

“PREPARE TO MEET YOUR GOD”

(Amos 4:12; Rev. 1:7; 22:6-7, 10-14, 20; 2 Pet. 3:10-13)

I. The Abraham Accords – Possible Fulfillment of Daniel 9:27

II. The Need to Prepare for the Lord’s Soon Return (Rev. 22:20)

- A. The Lord’s warning to watch and pray (Matt. 24:32-44; Mark 13:33; Luke 17:26-30; 21:29-36)
- B. The apostles’ warning (Rom. 12:11-13; Phil. 4:5; Heb. 10:25; James 5:8; 1 Pet. 4:7; 2 Pet. 3:9-14)
- C. The parables of the 10 virgins and the talents (Matt. 25:1-30)
- D. The judgment seat of Christ (Rom. 14:10-12; 2 Cor. 5:9-11)

III. Life – the Most Important Factor in the Holy Scriptures

(John 10:10; Rom. 5:10, 17; Eph. 4:15; 1 Pet. 2:2; 2 Pet. 3:18)

- A. God is a God of life – the “living God” (Gen. Ch. 1; Ps. 36:9; Jer. 10:10a; John 5:26; 1 Thess. 1:9b; John 1:1-4; Act 17:28)
- B. Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life (John 11:25; 14:6; 5:26; Col. 3:4; Rev. 1:18)
- C. The Holy Spirit is the “Spirit of life” – the “life-giving Spirit” (Rom. 8:2; John 6:63a; 1 Cor. 15:45)
- D. The word of God is life (John 6:63; 1 John 1:1; 2 Tim. 3:16a; Phil. 2:16)
- E. **CHOOSE LIFE** (Gen. 2:8-9, 15-17; Deut. 30:11-19; Rom. 10:5-13; John 6:66-68)

IV. The Fundamental Need to Sustain Life – Light, Air, Water, and Food

- A. *The light of life* (1 John 1:5-6; John 8:12; 1:1-4; Gen. 1:3-5; 1 Thess. 5:5-8)

1. God is light, in Him is no darkness at all
 2. Jesus Christ is the light of the world
 3. The word of God is lamp to my feet, and a light to my path (Ps. 119:105)
 4. The believers are the light of the world, sons of light and of the day (Matt. 5:14-16; 1 Thess. 5:5; Dan. 12:3; Rev. 1:16a, 20)
 5. The churches (Zion, the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem) are the golden lampstands (Rev. 1:11-13, 20b; 21:22-25; 22:5)
 6. Three kinds of lights revealed in the tabernacle
 - a. The natural light in the outer court
 - b. The light of the lampstand in the Holy Place
 - c. God Himself is the light in the Most Holy Place
- B. *The breath of life – Air* (Gen. 2:7; Job 32:8; 33:4; Ezek. 37:1-14; John 3:6-8; 20:22; 2 Tim. 3:16a; Ps. 33:6)
1. Both in Hebrew and Greek, the word “spirit” also means “wind, air, or breath”
 2. God *breathed* into Adam’s nostril the “breath of life”
 - a. The “breath of life” became the “*spirit of man*” (Job. 32:8; 33:4; Num. 16:22; 27:16; Zech. 12:1)
 - b. The almighty God is the Father of our spirits (Isa. 42:5; Heb. 12:9)
 3. The Lord Jesus (in resurrection) *breathed the Holy Spirit* into His disciples (1 Cor. 15:45; John 20:22; 3:6; 1 Cor. 6:17; Ezek. 37)
 - a. The Lord Jesus is the Spirit (Rev. 3:1; 5:5-6; Zech. 3:8-9)
 - b. Breath is for life in our spirit
 - c. The rushing mighty wind is to clothe His disciples with power and authority (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:8; 2:2-4) to carry out God’s work and the ministry

- C. *The Water of life* (Gen. 2:10-12; Exod. 17:1-6; Isa. 48:21; 43:19-20; 1 Cor. 10:4; Rev. 22:1-2, 17)
1. A river in the garden of Eden with the gold, pearls and precious stones
 2. Water flowing out of the rock
 3. A river in Zion (Ps. 46:4; 36:8-9; Zech. 14:8)
 4. The water of life flowing out of the temple <Holy of Holies> (Ezek. 47:1-12)
 5. The river of water of life flowing out of the throne of God and of the Lamb in the holy city, the New Jerusalem, in eternity (Rev. 22:1-2, 17)
- D. *The Bread of Life* – Healthy and Untainted Food and Nourishment
1. Jesus Christ, the embodiment of the word of God – the reality and substance of all the spiritual food (John 1:1-4, 14, 16-18; Rev. 19:13; John 5:39-40)
 - a. The tree of life (Gen. 2:9; Rev. 2:7; 22:2, 14)
 - b. The manna in the wilderness (Exod. 16:1-35; Deut. 8:3; John 6:32-35, 48, 56-58, 63, 68; 1 John 1:1-2; Rev. 2:17)
 - c. The riches of the good land (Deut. 8:7-10, Eph. 3:8; Col. 1:12; 2:6, 9-10, 16-17)
 - d. The offerings in Jerusalem at the appointed feasts (Isa. 33:20; Heb. 10:1, 5-10)
 - e. The special food for the priests (showbread and hidden manna)
 2. Examples of the apostles and the prophets
 - a. Paul in 1 Cor. 3:2; Heb. 5:12-13
 - b. Peter in 1 Pet. 2:2
 - c. John in Rev. 10:8-11
 - d. Job 23:12
 - e. Jer. 15:16
 - f. Ezek. 2:8-10; 3:1-3
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- E. Spiritual “*metabolism*” – a healthy digestive process necessary for the maintenance of life, resulting in growth, production of energy, and the elimination of waste material
1. Having a healthy appetite (Matt. 5:6; Ps. 42:1; 63:1; 143:6; Rev. 7:16 <Is. 49:9-10>; Rev. 22:14, 17)
 2. Pursuing and perfecting holiness in the fear of God (Heb. 12:14, <9-10>; 2 Cor. 6:14-18; 7:1)
 3. Keeping the “Feast of the Passover” and the “Feast of the Unleavened Bread” (1 Cor. 5:6-8)
 4. Putting off the old man and putting on the new man (Eph. 4:20-25; Col. 3:4-17)
 5. Exercising (training) vigorously unto godliness (1 Tim. 4:7-8)
- F. The result:
1. Our spirit, soul, and body sanctified completely and preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ (1 Thess. 5:23; 3:13; 1 Cor. 1:8; Phil. 1:10; 2 Pet. 3:10-14; Eph. 1:4)
 2. Saved to the uttermost (Heb. 7:25)
 3. Spiritual maturity <becoming a full-grown man> (Heb. 6:1; Eph. 4:13)
 4. Transformed into the glorious image of the Lord (2 Cor. 3:18)
 5. Ready to be taken up as “firstfruit” (Rev. 14:1-5). See point VII

V. Practicing the Holy and Royal Priesthood

- A. God’s original and unchanging purpose for His people (Exod. 19:5-6; Matt. 16:18-19; 18:17-18; 1 Pet. 2:5-9; Heb. 12:22-29; 1 Thess. 2:12; 2 Thess. 1:5; 2 Tim. 2:11-12a; 4:18; Luke 22:29-30; James 2:5; Rev. 1:5-6; 5:9-10; 2:26; 3:21; 12:5; 20:4, 6; 22:5b; Dan. 7:13-14, 18, 22, 27, Ps. 149:5-9)

- B. The church built by Christ is His heavenly kingdom on earth
 - 1. Zion, the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem and God's unshakeable kingdom (Ps. 48:1-2, Heb. 12:22, 28)
 - 2. Christ as the Head over all things to the church which is His body and the Ruler over the kings of the earth (Matt. 16:18-19; Rev. 1:5; Eph. 1:20-23)
 - 3. A spiritual house (not a physical earthly building) built with living stones with Christ Himself as the chief cornerstone, elect and chosen by God (1 Pet. 2:5; Eph. 2:20-22)
 - 4. A holy and royal priesthood
 - a. Offering Jesus Christ as the spiritual reality and substance of all the offerings as commanded by God in Leviticus chapters 1 to 7
 - b. Keeping all the 7 appointed feasts ordered by God in Leviticus Chapter 23
 - c. Keeping the oneness of the Spirit – oneness with the living and glorious triune God (Eph. 4:1-6; John 17:15-26); not just any man-made oneness
 - d. Pursuing holiness (Heb. 12:14; 2 Cor. 7:1; Eph. 1:4; 5:27; 1 Thess. 3:13; 1 Pet. 1:15-16; 2 Pet. 3:11)
 - e. Bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ (2 Cor. 10:5)

VI. Serving as Priests in the Holy Place and in the Holy of Holies

- A. Keeping the feast of the "Day of Atonement" (Lev. 23:26-32; Ch. 16; Num. 29:7-11)
- B. The way to enter in – the veil being torn (Matt. 27:51; Mark 15:38; Heb. 10:19-22; 4:14-16)
- C. In the Holy Place: eating of the "showbread", filling the golden lampstand with fresh oil, trimming the lamps, and offering incense at the golden incense altar (Heb. 9:2-4)

- D. In the Most Holy Place: appearing before God's presence <the Ark of the Testimony> (Exod. 25:10-22) – a golden treasure box – a picture of Christ
1. To the throne of grace to behold the glory of the Lord represented by the two cherubim (Ezek. 10:18-19; 11:22)
 2. To hear God's speaking (Exod. 25:22)
 3. To receive mercy and grace to help in time of need
 4. Christ – the propitiatory cover with the two golden cherubim (Rom. 3:24-26; 1 John 2:1-2)
 5. To experience the three hidden precious items within the Ark (Heb. 9:4)
 - a. Golden pot that had the manna
 - b. Aaron's rod that budded
 - c. Tablets of the covenant

VII. To Be Part of the First Fruits for the Father's Enjoyment

(Rev. 14:1-5)

- A. Being in Zion today
- B. Having the Father's name written on their foreheads (see Rev. 3:12)
- C. Learning the new song
- D. Being virgins – pure and undefiled
- E. Following the Lamb wherever He goes
- F. Maturing early in spiritual life
- G. No deceit or guile found in their mouths
- H. Being without fault <without blemish> before the throne of God (see Eph. 5:27)