

## EP92 Revelation 11 verse 15 P2

In our last podcast, and in addressing the events associated with the blowing of the 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet, we discussed Jesus' rule and reign that is practically ushered in with the events of the 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet – a rule and reign that is forever and ever.

### **Joint Heirs Forever & Ever**

And since **Christ will reign forever and ever**, those raptured will similarly reign forever and ever with Him. Repeating the promise made through the prophet's Daniel, *"Then the sovereignty, the dominion and the greatness of all the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be given to the people of the saints of the Highest One; **His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom**, and all the dominions will serve and obey Him."*

This is a firm promise made to those who are now worshipping in the Sanctuary. Yes, many will be offered up as a sacrifice, and though they will die, they will live and join Jesus in His reign over the nations. And according to the words of **Yahweh**, this is a firm unbending promise. *"My covenant I will not violate, nor will I alter the utterance of My lips. Once I have sworn by My holiness; I will not lie to David. His descendants shall endure forever and his throne as the sun before Me. It shall be established forever like the moon, and the witness in the sky is faithful."*<sup>1</sup>

All of this fulfills the promise that the **Called and Chosen and Faithful** will inherit all that Jesus inherits, as they are His joint heirs. This is a legal phrase that means that His **Called and Chose and Faithful** have a "joint tenancy" with Jesus and are 100% owners in full of all that Jesus owns. *"The Spirit Himself now testifies with our spirit that we now are children of God, and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow (joint) heirs with Christ, if indeed we now suffer with Him so that we may also be caused to be glorified with Him."*<sup>2</sup>

### **Who Will They Rule & for How Long?**

This is fascinating. The **Called and Chosen and Faithful** will be handed the kingdom of God, and because of their unity with Jesus, they too will *rule forever and ever*. But this begs two questions. 1) Over whom will they reign, and 2) how will this reign be forever and ever?

What we are going to discuss next will be addressed in later parts of the **Revelation** narrative, but let's touch on it so that way we are not left with lingering questions that will ultimately leave us confused. And by the way, this question, "over whom will they reign?" is what the Spirit used to break me out of the **fiction** that there are just 2-groups of people, those who have said the "sinner's prayer" and have their ticket to heaven and everyone else who is going to hell.

### **1) Over Whom Will They Reign?**

Going back to the seven letters to the churches, in the letter to Thyatira, Jesus made a promise: *"He who is **now** overcoming and **now** keeping My deeds until the end, TO HIM I WILL GIVE AUTHORITY OVER THE NATIONS; AND HE SHALL RULE THEM WITH A ROD OF IRON, AS THE VESSELS OF THE POTTER ARE **now***

<sup>1</sup> **Psalm 89:34-37**

<sup>2</sup> **Romans 8:16-17**

*caused to be BROKEN TO PIECES, as I also have received authority from My Father...”<sup>3</sup>*

Clearly, those who are **now** worshipping in the Sanctuary will have authority over the nations. But let’s look a bit closer so we can understand what this means.

As we go through the rest of the narrative, we find that death, for the most part, is the norm. In the **Codex**, **Yahweh** says that on the “**Day of the Lord**” (**Code** for the time of the Lord’s wrath during the second 3.5 years of the tribulation), He will make mortal man scarcer than pure gold and mankind than the gold of Ophir. He will literally exterminate, destroy, or desolate sinners from the land. Anyone who is found will be thrust through, and anyone who is captured will fall by the sword.<sup>4</sup> Yes, death is the norm.

We are also told that many “nations” will rise up and come to fight specifically against Jerusalem, and these nations will be stricken by **Yahweh**.

### **Zechariah 14:12-15**

Now this will be the plague with which **Yahweh** will strike all the peoples who have gone to war against Jerusalem; their flesh will rot while they stand on their feet, and their eyes will rot in their sockets, and their tongue will rot in their mouth. It will come about in that day that a great panic from **Yahweh** will fall on them; and they will seize one another's hand, and the hand of one will be lifted against the hand of another. Judah also will fight at Jerusalem; and the wealth of all the surrounding nations will be gathered, gold and silver and garments in great abundance. So also like this plague will be the plague on the horse, the mule, the camel, the donkey and all the cattle that will be in those camps.

That is a pretty gruesome description of their death. By the way, it is interesting to note that it is specifically “*Judah*” who will be engaged in this war. This is consistent with what we learned about the people who belonged to the Northern tribes of Israel (imaged in the tribe of *Ephraim*) being scattered to the nations, while the tribe of Judah that was exiled to Babylon and then returned to the land have remained throughout all time. It is these people, the tribe of Judah, who even today comprise the modern nation of Israel, and though they are spread throughout the land—throughout the nation—they are still those people whose heritage is from Judah (the tribe and those few from other tribes who returned with Judah and identified with Judah). This is also why they are referred to as Jews, as being from Judah, as opposed to Israelites (as they were referred to before the nation was divided).

In addition, we are told that “*If anyone worships the beast and his image and receives a mark on his forehead or on his hand, he also will drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is mixed in full strength in the cup of His anger; and he will be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever; they have no rest day and night, those who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.*” This description is a reference to the **Second Death**, the eternal torment in the Lake of Fire, a place

<sup>3</sup> **Revelation 2:26-27**

<sup>4</sup> *See Isaiah 13*

so terrible that the Beast, the False Prophet, the Dragon (Satan) and even hell are thrown into it.<sup>5</sup>

The point of it all is that there will be gruesome death and devastation, and **Yahweh** will do exactly as He promises and will make mankind scarcer than pure gold.

However, from that devastation, there will be those of the nations who endure and come through this dreadful time of judgment. **Yahweh** said that He would make mankind scarce, but He did not say non-existent. There will be those who DO NOT take upon their being the mark of the Beast or the number of His name. In fact, we are told in the book of **Zechariah** that they will go up to Jerusalem every year to worship the King, **Yahweh Sabaoth** (the Lord of Hosts) and to celebrate the feast of booths.

And with regard to the Jews and the modern nation of Israel, He said:

**Zechariah 13:8-9**

"It will come about in all the land," Declares **Yahweh**, "That two parts in it will be cut off and perish; but the third will be left in it. And I will bring the third part through the fire, refine them as silver is refined, and test them as gold is tested. They will call on My name, and I will answer them; I will say, 'They are My people,' and they will say, '**Yahweh** is my God.'"

Now, we know that the **Accursed**, vessels of wrath prepared for destruction (literally, prepared for the Beast whose name is Destruction or Destroyer), never had their names written in the Lamb's book of life, from the foundation of the world. They are also referred to as "*those who dwell on the earth.*" They have made their abode in this earthly system such that their identity, their personhood, and their entire being is derived solely from the world's system.<sup>6</sup> It is evident that they will be among those who are slaughtered in **Yahweh's** judgment.

Then there are the **Called**, all those who serve in the outer courts of the temple and are not found worshipping in the Sanctuary. These are those in the Religion of Christianity (which will include many of the **Chosen** who were NOT the "**Called and Chosen and Faithful**" ones who are found even **now** to be worshipping in the Sanctuary).

These are those who are in the household of God, but who were unwilling to make the choice to receive the love of the truth so as to be caused to be saved. A lot is said about their destiny—about those who are **now** choosing to be perishing. In fact, we are told that God **now** sends a deluding influence on them so they will believe the lie, in order that they may all be caused to be condemned who were not believing the truth but had been taking pleasure in wickedness.<sup>7</sup>

In other passages, the **Called** are clearly identified as the "*sons of the Kingdom*" who will be cast out

<sup>5</sup> **Revelation 14:9-11, 19:20, 20:11-15**

<sup>6</sup> **See Romans 9:14-24: Revelation 13:7-8**

<sup>7</sup> **See 2 Thessalonians 2:10-12.** Note: "perishing" is rendered in the *present middle participle*, "received" is rendered in the *aorist middle indicative*, "send" is rendered in the *present active indicative*, "condemned" is rendered in the *aorist passive indicative*, and "believed" and "pleasure" are both rendered in the *aorist active participle*.

into the outer darkness; *in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.*<sup>8</sup>

### **Matthew 13:41-43**

The Son of Man will send forth His angels, and they will **gather out of His kingdom** all stumbling blocks, and those who are **now** committing **lawlessness**, and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. "Then THE **RIGHTEOUS** WILL SHINE FORTH AS THE SUN in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

And do not be confused, those who commit **lawlessness** are those who in His kingdom who call Jesus "Lord, Lord" and prophesy in His name, cast out demons in His name, and perform many miracles in His name. Yet, He will declare to them, "*I never knew you; depart from Me you who practice lawlessness.*"<sup>9</sup> This terrible reality, of those who would not choose to receive the love of the truth, is depicted in various parables which Jesus gave.

### **Matthew 13:47-50**

"Again, the **kingdom of heaven** is like a dragnet that had been caused to be casting into the sea and gathering fish of every kind; and when it was caused to be full, drawing it up on the beach; and sitting down and gathered the good fish into containers, but the bad they threw away. "So, it will choose to be at the end of the age; the angels will choose to come forth **and take out the wicked** from among the **righteous** and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place *there will choose to be weeping and gnashing of teeth.*

Thus, the **Righteous** will remain; they will have a place in the kingdom of God. In contrast, the wicked will be taken out from among the **Righteous** and thrown into the furnace of fire.

Jesus also gave a parable of a wedding, where the King ordered his servants to fill the wedding hall with guests who were gathered from the highways and byways (the streets). The servants gathered together all they found, both evil and good; and the wedding hall was filled with dinner guests.

### **Matthew 22:11-14**

But when the king had been coming in to look over those who were now choosing to be guests, he saw a man there who had not chosen to be dressing in wedding clothes, and he **now says** to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without **now** having wedding clothes?' And the man was caused to be speechless. "Then the king said to the servants, 'Binding him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness; *in that place there will choose to be weeping and gnashing of teeth.*' "For many are

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<sup>8</sup> **Matthew 8:10-12**

<sup>9</sup> **Matthew 7:21-23**

now **called**, but few are **chosen**."

Jesus also told a parable regarding the bondservants in the King's household who were supposed to be busy about the King's business while he was gone. By the way, there are a few parables about the bondservants in the "King's" household, and in contrast to a normal household servant (in Greek, "*oiketes*"), the Greek word "*dulos*" or bondservant, is always used. Remember, John identified himself as a "*dulos*" – a bondservant of Jesus Christ and the book of **Revelation** is written to the bondservants of Jesus Christ.<sup>10</sup>

Thus, Jesus makes these parables very personal for those bondservants who are found to be in His household. And let's keep in mind the measurement for inclusion in the kingdom of God, a measurement of "a *reed like a rod*" – is the measurement of a lampstand burning bright with oil in the Sanctuary of God.

Therefore, in reference to a bondservant who is not ready for the King's return, Jesus said:

#### **Matthew 24:48-51**

"But if that evil bondservant says in his heart, 'My master **now** delays,' and chooses to begin to **now** beat his fellow bondservants and **now** eat and **now** drink with those who are **now** drinking; the master of that bondservant will come on a day when he does **now** not expect him and at an hour which he is **now** not aware, and will cut him in pieces and assign him a place with the hypocrites; *in that place there will choose to be weeping and gnashing of teeth*."

If you have ever been beat up by someone, some leader, with the instrument of the law and your failure to do things right, then the pieces of this parable will start to make sense to you. This parable is an indictment on leaders within Christianity who indulge in their own lawlessness yet use the law to abuse fellow bondservants of God with guilt, shame, failure, and bondage.

He told a similar parable about various bondservants in His household who were given "*talents*" or gifts from the Master. The parable addresses three servants, but we will jump to the last bondservant who buried his talent instead of doing something worthwhile with it.

#### **Matthew 25:24-30**

And the one also who had been receiving the one talent was coming up and said, Lord, I knew you **now** are a hard man, **now** reaping where you did not sow and **now** gathering where you scattered no seed. 'And I was caused to be fearing and was going away and hid your talent in the ground. See, you have what **now** is yours.'

But his Lord was caused to be answering him and said to him, '**You wicked, lazy bondservant, you very well knew** that I **now** reap where I did not sow and **now** gather where I scattered no seed. 'Then you

<sup>10</sup> **Revelation 1:1**

ought to have put my money in the bank, and on my arriving, I would choose to have received my money back with interest. 'Therefore, take away the talent from him, and give it to the one who is **now** having the ten talents.' "For to everyone who is **now** having, more shall be caused to be given, and he will be caused to have an abundance; but from the one who is NOT **now** having, even what he now has shall be caused to be taken away. Throw out the worthless bondservant into the outer darkness; *in that place there will choose to be weeping and gnashing of teeth.*

Next, most of us should be very, very familiar with the parable of the ten virgins. This parable has a very close nexus of relationship with **Revelation 11**—to those priests (measured by the “*reed like a rod*”) who were NOT found to be worshipping in the Sanctuary keeping the lampstand burning with oil.

In this parable, there were 5-virgins who had their lamps filled with oil and burning bright. They were let into the marriage supper when the groom arrived. However, there were also 5-virgins whose lamps had gone out, the oil in each of their respective lamps was spent. This was something for which they took no responsibility. Instead, like every good victim, they redirected the responsibility, pointed blame elsewhere, and said their lamps were now caused to go out, as if it was not a result of their lack of preparation.<sup>11</sup> In a panic, and knowing the bridegroom would soon be coming, they went away to purchase more oil. Well, let's just say they had a tragic ending.

### **Matthew 25:8-13**

... The foolish said to the prudent, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are **now** caused to go out.' But the prudent were caused to answer, now saying 'No, there will not be enough for us and you too; **now** choose to go instead to those who are **now** selling and buy some for yourselves.' And while they chose to **now** be going away to make the purchase, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding feast; and the door was caused to be shut.

Later the other virgins also **now** choose to come, **now** saying, 'Lord, lord, we command you to open up for us.' "But he was caused to be answering and said, 'Truly I **now** say to you, I have NEVER known you.' "**Now** you are commanded to be on the alert then, for you have NEVER known the day nor the hour."<sup>12</sup>

In a very like manner, Jesus also told His disciples:

### **Luke 13:23-29**

And one said to Him, Lord are there few who are **now** caused to being saved? And He said to them, "You are commanded to **now** choose to strive to enter through the narrow door; **for many**, I **now** tell you, **will seek to enter and will not be able**. Once the head of the house has been caused to get up and shuts the door, and they will choose to begin to stand outside and **now** knock on the door, **now**

<sup>11</sup> "caused to go out" is rendered in the *present passive indicative*

<sup>12</sup> Note: both instances of "NEVER have known" is rendered in the *perfect active indicative*

saying, 'Lord, open up to us!' then He will be caused to be answering and will say to you, 'I have NEVER known where you **now** are from.'

"Then they will choose to begin to **now** say, 'We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets'; and He will say, 'I am **now** telling you, I have NEVER known where you **now** are from; you are commanded to depart from Me all you workers of iniquity {or "lawlessness"}.' "In that place there will choose to be weeping and gnashing of teeth when they choose to see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but themselves caused to **now** being thrown out.

The destiny of the **Called** (and the **Chosen** who are NOT **now** worshipping in the Sanctuary) is terrifying, and it is so ever personal. *"I am now telling you, I have NEVER known where you now are from; you are commanded to depart from Me all you workers of iniquity."*

Did you notice that it said, *"there will choose to be weeping and gnashing of teeth."* First of all, this means that they are not victims, despite how they feel. They choose their direction; they choose their destiny. In contrast to the **Called and Chosen and Faithful**, they choose to NOT be coming out of the great tribulation. They choose to NOT enter into **Yahweh's** rest. They choose to NOT be that little child dependent upon **Yahweh** for all things all the time.

Second, *there will choose to be weeping and gnashing of teeth* because they are cast away into this darkness still believing, convinced in the bowels of their being, that God owes them something for all that they did for Him. They are convinced that due to their sincerity and intention that He owes them eternal life in heaven, that He owes them all that the wicked prophets and priests promised to them throughout the ages. They all believed that if they said the "sinners' prayer" and did all manner of service and sacrifice for **Yahweh**, and served others in the name of Jesus, that they would be assured their heavenly destiny.

But instead of eternity with Jesus, they are cast into outer darkness, hence the *weeping*. And they are furious at what to them feels like the ultimate betrayal, hence, the *gnashing of teeth*. This will be their eternity for they of all people should have known, just as He communicated utilizing the rare "*pluperfect*" tense: **'You wicked, lazy bondservant, you very well knew.'**<sup>13</sup> In other words, these servants of God who have been in His household, deep down in their soul always, always knew, no matter how much they want to play the victim.

In fact, it is likely that throughout all eternity, they will keep hearing these truths echo in the darkness: *"for **by grace** you now have been caused to being saved **through faith** and not that of yourself, of God the gift, not of works lest anyone should choose to boast."*<sup>14</sup> *"And without faith, it is impossible to please God."*<sup>15</sup> For *"there is only one who is good."*<sup>16</sup> *"No one is good except God alone."*<sup>17</sup>

<sup>13</sup> **Matthew 25:26**

<sup>14</sup> **Ephesians 2:8-9**

<sup>15</sup> **Hebrews 11:6**

<sup>16</sup> **Matthew 19:17**

<sup>17</sup> **Mark 10:18; Luke 18:19**



**JUDE AND REVELATION TARGETS THOSE WITHIN THE VISIBLE CHURCH WITH A MESSAGE WHICH SEPARATES THOSE WHO STAND ONLY ON THE GOODNESS OF GOD FROM THOSE WHO ARE TRYING VERY HARD TO BE GOOD FOR GOD.**

**THERE IS A FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A PERSON WHO IS LIVING FOR GOD AND ONE WHO IS WILLING TO LET GOD LIVE IN-AND-THROUGH THEM. THIS IS A DIFFERENCE WHICH PLAYS OUT IN LIFE AND DEATH—IN THOSE WHO ARE NOW CHOOSING TO BE COMING OUT OF THE GREAT TRIBULATION AND THOSE WHO WILL CHOOSE TO ENDURE WRATH AND AN ETERNITY OF WEeping AND GNASHING OF TEETH.**

### **The Righteous Will Be Ruled**

So then, who is left for the **Called and Chosen and Faithful** to rule? The **Accursed** and the **Called** are all doomed. Well, did you notice that in **Matthew 13**, that twice the Spirit made mention of the **"RIGHTEOUS."** He said that *"THE **RIGHTEOUS** WILL SHINE FORTH AS THE SUN in the kingdom of their Father."* And that the wicked would be taken out from among the **RIGHTEOUS** and thrown in the furnace of fire, leaving only the **RIGHTEOUS**.<sup>18</sup>

When it comes time for those who are **now** worshipping in the Sanctuary to reign, there will be those whom the Lord considers to be **"the righteous,"** and they will enter His eternal construct.<sup>19</sup> They will not be the Bride of Christ, they will not be His treasured possession in that they do not comprise the *"holy city,"* but they will experience eternity with Him, and the **Called and Chosen and Faithful** will for all time be their overlords, their rulers.

We are given a hint in the **Codex** as to why these **righteous** ones are rewarded. Jesus makes it clear that those who treat His Chosen ones (His Bride) with care and love will in turn be cared for and loved by our heavenly Father. It is what any father would do for the friends of his son's wife. After all, they fed the bride when she was hungry, they befriended her when she was but a stranger, they clothed her when she was naked, they visited her when she was sick and when she was in prison, and they accepted her when they could have rejected her.

Specifically, He says, *"He who receives you receives me (Jesus), and he who receives me receives Him who sent me (the Father). "The one who listens to you listens to me (Jesus) the one who rejects you, rejects me; and he who rejects me, rejects the one who sent me (the Father)."*<sup>20</sup> In the mercy and grace of God, their acceptance of His Chosen ones is their acceptance of Him.

With that said, there is one other requirement for their entry into Christ's eternal kingdom. They **MUST NOT** have received the mark of the Beast or the number of His name or chosen to worship the Beast. If

<sup>18</sup> **Matthew 13:43, 49**

<sup>19</sup> **Matthew 25:31-46**

<sup>20</sup> **Matthew 10:40; Luke 10:16; John 13:20**



they can resist this temptation, if they can endure, then they will be the **Elect**, the saints, that are gathered when the **Great Trumpet** (the very final trumpet) is blown at the end of the tribulation. And the Bride will reign over them forever and ever. Hereafter, just as Jesus did in the **Codex**, we will refer to them as the **“Righteous.”**

## 2) How Will This Reign be Forever and Ever?

We will find that there will be a period of 1,000 years when Jesus rules and reins on the earth and His **Called and Chosen and Faithful** ones will rule with Him. But at the end of that time period, some of those in His earthly kingdom will rebel and will join together with Satan to come against the *“holy ones”* and the *beloved city* (Jerusalem), and God will destroy them with fire that comes down from heaven.<sup>21</sup>

Then both heaven and earth, as we know it, are destroyed in a blaze of fire, the elements are destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up.<sup>22</sup> Then there will be a new heaven and a new earth.<sup>23</sup> And the peoples from the nations that survive (the **Righteous**), will find their home in this new environment. They will come to and enter the *“New Jerusalem,”* which is a picture, a metaphor, for the Bride of Christ—the **Called and Chosen and Faithful**.

### **Revelation 21:24-27**

The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth **now** bring their glory into it. In the daytime (for there will choose to be no night there) its gates will never be caused to be closed; and they will bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it; and nothing unclean, and no one who is **now** practicing abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names have been caused to being written in the Lamb's book of life.

In short, those found to now be worshipping in the Sanctuary will, upon Jesus Second Coming, rule the nations on the earth for 1,000 years. Then they will rule over the **Righteous** for all eternity.

## **All Eternity—The Way**

Unfortunately, this concept of eternity is one that is so very hard for our limited minds, much less our emotions to comprehend. In the same way, this idea of ruling over others in the millennial kingdom as well as in a new heaven and a new earth (for all eternity) is also beyond our comprehension.

**Yahweh** choose to limit His disclosure about what that will look like practically (although, we will get a glimpse of it when we get to **Revelation 21** and **22**), because, as He said, *“But as it has caused to be written, no eye has seen nor ear has heard, nor has it entered into the heart of man, things which God has prepared for them who are **now** loving Him”* (loving Him with His *“agape”* love.)

As awesome as all the talk of eternity sounds, this poses a problem for many who are now worshipping

<sup>21</sup> **Revelation 20:1-3, 7-10**

<sup>22</sup> **2 Peter 3:7-13**

<sup>23</sup> **Revelation 21:1**

in the temple. They have come to God, joined His household, they worship Him, they serve Him, but they do not truly know how to mentally and emotionally embrace the idea that a person has to die to live, and they must live to love with God's *agape* love.

## The Pathway to Eternity

### *We Must Die to Live, and We Must Live to Love.*

This "death" to all that is in us that fights against **Yahweh** being our **I AM** is a real requirement to living "in Christ" and therefore it is a precondition to our loving with His *agape* love. And the only way we can be sure that we are "in Christ" is if we love with His *agape* love; it is the only way to be sure that we know Him and that He knows us and has always known us.

Practically, loving our brethren with God's *agape* love is the key indicator that we have passed out of death into life. After all, the one who is NOT now loving His brother with God's *agape* love, cannot now love God.<sup>24</sup>

But to know His *agape* love is to have the One who is *agape* love living in and doing His work of love though a person's life.<sup>25</sup> Everything else, as we have learned, is a **work of our hands** and is an abomination, for no matter how much we wrap things up in the draping of good religion, Christian charity, worship, and the service of God and man, in reality, it is nothing more than the worship of demons and idolatry.

Sadly, the reason so many stay in the temple instead of finding their place of rest in the Sanctuary of God is because it is so much easier than navigating the pathway of death (which can also be called the pathway to life, of which so few find). The suffering (mental, emotional, physical, relational, financial, etc.) that God has appointed for those who abide in His Sanctuary is simply terrible, and there is no way to sugar coat it. One must traverse through the valley of the shadow of death and not abandon the journey along the way.

But it is the only way for God to teach us how to choose volitionally and willingly to be that little child that is dependent NOT upon our own resources, NOT upon the resources of others, NOT upon the promises of this world, NOT upon the angelic entities that tempt us to listen to their voice, but upon Him (**Yahweh**) for all things all the time. Again, it is a pathway of trouble that so few walk, and even amongst those that walk down this road, so few are permitted to enter, "*for the gate is small and the way that is now leading to life is now caused to being narrow, and there are now few who are now finding it.*"<sup>26</sup> "*You are now commanded to choose to strive to enter through the narrow door (or gate); for many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able.*"<sup>27</sup>

God understands this dynamic, obviously, and this is why He gives everyone who joins His household a glimpse of **ETERNITY THEN**, by showing us all so much about what is to be our **ETERNITY NOW** experience. He knows we can scarcely grasp at understanding our **ETERNITY THEN**, so He invites us to choose to experience a life of unrestrained freedom, a life of rest from all our works in order that we

<sup>24</sup> See **1 John 4:8, 3:14 4:20**

<sup>25</sup> **1 John 4:8, 16**

<sup>26</sup> See **Matthew 7:13-14, 21**

<sup>27</sup> **Luke 13:24**

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might experience the peaceful fruit of righteousness. In our **ETERNITY NOW** experience, He wants us to know a life that is not entangled by an obsession on our sin or the sin of others, nor ruled by fear of the devil, the demons, or by what man might do to us.

Rather, He wants us to live in confidence that all things of any value in our life (that which is good and perfect) come from Him, as everything that is good and perfect is **by grace** (what He does for us) **through faith** (through our now believing and betting our lives upon His name alone).

Thus, He does not want us to fear what He must do to free us from all our bondage to our *flesh*, to this world, from all our trauma, from all our wounds, from all the lies which we have believed, for His end point is to bring us into life—a wholistic healing of our being such that we can live at rest knowing that He is the Lord our God Almighty. For this is the only way we can love with His *agape* love.

Yes, it is our **ETERNITY NOW** experience that is intended to give us an understanding, a delicious taste, of our **ETERNITY THEN**.

And with that, we will pick up in our next podcast with the worship of the 24-Elders. I am glad you “tuned in” and have been “ready to listen.”