works, they will repent of their works and their faith will be restored. Christ will then appear to them and convert them.

In this age, Christ only gives the Latter Rain to the Elect. For all other fallen away babes, they will die in an unfaithful condition. Upon their resurrection, they will appear before Christ when He sits upon His throne. At that time, He will say to them "I never knew you".

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

OK I see what you are saying

Christ gives us faith.....faith in what?

D_____

Dear D_____,

Our faith is in Christ, in all that He is and all that He does and says. We must learn to trust Him completely for all our needs.

To have true faith in Christ, our faith must be based on truth and that comes from understanding. A spiritually blind babe has no foundation of truth because they cannot understand and know Christ. Because they cannot understand and know Christ, Satan easily deceives them with his false gospel which mixes works with faith.

Christ explains what happens to all babes in the scripture below:

Mat 12:43 When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man (caused by the Early Rain), 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 taketh with himself SEVEN other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. 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 spiritually blind (**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 new spiritual condition. In this case, the new spiritual condition is worse than the first.

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

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

Here is a link for my post here as to what I believe we place our faith in
THE GOSPEL

D_____

Dear D_____,

I will respond to your comments in your gospel post:

You said:

We are all sinners who cannot save ourselves.

Agreed.

You said:

Christ died for our sins; He was our substitute; He paid the full penalty and debt for our sin by his blood sacrifice.

I don't fully agree with this statement. Christ is not our substitute. That is a false doctrine of the apostate church.

Christ is our near-kinsman redeemer.

By Christ's death on the cross, Christ purchased mankind's sin debt of death that we owe because of our sins. Now, all mankind owes the debt of death to Christ which He will be collecting at a time of His choosing from each of us. This death is symbolically said to happen in the Lake of Fire (a symbol for judgment).

The death that Christ will collect from us is the death of the child of the Devil. But since Christ's death on the cross earned Him the keys to death and hell, Christ has the power and legal authority to give us a new life before He collects our debt of death. This full spiritual process is called conversion.

For the Elect, Christ will give the person their new birth BEFORE He begins His judgment upon the child of the Devil. Because of this order, the Elect person will not experience wrath during their time of judgment.

The verse below applies to the judgment of the balance of mankind in the final age:

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.

In the final age for the balance of mankind, their judgment will begin PRIOR to Christ giving them their new birth. Because it does, they will suffer wrath for a time. But before anyone perishes, Christ will have MERCY upon them. His mercy will come to them as the Early and Latter Rains of the Spirit. With the Spirit, each person will have the necessary FAITH that will make Christ's pathway straight for Him to come and save them. After the new child of God is born, the child will be gathered to heaven (spiritually speaking). The child of the Devil will remain in the Lake of Fire to perish. The death of the child of the Devil will satisfy the debt that we owe Christ and it will also satisfy JUSTICE.

Joel 2:1-27 presents the judgment of the physical Nation of Israel in the final age. Christ's army are the Elect. And like Mat 23:23 says, Christ will have mercy upon those being judged (v. 18) and will pour out the Early and Latter Rains upon them (v. 23) before they perish.

Here are the verses you mentioned that you said supports your statement:

2Cor 5:21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

This verse is incorrectly translated. It should read as "made him to be an offering for sin". Christ was never made "sin". As an offering for sin, Christ purchased our sin debt and His blood justifies us before God the Father.

In Rom 3:24-26 that you mentioned, it says that Christ is the "propitiation" for our sins. Yes, that is true - but it does not mean that He was our substitute. It only means that Christ's sacrifice was acceptable to God. So when a person is "in Christ", His sacrifice will apply to them (it justifies them). In this way, Christ has given mankind "life". But a life that continues to sin is not salvation. For that reason, Christ also came to give mankind a more abundant life that is free from sin. To give us this life, Christ will collect our sin debt by destroying the one who sins. But before He does, He will make us into a new creation who will never sin again.

John 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

Christ accomplished giving mankind "life" at the cross. He did it under the Old Covenant. But since Christ came to give mankind a more abundant life, Christ began a new covenant with mankind. Under the New Covenant of Grace through Faith, Christ will freely give mankind a life that is free from sin. To give us this more abundant life, Christ will convert us into the children of God who will never sin again. He does this by the spiritual process of conversion.

You said:

All we have to do is believe the gospel.

The gospel that is being taught in the churches is NOT the true Gospel. That gospel requires certain works from mankind. The true Gospel requires NO WORKS from mankind. Even the faith that a person needs is given to them by Christ. Christ truly does all the work of a person's salvation. For that reason, the salvation of all mankind is a certainty.

You said:

The moment you believe you have eternal life.

No, that is not true. The moment a person believes, they are justified before God as long as they remain faithful. But they are not eternally saved. To be eternally saved, a person must be converted. Conversion requires both the Early and Latter Rains, followed by judgment.

As I explained in my previous posts, after a person is given the Early Rain, they will have a "measure of faith" and have "life". But because they remain spiritually blind, they will become unfaithful by following "another gospel" which mixes works with faith. Only after a person is converted will they remain faithful and be eternally saved.

Consider what Paul said here:

Gal 5:3 For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law. 4 Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.

One of the most common "works" of Paul's time was circumcision. But after the coming of the spirit of anti-Christ, the false Doctrine of Free Will entered the church. That doctrine teaches that a person's confession of faith and usually their "good works" come from themselves. The apostate church also uses that false doctrine to justify why unbelievers are worthy of hell and why they are not.

You said:

Trust the gospel of your salvation. Place your faith in Jesus Christ, in his blood, in his death and his resurrection.

That is true for the true Christ and His Gospel. But after Paul's departing, Satan deceived the church. Satan is now masquerading as Christ and has replaced the true Gospel with his own false gospel.

2Cor 11:4 For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.

If you believe that you are too smart or educated to be deceived by Satan, you are mistaken.

Consider what Christ said:

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.

Most of the teachings of Christ that present the pathway to salvation (there are many) include a time of falling away.

Christ also made this statement about the pathway to salvation:

Mat 4:4 But he answered and said, it is written, Man shall not live (salvation) by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Some of God's words include consuming Satan's leavened bread and falling away from faith. For that reason, the book of Revelation says that the Elect will "keep the sayings of the prophecy".

Rev 1:3 Rev 1:3 Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for THE TIME IS AT HAND.

Rev 22:7 Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.

The sayings of the prophecy include becoming apostate; a man of sin.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

[Rom 3:24 KJV] 24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

Our redemption is freely given

D

Dear D _____,

Yes, salvation is a free gift from Christ. But our salvation is more than what Christ accomplished at the cross. It is more than just being justified.

Christ's work at the cross justifies us by His blood through the faith that He gives to us by the Early Rain. It is freely given but only at a time of Christ's choosing. But being justified is not our full salvation. It is only the beginning. Our full salvation requires Christ's spiritual work of conversion that He is presently doing under the New Covenant. The Early Rain does not convert a person. The Latter Rain and judgment is what converts a person (the baptism of the Holy Spirit and Fire, Mat 3:11).

To properly understand salvation, you must separate the work that Christ did at the cross under the Old Covenant from the work that He is presently doing under the New Covenant.

Under the Old Covenant, Christ earned the keys to death & hell and the legal right to judge all mankind by which He will collect our sin debt. Also, the blood He shed at the cross justifies us (makes atonement for our sins). Because of what Christ achieved at the cross, He now has the authority to complete our salvation under the New Covenant. Without His work at the cross, the New Covenant would not have been possible.

Under the Old Covenant, Christ's work was physical and outward. Carnal believers (babes) usually don't have too much trouble understanding His physical work.

Under the New Covenant, Christ's work is spiritual and inward. Carnal believers (babes) have a great deal of trouble understanding His spiritual work.

The babes in the Corinthian church could understand the physical work of Christ (Christ and Him crucified, 1Cor 2:2) but because they were spiritually blind, they had a great deal of trouble understanding the spiritual work of Christ that He was doing under the New Covenant. All babes have the same issue.

The false Doctrine of Substitutionary Atonement takes away the need for the child of the Devil to die because it says that Christ died in our place. But that is not true. Christ died to make it possible for us to pay Him our debt of death and still go on living as a new creation. This is the work that Christ is now doing under the New Covenant.

Consider what Christ said here:

Mat 18:3 And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

A babe (Early Rain only) who is unconverted cannot enter the Kingdom of Heaven. But after they are converted and become a little child who no longer draws milk, they will then enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

Have you studied the story of the woman taken in adultery? It teaches when a person comes out from being under the Law and when they will enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

In the story, the woman represents the Elect when they are unbelievers. When Christ writes in the earth the first time, He is writing the law of the Spirit in her heart. This happens with the Early Rain of the Spirit. At that time, the Pharisees (who represent the Law) still accuse the woman. Christ then writes in the earth the second time. This represents the Latter Rain. At that time, the Pharisees drop their stones and leave. The law can no longer accuse the woman of sin. This is her moment of salvation/conversion and when she enters the Kingdom of Heaven.

I hope this helps.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

FaithWillDo said:

The child of the Devil will remain in the Lake of Fire to perish. The death of the child of the Devil will satisfy the debt that we owe Christ and it will also satisfy JUSTICE.

This is denying the propitiation of the once for all sacrifice of Christ.

D_____

Dear D_____,

The child of the Devil has no faith and is not covered by the blood of Christ. Since the child of the Devil remains under the Law, he will suffer the consequences of his sin which is death. This death satisfies justice.

The new born child of God is the one who has faith and is covered by the blood of Christ.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

FaithWillDo said:

No, that is not true. The moment a person believes, they are justified before God as long as they remain faithful. But they are not eternally saved. To be eternally saved, a person must be converted. Conversion requires both the Early and Latter Rains, followed by judgment.

If we have to remain faithful, then that is works.

D

Dear D _____,

No, it is not a work. Christ is the one who causes us to "will and do of His good pleasure" (**Phi 2:13**). If a believer stays faithful, it is because Christ caused it to happen. If a believer becomes unfaithful, it is because Christ caused that to happen, too.

Here is the full scripture:

Phi 2:12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.
13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

When Paul wrote His letters to the churches, the babes in the churches were remaining faithful for the most part. The spirit of anti-Christ had not come and devoured the churches yet. But Paul knew that there was a real danger of a babe falling away from faith. Paul also knew that it would only happen to a babe if the Lord caused it to happen. For that reason, Paul says to work out your own salvation with "fear and trembling". Why? Because the babe has no say in whether or not they will remain faithful. Christ is the one who causes them to "will and do of His good pleasure".

Since Paul's departing, Christ's "will" is for all new babes to fall away and become unfaithful. To believe otherwise is to believe that Christ is not mankind's God who is in full control over His creation.

Consider these verses:

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?

Prov 16:4 The LORD hath made all things for himself: yea, even the wicked for the day of evil (fallen away babes; a man of sin).

The "day of evil" is when Satan rules over a person from within by the spirit of anti-Christ. This is in contrast to the "Day of the Lord" when Christ rules over a person from within by the Holy Spirit. This concept applies: First comes the natural, then comes the spiritual (**1Cor 15:46**).

Ecc 1:13 An experience of evil God has given to the sons of humanity to humble them by it.

Lam 3:38 Out of the mouth of the Most High doth not there proceed evil and good?

Amos 3:6 Shall a trumpet be blown in the city, and the people not be afraid? shall there be evil in a city, and the LORD hath not done it?

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

This is very much like the teaching that we have been crucified with Christ that being dead to sin we should live unto God but denies that he died for our sins and are justified.

[Rom 6:6 KJV] 6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with [him], that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.

[Gal 2:20 KJV] 20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

[Gal 5:24 KJV] 24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

[Gal 6:14 KJV] 14 But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.

D

Dear D _____,

To understand what Paul said in the verses that you quoted, you have to understand them spiritually and not carnally.

The events that are presented by Christ and the other writers of the NT are teaching about the spiritual events that happen within a single Elect person. The events do not happen out in the world. They happen within the spiritual world within the believer.

When Christ gives a person the Early Rain of the Spirit, a babe is formed within the person. The babe gives the person their faith as long as the babe rules the person's mind. But because the person is not converted, the child of the Devil still remains within the person, too. Because both remain within the person, a spiritual war develops. The war is over who will govern the person's mind (their beliefs and carnal traits). This war will continue until one side is defeated.

During this spiritual war within a babe, Satan will come to the aid of the child of the Devil and strengthen him via the spirit of anti-Christ. With this added support of deception, the child of the Devil will win the war and govern the person's mind. When he does, the believer will fall from

faith and become "worse than the first". The spiritual war and death of a babe is presented in the three scriptures below:

Mat 24:6 "And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things (the spiritual war) must come to pass, but the end is not yet (**moment of conversion**). **7** "For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom (**Christ's kingdom vs. Satan's kingdom within the babe**). And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. **8** "All these are the beginning of sorrows. **9** "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations (false beliefs & carnal character traits of the child of the Devil) for My name's sake.

Rev 11:7 And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast (**Satan/spirit of anti-Christ**) that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them. **8** **Rev 11:8** And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified.

Rev 6:7 And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see. **8** And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death (**Satan/spirit of anti-Christ**), and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth. **9** And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held:

While the believer lays dead in the streets of Jerusalem/Mystery Babylon the Great city, the believer is fully under the control of Satan and has become a man of sin. They will remain in this fallen away condition until Christ comes a second time to them. When Christ comes, He will pour out the Latter Rain of the Spirit and strengthen the child of God within the believer. It is at this time that believer is revived and birthed as a child of God. This event is shown below:

Rev 11:11 And after three days and a half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them. **12** **Rev 11:12** And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them.

Mat 24:29 Immediately after the (**great**) tribulation of those **days (while the believer is a man of sin)** shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: **30** And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and

great glory. 31 And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Because the baptism of the Holy Spirit comes with power, the child of God within the believer quickly wins the spiritual war and the person is made faithful again. Christ will then appear and begin His judgment upon the person. During that judgment, Christ will remove and destroy the person's marred spirit & spirit of anti-Christ and cast them into the Lake of Fire for destruction. After this judgment is complete, the person is converted.

The verses below present this judgment:

Mat 24:37 But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. 38 For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, 39 And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. 40 Then shall two be in the field (contained in one believer**); the one shall be taken (**the man of sin/spirit of anti-Christ**), and the other left (**child of God**). 41 Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken (**the Great Harlot**), and the other left (**new divine spiritual nature/a virtuous woman**).**

Now that the believer is converted, their spiritual war within them will end. The believer will then be at peace within themselves. The little child can start maturing into a man of full age.

Christ accomplishes the person's spiritual growth by continuing to feed the person His bread and New Wine. When the believer sins, Christ will chastise them until the remaining beliefs and character traits of the Old Man are destroyed. The Old Man's death is a slow death and that is why Paul says he is crucified with Christ.

John the Baptist is a "type" for the Old Man. He said this:

John 3:30 He must increase, but I must decrease.

The verse below also applies to the chastising judgment of the Old Man:

Isa 26:9 With my soul have I desired thee in the night; yea, with my spirit within me will I seek thee early: for when thy judgments are in the (New**) earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness.**

The spirit word "earth" represents a person's spirit. The Old Earth represents mankind's marred spirit and the New Earth represents a converted person's new divine spirit. Christ chastising

judgment will come from the new divine spirit. As it does, the child will learn righteousness and grow into a perfect man of full age.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

[Rom 2:4 KJV] 4 Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?
this verse says we can repent and believe

What verse says Christ compels a person to receive the Spirit?

D

Dear D_____,

Yes, we can repent and believe. I have never said differently. But this verse is silent on how that is possible.

When a babe reads a verse like the one you quoted, they assume that they can believe and repent from a supposed free will ability to do so. But that assumption is in conflict with other scripture.

You must remember that Christ teaches "here a little and there a little. You can't make a doctrine from a single verse of scripture because mankind lives by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Mat 4:4 But he answered and said, it is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

When we look at other scripture, we find these verses:

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.

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.

1Cor 2:14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

Considering what these verses state, how is it possible for a person to believe in Christ and repent of their works?

To know the answer to that question, we must look to more scripture.

Consider this exchange between Christ and Peter:

Mat 16:15 He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? 16 And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. 17 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

For a person to know that Jesus is the Christ, it must be revealed to them from heaven.

So the question now is "what does God do to reveal that truth to a person"?

Here is that answer:

Prov 16:1 The preparations of the heart in man (by the Early Rain of the Spirit), and the answer of the tongue, is from the LORD.

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.

You asked:

What verse says Christ compels a person to receive the Spirit?

Why do you believe that a person must "receive" the Spirit? Scripture says that the Spirit is freely given to us. The person has no say in the matter.

When Peter said that Jesus was the Christ, did Peter even know that He had been given the Early Rain of the Spirit beforehand? No, he did not. Why was this the case? Here is the answer:

Ecc 3:11 He has made everything fitting in its season; However, He has put obscurity (the world/man's carnality) 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.

When Peter was given the Early Rain of the Spirit, Peter did not know that it happened. But the evidence that it did happen was Peter's confession because Peter could not have made that confession without the Spirit indwelling him.

Paul's conversion experience is the "type" (pattern, 1Tim 1:16) that all the Elect will follow to their salvation. When Christ came to Paul on the Damascus Road, Christ gave Paul the Early Rain of the Spirit. How do I know this? Because Paul fell to the earth and made this statement:

Acts 9:6 And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?

Paul's statement is the evidence that he was given the Early Rain of the Spirit.

Also, did Christ ask Paul if he wanted to receive the Spirit? No.

Christ gave Paul the Spirit because Christ chose to give it to Him. Paul had no say in the matter.

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?

And in this same way, Christ is calling "many" other people to be saints. But only a "few" of them have been chosen to become saints. For the Elect, Christ will return to them after their time of waiting is complete and give them the baptisms of the Holy Spirit and Fire.

Look at what Paul said to the Corinthians believers:

1Cor 1:6 Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you: 7 So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: 8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end (end of the ages and by the Latter Rain), that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ (the baptism of Fire).

Paul knew that the Corinthians had been given the Early Rain of the Spirit because of their testimony and because of their spiritual gifts. Only by that visible evidence can a person can know that someone has been given the Early Rain of the Spirit. Paul then tells them that they are waiting for the Lord to come to them again and confirm their inheritance by the Latter Rain. It is the Latter Rain that will make them blameless during their time of judgment.

Psa 68:9 Thou, O God, didst send a plentiful Rain (Latter Rain), whereby thou didst confirm thine inheritance, when it was weary (in an apostate condition).

You asked:

What verse says Christ comes with latter rain for renewal?

Psa 68:9 above plus these:

1Sam 12:17 Is it not wheat harvest to day? (day of salvation/conversion) I will call unto the LORD, and he shall send thunder (voice of Christ) and Rain (Latter Rain); that ye may perceive and see (spiritual blindness healed) that your wickedness is great (have become apostate/man of sin), 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 Latter Rain; and thou hadst a whore's forehead, thou refusedst to be ashamed.

Psa 72:6 He shall come down like Rain (Latter Rain) upon the mown grass (a fallen away babe): as showers that water the earth.

Paul's conversion testimony, the parable of the Wheat and the Tares, the parable of the Ten Virgins, the prophecy of the Two Witnesses and many other portions of scripture all teach that an Elect babe will fall away as they wait for the Latter Rain and conversion.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

Not all mankind will be saved but God would have all saved.....[1Ti 2:4 KJV] 4 Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

If God is going to save all why send us to preach salvation?.....[2Co 5:20 KJV] 20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech [you] by us: we pray [you] in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

D_____

Dear D_____,

You asked:

If God is going to save all why send us to preach salvation?

Because faith comes by hearing the Word. However, all the preaching in the world will do no good unless Christ has given the person the Early Rain of the Spirit beforehand.

God's overall purpose for this creation is to make new children for Himself.

Gen 1:26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

It is not some experiment where God hopes some will make the right decision to accept Him. It is a carefully laid out plan that will accomplish everything that God desires.

Isa 46:10 Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure: 11 Calling a ravenous bird from the east, the man that executeth my counsel from a far country: yea, I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass; I have purposed it, I will also do it.

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.

But since God wants His children to trust Him and to have a knowledge of good & evil, his children begin life as sinful evil creatures who reject Him.

To change man's condition, God the Father sent His Son Jesus into the world (**1John 4:14**). The salvation of mankind is solely Christ's responsibility to accomplish. Mankind has no works to perform because salvation is a free gift.

During the process of saving a person, Christ will do all the necessary spiritual things that will teach the person to fully trust and depend upon God for all their needs, to love Him with all their hearts and be willing to die rather than to disobey Him. In other words, Christ will do all the necessary things to make us just like Him. A person gets to this point after they have been converted and have matured into a perfect man of full age.

If you can't believe that Christ cannot accomplish this great work of saving all mankind, then you have to believe that mankind is required to add their own works to the works of Christ. Usually this belief comes from a belief in the Doctrine of Free Will. However, scripture strongly and clearly states that mankind has no free will ability. Only God the Father has a free will.

Consider what Paul said here:

Rom 9:16 So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy. 17 For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth. 18 Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth. 19 Thou wilt say then unto me, Why doth he yet find fault? For who hath resisted his will?

So what's Paul's answer?

Rom 9:16 Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus?

God made mankind unable to resist God's "will".

So what is God's "will" for mankind?

Isa 45:22 Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else. **23** I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, that unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear.

Paul restated this truth here:

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.

Notice that the confession of faith gives glory to the Father. It is not a forced confession or one that is done out of fear. It is a confession made out of love for Christ. This type of confession can only come from a person who has been converted and has the Holy Spirit governing them.

Consider these scriptures:

Rom 5:18 so then as it was by one offence towards all men to condemnation, so by one righteousness towards all men for justification of life. **19** For as indeed by the disobedience of the one man the many have been constituted sinners, so also by the obedience of the one the many will be constituted righteous.

1Cor 15:22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

Since all who have died in Adam will be made alive in Christ, who can that possibly leave out?

Consider this scripture again:

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.

Some scholars believe this verse should be translated as "desires to have all men be saved", but that translation makes no sense. The verse needs to say "will have" to support the event that will later be "testified" to have happened. The word "desires" does not require anything to be accomplished. It is an emotion. And if Christ only desires to save mankind, why would it need to be proven to be true at some future date? An emotion can be proven in the present. The translation of "desires" (or any other word) in verse 4 makes no sense in light of the phrase "to be testified in due time". The only reasonable conclusion is that the verse should be translated as "who will have all men to be saved".

Also, even if the verse is translated as "desires", it doesn't change the meaning of the verse since God ALWAYS accomplishes His desires.

Job 23:13 But he is in one mind, and who can turn him? And what his soul desireth, that will he do.

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.

Christ's work of saving mankind is now "spiritual" work under the New Covenant. Spiritual work is done "within" mankind. In this world, Christ accomplishes His "will" by changing a person's heart to agree with His "will".

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

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.

A person's salvation happens solely by the spiritual work that Christ does within them. And since Christ has sworn by the prophets that He will do His work within all mankind, how can anyone remain lost?

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

Sorry but your responses are too convoluted for me but I do thank you for your courtesy.

D