

THE OLD COVENANT - God & Abraham

God's unfailing love Malachi 1:2

"Rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry."

1 Samuel 15:22-23a

ADAM [First Man] was created in the image of God in the Garden of Eden (Nth Iraq). EVE is the Mother of women. Adam had an intimate relationship with God meeting with Him every evening. Satan came and tempted them both to eat the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. Their disobedience/rebellion broke the relationship with God and changed their image into their new Master- Satan [The Adversary]. Genesis Chapter 1-3.

ABRAHAM (2008- 1995BC) offered Issac as a living sacrifice to God and received the unconditional promises (God's Covenant) of The Land of Israel. Genesis 12:1-3, 13:14-18, 17:5-6, 22:17

The Great Exodus, or exit from Egypt (ca.1466BC), of the children of Israel, was preceded by 10 mighty acts of God in nature. The 10th Miracle was THE PASSOVER -the angel of death "passed over" those who had splattered their doors with the Blood of a lamb. God delivered His people out of Egypt into the Wilderness (40 years) then into the Promised Land "flowing with milk and honey" – Canaan, Israel.

God established the sacrificial system in a Tabernacle (Tent) then in the Temple in Jerusalem. Sinners who were repentant, had to present an animal sacrifice before a priest to wipe out their sins.

The Ten Commandments, THE LAW, were established 430 years after God's Covenant with Abraham Galatians 3:17. 613 rules emerged which bound the Israelites (included the 10 Commandments). The fathers failed to teach their children and to keep the commandments Deuteronomy 6. Their history is one of IDOLATRY- the worship of demons (Satan) as unmitigated acts of rebellion against GOD 1 Corinthians 10:20. THE LAW defines sin. No Law, No Sin Romans 3:20. The LAW is seen to be the hard task master who takes us into Christ's classroom by faith Galatians 3:24. Disciples are saved by

God reveals His unfailing love for His Chosen People by always saving a remnant Isaiah 1:9 ("Many are called few chosen" Matthew 20:16). The Old Covenant looks forward to the coming of Jesus Christ – The New Wine in New Wineskins! Matthew 9:17.

THE NEW COVENANT – God & Mankind

God's unfailing love. So we should love one another John 3:16; 13:34-35, 1 John 3:16 "God so loved [agape] the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" John 3:16

Jesus The Christ, enters into world history (4BC). Emmanuel (God in our midst). Begins brief 3 years or so PhD ministry (Preaching "Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!", Healing all who sought Him, and Deliverance from demonic oppression) Luke 4:18. Jesus shows His mastery over nature and everything!

All disciples offer themselves as a living sacrifice to God daily for the renewing of their minds Romans 12:1-2 and to take up their own Cross, daily, as a New Spiritual Man. 2 Corinthians 5:17. Disciples become grafted into the Fig Tree, into the promises of Abraham of The Land of Israel Romans 11 and of The Land of Heaven which will be established on Earth when Jesus Christ comes again as King of Kings and Lord of Lords to rule.

"Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world" John 1:29. Jesus died on THE PASSOVER, on The Cross, shedding His Blood, and taking upon himself all the sins, illnesses, and demons of the world. Sin entered the world through the first Adam. The effects of sin were wiped-out by the Second Adam, Jesus Christ 1 Corinthians 15:45.

All disciples exit from the world, die to the world 1 John 1:15-17 and become "Citizens of Heaven" Ephesians 2:19. Witnessed by the three Baptisms signifying REPENTANCE Matthew 3:11. Being Born Again John 3 involves: BAPTISM IN WATER participation in the death of Christ – Death or total annihilation of self. BAPTISM IN THE SPIRIT signifying empowerment and total control of the disciple to be led by the Spirit of God. BAPTISM IN FIRE – "Come Follow Me " (the resurrected Jesus Christ) invited participation in His life of persecution for Holiness like Gold which is refined through fire. 1 Peter 1:7-9 . Only Holy people can make it into Heaven. Fellowship on earth is restored with the Triune Godhead with each disciple and within each oikos or household John 14:23, Acts 16:31-32, and between households as the Ekklesia or community – the spiritual body of Christ on earth. Many called –Few chosen! Matthew 20:16

GRACE and FAITH Ephesians 4:11 are the two legs for disciples to walk on, who now and now keep the Royal Law of Love [Agape] James 2:8, Luke 10:27-28b.