

# BREAD FROM HEAVEN

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Manna is the word that the Israelite people called the granular type food that God rained down from heaven to feed the Children of Israel, while they wandered in the wilderness for forty years. The word manna simply means: What is it? The Israelite people had never seen anything like that before. God used the manna to sustain their physical life, while they wandered in the Sinai desert, and he also used this manna to test the people, whether they would keep his law or not. The seventh day Sabbath was one of the main test commandments; whether they would keep his Spiritual Law; The Ten Commandments.

Brethren I am writing this booklet to people who have been called by the Eternal God, and given “ears to hear”; so please understand that all of the things that happened with the Children of Israel were only a type of a spiritual application. I will list a few of these things below just so that you can get an idea of what I am talking about. The Twelve tribes of Israel were in bondage to the Egyptians: Those called to be Spiritual Israel were in bondage to sin. By Miraculous signs and wonders God gave Israel faith to follow Moses out of Egypt, looking to inherit the promises in the Promised land, (*though most didn't truly believe*): By Miraculous signs and wonders God gave faith to his predestined first fruits to be able to believe the Word of God including his gospel, and surrender our lives to follow Christ out of our sins, and sinful nature; so that we may have this “pearl of great price”, the Kingdom of God. The Israelites were baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the Red Sea (1 Cor. 10: 1, 2): True Christians, Spiritual Israel are baptized into the body of Christ when we are called to repentance, and faith in the gospel about the Spirit born Kingdom of God. God gave the Israelite people his Ten Commandments, a perfect law of love which would direct the people into treating their Creator God with utmost respect, and treating their fellow brethren in righteousness, so that they may all dwell together in harmony, peace, and unity: God gave his Spiritual Israel; (*the body of Christ, the true called out church*), his Holy Spirit which imparts to us the power of love for God, and

love for fellow man enough to truly keep, and obey the Spiritual intent of the Ten Commandments.

It was determined from the very beginning that the wages for sin, *transgressing Gods Law* is eternal death. That is why God wouldn't let Adam and Eve have access to the symbolic "tree of Life" after they had chose to disobey God, and decide for their selves what they thought was good or evil. Regardless of the lies that Satan told Eve; the wages for sin is death, not life. (Romans 6: 23 God knows that **eternal life** in a state of **sinful character** and behavior would become so destructive, and hurtful to us all; that it would be worse than the world's deceptive version of "hell-fire". Adams nature of sin, and self reliance, and disobedience to God was passed on to all of Adams children. We humans all except Jesus have acquired the spiritual nature of sin from Adam and the unseen god of this present age, Satan the devil; we call it human nature, and the devil has been manipulating us just as he did Adam and Eve. We have all sinned and deserve death. In God's **mercy**, he determined that if we humans sin, we must also die and cease to exist; but God in his great desire **to reproduce his self**, and **have a wife and children**; determined a way of salvation for us sinners. God could not, and would not tolerate sin in his eternal family; it is entirely too destructive, and hurtful; so God decided to create a plan which would make it possible to **redeem us from** our sinful nature.

God determined that he would send a second Adam into the world, which had not sinned, and would not sin. This second Adam had to be the Word of God himself. This second Adam was Jesus the Christ. To understand this concept you should study carefully all of I Corinthians Chapter 15. Jesus was God in the human flesh. Jesus was tempted in all points even as we are, yet he never sinned. (Hebrews 4: 15) Jesus Christ overcame the devil while being subject to like passions and temptations as we are. Jesus was able to do this, because he was filled with the full measure of the Spirit, mind and character of God. Jesus didn't just receive a small measure of the Holy Spirit like newly converted Christians do; who then must grow in that Grace of God; but Jesus was totally God from the beginning, before he was ever made flesh. (John 1: 1-17) Jesus didn't have a sinful human nature that he had to put to death daily as we do; although he did

have to overcome the devils temptations, and attempts to appeal to his fleshly weakness. The devil tried to appeal to any vanity in Jesus, but Jesus was not vain. He overcame sin and its temptations because he was and is Holy and without sin. When the devil tried to plant unrighteous thoughts, or attitudes into Jesus' mind; Jesus would reject the evil quickly, and quote a relevant thought from the Holy Scriptures. Jesus would not let Satan lead him into sin. The first Adam failed; but the second Adam overcame the devil, and qualified to be our savior if we will let him, when God calls each of us to the knowledge of the truth. **Jesus proved in his own flesh; that when we humans are filled with the Holy Spirit, we can overcome sin and all of its temptations, even though we still live in our carnal weak fleshly bodies.** As Paul says, we must die daily (1 Cor. 15: 31); put sinful self nature to death, but we must **grow in God's grace.** (2 Peter 3: 18) We must grow in the gift of the Holy Spirit. Yes my friends, the selfish, sinful nature must die; but if we are in Christ; then we can be led by the Holy Spirit to put sin to death as God reveals it to us; as Paul says he dies daily. By the Holy Spirit in us we have eternal life in us. Even as our Lord and Savior, so also we who are led by the Spirit of Christ in us; we have eternal life in us. Our power, strength, authority, reward, and glory in the Kingdom will depend on how well we have submitted our self spirit to obey the Spirit of Christ in us. Brethren, be assured that in that last day; what so ever that is in our nature that is not like Christ; it will be destroyed. No stubborn self-willed spirit will be given eternal life. We will have eternal life, because we willingly and gladly submit to the will of Christ in us. Jesus said some will increase thirty fold, some sixty fold, and some one hundred fold. It all depends on how much we love Christ, and how well we put self to death daily, and grow in the Holy Spirit, and character of Christ. Jesus' death paid for our past sins; but after we are put into the body of Christ, by the begetting of the Holy Spirit, then we are growing into a **new creature,** (Gal. 6: 15), (2 Cor. 5: 17) made after the image of the Heavenly Adam, (1 cor. 15: 45-49) and we are saved by his life in us, helping us to grow in this new life until we are ready to be born again as the Spirit born children of God; which will collectively make up the heavenly wife of Jesus Christ. Instead of being one flesh as the first Adam and his wife were to be; we will all be one Spirit. (Eph. 5: 22-32) Just like God called their name Adam; (Gen. 5: 2) so also we shall be called by the new name of our Lord (Rev. 3: 12),

(Rev. 22: 4). The Kingdom of God is a spiritual family that is spiritually and governmentally organized after the manner of all of the many members of a man's physical body. Study this in the forth chapter of Ephesians.

Now we need to understand how we can be saved **from** sin and its death penalty, when we have already earned the wages of sin which is eternal death. The first Adam had failed, and brought on his self and all of his family the death sentence. (1 Cor. 15: 21-22) Since Adam was a sinner, his death could not pay the price for any one's sins except his own. The wonderful truth is that God decided that his own Word would be born of human flesh, (*John 1: 1-14*) but filled with the divine Holy nature of God, so that he would not sin, even in the strongest temptations; so that he could give his life as payment for all of mankind's sins and sinful nature. Jesus Christ the second Adam did come as the Holy, sinless son of God, and son of man; to conquer Satan, and overcome sin, and qualify to be the Savior to all humans who will surrender to him; to let his death pay for our sins, and also let his resurrected eternal life, live in us by his word and the Holy Spirit so that he **recreates** us in the Holy nature of the eternal God. Study Ephesians Chapter 4, and especially notice verses 22-24. We must be made out of the Spiritual life and Character (*seed*) of our Savior, the second Adam; even as we are physically made out of the seed of the first Adam. Our carnal flesh created in Adam will die; but our Spiritual life in Christ the second Adam will live forever; for Jesus had no sin of his own, and he did and does have eternal life. We shall be given a new Spiritual body in the resurrection. (1 Cor. 15: 43-44) As the scripture says Christ in you, is the hope of glory. (Colossians 1: 27) Brethren, do we actually realize that God our Father, and Jesus Christ our Lord dwells in us **to the degree that we allow them to**, by our submitting to them instead of our sinful, carnal human nature? That is awesome! The rest of the world doesn't see or recognize Christ; but true Christians see him already with their spiritual eyes. (John 14: 19-23); Notice verse 19; "yet a little while and the world sees me no more; but you see me; because I live, you shall live also." Notice verse 22; "Judas said to him, (not Iscariot) Lord, how is it that you will manifest yourself unto us, and not unto the world?" Verse 23; "Jesus answered and said unto him: "If a man loves me, he

will keep my words; and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.”

Brethren, do we really understand how Jesus Christ goes about saving us from the eternal death penalty? Jesus Christ is the only human ever born who never sinned. That means that **only his life** is an acceptable sacrifice to make atonement for our sins. Any other man who would offer his life as a sacrifice for sin would only be able to pay for his own sins; and since he has no eternal life in him he would be eternally dead. Jesus Christ is the eternal Word of God, who has eternal life in him, and who never sinned. Jesus gave his life on the cross, to pay for the death penalty for all of us who will repent of our sins, and surrender our lives to be obedient to God. Even though we humans have all earned the wages of death for our sins; we don't have to pay that death price, **if we will unconditionally surrender to God and Christ; to let the Word and Spirit of God lead us out of our sinful ways, and into the Holy nature, and character of Christ, our Lord and master, and Savior.**

\_ My friends Jesus Christ our Savior did not do everything for us, so that we don't have anything to do but accept it. We do have our part in our salvation if we really do desire to be in the Kingdom of God. Jesus did for us what we cannot do for ourselves. We could not atone for our own, or anybody else's sins. We naturally do not have eternal life in us. Eternal life can only come from eternal life. We cannot give ourselves, or anyone else eternal life. We humanly have not got in us the nature of love that will fulfill the commandments of God; so God will provide a gift of a small measure (*earnest*) of the Holy Spirit to a person who has truly been called, sincerely repented of his sins and sinful nature, and truly believes the gospel, and completely determined to surrender his whole life to God; and let Christ be his Lord and Master, and teacher from that point on, and forever. (1 Cor. 1: 22) This commitment is to be sealed by baptism. After baptism God's minister will lay hands on the head of the new convert, and God will give a small measure of the Holy Spirit of God and Christ to impregnate the human spirit of the convert with eternal life, and the power of love to actually start keeping the Commandments of God. Read Acts 2: 37-39; also study all of Romans Chapter 8, and especially notice verse 16. At this point the new convert

is not nearly perfect in Christ yet, but he is sanctified by the Spirit of Christ in him so that he is no longer under the death penalty when he slips and sins out of weakness, but repents and gets up more determined not to let sin hold him down. (Romans 8: 1, 2)

Friends and brethren I need to make the truth plain here, about why God only gives us a small measure of the Spirit of God when we are first converted. God expects us to grow in Gods' grace (gift) (2 Pet. 3: 18) so that eventually we are of the very stature, of Christ our lord. (Ephesians 4: 13) As we submit to the lead of the Holy Spirit and Word of God, even in trying and tempting times; then we are willingly and aggressively pursuing after Gods way, while rejecting our natural carnal, sinful way. This active and deliberate choice, lets God and ourselves know, that we are not just being overwhelmed by the Holy Spirit, and being compelled to do what is right, according to the Law of God like an instinct in an animal; but that we willingly choose God's way even if it causes us to be persecuted and suffer in the flesh. By this means we can willfully train our human spirit to follow and submit to the Holy Spirit, because **we personally choose to grow in the Spirit of God**. God doesn't want to just rape us with his Spirit; but he desires that we willingly come to agree with Him and willingly submit to him; so that we become Holy as he is Holy, by our willing choice and participation; as well as our hunger and thirst for his righteousness. **We grow at the same rate that we surrender our spirit to obey His Spirit**. By our active submission to Christ, even in times of temptation; we are growing in the Holy nature of God and Christ. We become Holy because we choose it every step of the way; and in every detail of our lives. If at any point in our spiritual lives we should decide to walk contrary to God and Christ; then God may chasten us, but he will not force us against our will to do right. God expects us to maintain our free willed choice. A man desires a wife who obeys him, but not because she is forced to against her will. So also is God. That is how we become overcomers; not that Christ did it all for us. Christ does for us what we can't do for ourselves; but he expects us to do what we can for our selves, and he supplies us with the power of his Holy Spirit in us to be able to overcome sin in our selves.

Sometimes Satan will try to make us think that if we are truthful, or do the right thing that we will suffer bad consequences, but the truth of the matter is that if we are willing to lay it all on the line for God; God will work things out in our best interest. Sometimes it may not appear so, but by faith God makes us to know that all things work together for good to them that love God and are called according to his purpose. (Romans 8: 28) God desires a wife who is so in love with him and his way that we are willing to suffer for him and still remain faithful. It takes real faith to obey God when temptations arise. We should be like Daniel was when he refused to worship the idol of the King of Babylon. Even if we must suffer pain, hunger, persecution or death, we will not let ourselves yield in to sin.

Brethren, let's be honest with ourselves, have we not all at one time, or another yielded in to temptation and sinned, when the consequences for being faithful to God was minor, or nonexistent compared to death. I hope we have all truly repented of all of our sins, and determined not to be so weak in the future. Sometimes brethren we don't realize how much sinful nature that we still have in our selves, until we are faced with some trial or temptation that puts us to the test. Brethren, this is why Christ's own body must be purged from our sinful human nature as is described in the eleventh chapter of Daniel.

Now with this all being said; one major point I want to make is; that if we yield our human spirit to follow the lead of the Holy Spirit, then we are training our spirit to live Holy. In other words, we are bearing Holy fruit, Holy Character in our spirit. This is how we can share in eternal life with Christ and God our Father. If we don't yield our human spirit to follow the Holy Spirit; then the Holy Spirit will be grieved. (Eph. 4: 30) If we continue to grieve the Holy Spirit; our human spirit will not bear holy fruits, and God will chasten us to bring us to humble repentance. If anyone refuses to be corrected by God's punishment, that person will eventually lose the Holy Spirit. God's Holy Spirit will stay Holy; and if you will not be led by that Holy Spirit; then the Holy Spirit will depart from you, and you will have no eternal life. Jesus Christ living in us by the Holy Spirit is our only hope of having eternal life. (1 John 4: 13) (1 John 5: 11, 12) Two can't walk together except they are in agreement. The Holy Spirit will not get in agreement with our human spirit. Jesus Christ will eventually depart from us if we refuse to bring our

spirit in agreement with his Word and Spirit. Brethren this submission to the Holy Spirit and Word of God should be constantly taking place in every detail of our lives. Our religion is not just a Sabbath religion, but it is for every conscious thought and action, and even habitual behavior of our lives. We must bring all of our lives in submission to the Eternal God. We will have eternal life because we willingly chose to be obedient to Christ and God with all of our heart, mind, and soul. By us struggling against sin, and overcoming sin through Christ in us; God knows that we love him and his way, and that we truly are converted to his way in our hearts. God can then trust us with all of the power and glorified spirit bodies that he desires to give us, in eternal life.

Now brethren, we need to understand that the perfect Holy life of Jesus Christ, the second Adam, being sacrificed for the sins of the first Adams children does not apply to anyone until that person truly repents of his sins, and is willing to **surrender sovereignty** of his personal life over to Christ; to let Christ be his Lord and Master, teacher and savior. Brethren, let us not be ignorant of this fact; that we are not completely saved by the death of Christ. Christ's death reconciles us to God, by paying the death penalty for us; but we are saved by his life. Let me try to make this clear; Jesus' death pays for the death penalty that we all deserve, **only** if we are surrendered to let **Christ's life** lead us to overcome, and put to death our sinful nature for the remainder of our lives. Jesus' death squares things up for us with God; so that we are back to the point Adam was before he sinned. At that point Adam had not deserved death, but he also had not eaten of the tree of life. To have eternal life Adam would have to eat of the tree of life. That tree of Life was symbolic of the Word and Spirit of God. Even though our sins are squared up with God by the sacrifice of our Passover "Lamb", Jesus Christ; in order for us to have eternal life we must eat of the fleshly body of the Lamb of God, and drink his blood. Read of this in the sixth chapter of John. Many of the disciples murmured at this, and went back, to not continue any longer with him. Jesus knew that they were not all truly called of God; so he said these things which he knew would offend the ones that were not called of God. By this teaching, Jesus also makes us consider his words more carefully, that we may come to have the rich, deep understanding of his body and blood.

Jesus was not teaching cannibalism, as some assumed, but he did make this statement so bold, that it did cause doubt among the disciples. Brethren we need to study and understand the sixth chapter of John. When we fully understand the sixth chapter of John; then the Passover will take on new meaning to us. Jesus had recently fed about five thousand men with five barley loaves, and two small fishes; and then the disciples took up twelve baskets of left over fragments. Because of this miracle many believed that he was that prophet that should come into the world; and Jesus knew that they might try to force him to become their King; so he left them and went into a mountain alone by his self. Later Jesus came to his disciples walking on the sea. Later the multitude that Jesus fed came looking for him, and Jesus said, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, you seek me, not because you saw the miracles, but because you did eat of the loaves, and were filled. (John 6: 26) It seems that many of these people were just poor or lazy people who wanted a free meal. Jesus told them that they need to not be so concerned with pursuing after physical food, but to labor for the food that will endure unto **everlasting life, which the son of man shall give them.** Jesus goes on to tell them that God his Father has sealed (approved) him (*for this purpose*). (Verse 27) Then in verse thirty they wanted Jesus to do a miracle for them so that they might believe him. They suggested that Moses gave them Bread from Heaven, manna. It sounds like they were looking to get fed again; another free meal. Jesus told them that Moses didn't give them that bread from heaven, "but my father gives you the true bread from heaven". Jesus continues on in verse 33 to tell them and us all, that the bread of God is he which came down from heaven, and gives life unto the world. Jesus did much more than to just pay our death sentence that we all deserved. He gives us eternal life in this bread that he is. Jesus says plainly in verse 35; "I am the bread of life: he that comes to me shall never hunger; and he that believes on me, shall never thirst." The Jews didn't believe, and murmured at his doctrine. Jesus let them know that no man can come to him, unless the Father draws, or calls them. In verse 48 Jesus re-asserts that he is the bread of life. He tells them in verse 49 that their fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. Jesus continues on in verse 50 saying, "this is the bread which comes down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die." Notice carefully what Jesus says in verse 51; "I am that bread which

came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live forever: and the bread that I will give is **my flesh**, which I will give for the life of the world.” The Jews argued among themselves over this eating of Jesus’ flesh. Then Jesus confounds them even more with his next words; verse 53: “Verily, verily, I say unto you, except you **eat the flesh** of the Son of man, and **drink his blood**; you have no life in you.” Of course Jesus is referring to eternal life, and not our natural fleshly chemical, temporary life. Verse 54; “Who so eats my flesh, and drinks my blood, has eternal life; and I will raise (resurrect) him up at the last day.” (*At the end of this world*) Jesus continues on in verse 55: “For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed.” “He that eats my flesh, and drinks my blood, dwells in me, and I in him.”(Verse 56) The question should be arising in our minds as it was in the disciples minds; how can we eat Jesus’ flesh and drink his blood? And another question is: How can we dwell in Christ if we eat his flesh and drink his blood? It is not that hard to see how Christ dwells in us if we eat his flesh and drink his blood; but, how does that make us to dwell in Christ? My friends the answer is astounding, and wonderful; I hope you can believe this wonderful truth! I plan to reveal it later but we need to understand some other things first.

Let us take the first question and let Christ answer it first. How can we eat Jesus Christ’s flesh and drink his blood? The Disciples of Christ were murmuring about it, and Jesus knew of it so he explained in verse 63 that: “it is the Spirit that gives life (quickeneth); the flesh profits nothing: the **words** that I speak unto you, **they are spirit**, and **they are life**.” You know, until I had read and understood this; I never considered that words are spirit. Stop and think for a moment, a word, whether it is written down or spoken oral; it is merely a vehicle to transfer a spiritual thought from one mind to another mind. That is why Jesus said that his words are spirit. Our human words are spirit also, but they don’t impart life to those who receive them, unless of course we are speaking the words of life that we learned from Christ and his true apostles. Jesus said that his words are life. Christ’s words were inspired by the Holy Spirit of God. (John 14: 10)

Jesus told the disciples that some of them didn’t truly believe. Verse 65 says: “Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come to me, except it were given

unto him of my Father.” From that time **many** of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him. (Verse 66) Jesus asked the twelve if they would go away also. Peter answered and said, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the **words of eternal life**, and we believe, and are sure that you are that Christ, the Son of the Living God.” (Verses 68-69)

Now, after understanding the above information; we see that it is not the flesh that we must eat; but what his flesh represented, his Words. We must eat the words of Christ. How do we eat the Words of Christ? We eat Christ’s words by reading, studying, meditating on them to better understand and **live by them**. Like Jesus said to the devil, when he was being tempted: “It is written, man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that shall proceed out of the mouth of God.” In Revelation Chapter 10, the angel told John to eat the little book up, and it would be sweet to his taste, but it would be bitter in his stomach. It is obvious that the angel didn’t want him to actually eat the paper book, but rather to read, study, meditate on it, thus digesting it so that he could live by it, and go and prophesy again. It should be clear to anyone who truly wants the truth, that Christ wants us to spiritually eat and digest into our minds, heart, character, and lives his words, and live by them, so that we may be given real life eternal. Like Jesus said, he is that bread from heaven.

Now another point that we need to understand: Jesus also said that we must drink his blood to have eternal life. How do we drink the blood of Christ? In the same way with the flesh, so it is with the blood; Jesus did not want his disciples to actually drink his physical blood. The physical blood is symbolic of something spiritual. In Genesis 9: 1 God tells us that the blood is the life. Even the Passover Lambs blood was to be painted onto the upper door frame and the side post of the door of the Israelites houses to picture, that the Israelites were protected by the death and life of the Lamb of God, the true Passover. The death angel had no power over them, as long as they stayed in all night while the death angel passed by. The Passover lamb was slain to pay for the death penalty that we all have earned by our sins, but his blood did not go to waste. The blood or life of the lamb was to make atonement for the sins of the people. Jesus Christ, the true Passover Lamb, of which the Old Testament lamb was only a type; he has

reconciled us to God by his death paying for our sinful nature, but we are saved by his life in us, which was typified by his flesh and blood, which is a type of his life in his words and Spirit. Read again John 6: 53, 54: Then Jesus said unto them, “Verily, verily, I say unto you, except you eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood; you have no life in you. Whoso **eats my flesh**, and **drinks my blood** has eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”

It is obvious from Jesus’ explanation to his disciples, that the eating of his flesh is accomplished by feeding on and living by the Word of God, who is Christ our Savior. It has been understood for ages that Man must live, not by physical bread alone but by every Word that proceeds from the mouth of God. Therefore it is not such a hard concept to grasp, to eat his flesh (Spiritual Words); but to drink his blood is a little harder to grasp. The people of Old Testament times did eat the flesh of the Passover Lamb; but they certainly did not drink the lamb’s blood. You search the scriptures through, and you will only see that eating or drinking blood of any creature was completely forbidden. Read what God inspired Moses to write in Leviticus Chapter 17, beginning in verse 10 thru verse 14: And whatsoever man there is of the house of Israel, or of the strangers that sojourn among you, that eats any manner of blood; I will even set my face against that soul that eats blood, and will cut him off from among his people. **For the life of the flesh is in the blood**; and I have given it to you upon the altar, to make an atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes an atonement for the soul. Therefore I said unto the children of Israel, no soul of you shall eat blood, neither shall any stranger that sojourns among you eat blood. And whatsoever man there is of the children of Israel, or of the strangers that sojourn among you, which hunts and catches any beast or fowl that may be eaten; he shall even pour out the blood thereof, and cover it with dust. For it is the life of all flesh, **the blood of it is for the life thereof**: therefore I said unto the children of Israel, You shall eat the blood of no manner of flesh; for **the life of all flesh is the blood** thereof: whosoever eats it shall be cut off.

Brethren of God, there are only two instances in all of the Holy Bible, where God tells us to drink blood or something that symbolized the blood. Jesus Christ tells us in the sixth chapter of John that we must eat his flesh, and drink his blood

for us to have eternal life. The only other similar place in scripture where we are told to eat his body, and drink his blood, symbolized by the unleavened bread, and wine; is when Jesus gave us the new symbols to represent the Passover Lamb, which is Christ himself. (Matthew 26: 26-29) (Mark 14: 22-25) (Luke 22: 14-20) Matthew, Mark, and Luke all give this account of Jesus giving his disciples the unleavened bread, and wine to eat and drink, representing his body and blood which they were told to eat and drink. These three give this account while recording their account of the last Passover that Jesus ate with them. Interesting enough the Apostle John didn't give this same account in his recording of the last Passover with Jesus. John in chapter 13 begins his Passover account with supper being ended, and the devil having already put into the heart of Judas Iscariot to betray him. Then John gives a detailed account of Christ washing the disciple's feet, and setting this practice in the Church of God. The foot washing ceremony is another doctrine that needs much explanation, but this present writing is basically about that body and blood of our Lord.

Now don't you find it interesting that someone as careful with details as John was; for him not to mention the new Passover symbols when writing of the last Passover? The truth is that God had given John a good understanding of what these new Passover symbols represented, and he alone revealed it to us in the sixth chapter of his book; where Jesus tells us that **to have eternal life** we must **eat his flesh** and **drink his blood**. Eat his fleshly body (*eat his spirit words*) because his words are spirit and they impart life to us. Drink his blood, symbolized by wine on Passover, because as the word of God says in Leviticus chapter 17; **the life of the flesh is the blood**. Christ substituted the wine for the blood in the Passover ceremony, and the blood is only typical of the Spirit life that is in Christ Jesus, which is the Holy Spirit, the very Spirit of God.

Brethren, when we all partake of the feast of Jesus Christ, eating and drinking his "flesh and blood", Words and Spirit, then we all being many, are become the one Spiritual body of Christ. **Christ lives in us** and **we live in the Spiritual Body of Christ**. Brethren we are members one of another, and all together make up that Spiritual body that Christ our head is preparing to be his glorified wife and body which he lives in and works through to bring many children into the family of God,

and to rule over, lead, and educate his future generations of children. The fourth chapter of the book of Ephesians explains this body of Christ very clearly. I hope you all can receive it.

Brethren, the Apostle Paul in the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter of 1 Corinthians teaches us plainly what the New Testament Passover symbols represents. Here Paul explains how the things that Old Testament Israel experienced are a very type of the things that New Testament Israel experiences. Beginning in chapter ten and verse one: “Moreover, brethren I would not that you should be ignorant how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; and were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; and did all eat the same spiritual meat; and did all drink the same spiritual drink: (for they drank of that spiritual Rock that went with them: and that Rock was Christ.)” Brethren that meat or food that they ate was manna; which is only a type of the true Bread from Heaven, which Christ said is him. (John 6: 51) The Rock that went with them, which they drank from, was a type of Christ. (1 cor. 10: 4) Brethren, what drink do we drink that comes from Christ? Why it is his blood, symbolized by the Passover Wine. Remember, the life of the flesh is in the blood. The cup of wine that we all share on Passover represents us drinking in of Christ’s Spirit, which imparts his life in us. The Holy Spirit is also symbolized as Water of life, (John 4: 13, 14) When Jesus tells us to eat his flesh and drink his blood, both in John chapter six, and the New Testament Passover symbols, is literally fulfilled when we eat his words and drink in of his Holy Spirit. This we must do in order for us to have eternal life in us. Jesus’ blood (*life*) being spilled on the ground at his crucifixion, only atones for our sins if we start eating his words and receiving, and growing in his Holy Spirit. Our sins are atoned for by his death; but we will receive eternal life, by eating and drinking in of his Spiritual Life. Old Testament Israel didn’t drink the blood of the Passover lamb, and neither did they have eternal life offered to them by that covenant, but we do in the New Testament. That life is in his words and Spirit. Drop on down to verses 16 and 17 of 1 Corinthians: Here Paul teaches us more about how all of us true Christians make up the one body of Christ; because we all share in the feast of Christ’s flesh and blood. “The cup of blessing which we bless; is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The

bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? For we being many are one bread, and one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread.” Brethren I don’t know how anyone could make it more clear. By us all eating the unleavened bread which represents Christ’s fleshly body; and by us all drinking of the wine, which represents Christ’s blood; we are symbolically all eating and drinking of Christ’s Words, and Spirit so that we all are together growing into that Holy temple, Christ’s body. (Ephesians 2: 19-22) The Passover service is only **symbolic** of what we must do if we desire to have eternal life. By reading, studying, being corrected by, and living by Christ’s Words; and by denying self, but yielding to obey the word and Spirit of Christ, and drawing near to God in sincere heartfelt prayer, and giving praise to him with understanding; so that we may **grow** in this precious **gift**; that is how we literally eat Christ’s *spiritual* flesh and drink his *spiritual* blood.

Brethren, Jesus Christ explains perfectly what the symbolism of us all drinking the Passover wine represents. Notice in Matthew Chapter 26, verses 27, 28: And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying; “Drink you all of it; for this is my **blood** of the **new testament**, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.” Notice, Jesus says plainly that his blood is shed for remission of sins; and God’s end time Church has understood that part well. The first part of his statement has not been understood by any that I know of until now. What did Jesus mean when he said that the wine represents his blood of the New Testament? We all understood that the wine represents his blood; but what is he talking about when he says that his blood is of the New Testament? To understand this we need to understand that the life of flesh is in the blood. His blood represents his **eternal life** which is the Holy Spirit that he gives to us so that we also may have real life in us. We could have his word in our minds, but without the Holy Spirit in us we still don’t have eternal life. The life of the flesh is in the blood; and the life of his words is the Holy Spirit. Now we need to understand what the New Testament is. The words New Testament means new covenant with God. Look up the word testament in a dictionary.

The Old Testament, or Old Covenant as it was called, was a Covenant that God made with the Children of Israel at Mount Sinai. The Old Covenant was based on

the Law of God, the Ten Commandments, and they were not offered eternal life in that covenant. If they had kept the commandments of God; he promised them numerous materialistic and national blessings, but that Covenant did not offer them eternal life. The New Testament or Covenant is based on God putting his Laws in our minds and hearts, so that we can actually keep his Commandments. (Jeremiah 31: 31-33) The New Testament or Covenant is established upon better promises. (Heb. 8: 6) The better promise's of the new covenant includes eternal life (Heb. 9: 15). This is accomplished by God putting his words and laws in our hearts and minds by the Holy Spirit. The words (*flesh of Christ*) and the Holy Spirit (*blood of Christ*) together imparts to us eternal life. If we were to read Matthew Chapter 26, verse 28 again with this understanding; it will be very clear to us. Matthew 26: 28; **“for this is my blood (life) of the New Testament (New Covenant)....”** The New Covenant, or testament does offer us eternal life through spiritually eating and drinking in of the words, and Spirit of our Passover who was slain and made into a spiritual feast for us. This is pictured by our Passover service, when we eat the unleavened bread (*representing Christ's fleshly body, his words*) and drink the wine (*representing Christ's blood, which represents the Holy Spirit*). This Spiritual feast of our Passover is divided up among all of the true saints (*Christians*); therefore Christ dwells in all of us; and we are all in his one spiritual body. We are in him and him in us. (John 14: 20) We all are individual members of this one Kingdom of God. Christ is the Head, and we all make up the individual members of his bride. We are all to be one Spirit, just like Adam and Eve were told to be one flesh. (Eph. 5: 30-32) Adam was divided into two beings so that they could develop a spiritual relationship with each other, and it was intended for them to love each other, and submit to each other so well that they lived as one. Without the spiritual nervous system of the Holy Spirit it was impossible, but with Christ and the many members of the wife, the church, the body of Christ; it is possible to be one with each other. We all are to be one Spirit with many individual members that are united with each other by our head, Christ, and the Holy Spirit nervous system. (Ephesians 4: 4-16) That is how all of the many members of our natural fleshly body are united to work in harmony with each other; all of the members are physically connected by the nervous system coming from the head. Brethren, understand this; Jesus Christ does not

consider his wife to be a separate spirit from his self. Jesus considers his wife as his own body. Brethren I don't think most of us truly comprehend what is meant by the two being one. We have experienced too much of this sinful worlds type marriages, and most are not truly one with each other in heart and mind because of selfish human nature. Also in this world most wives are nowhere close to being submitted to their husbands as the wife of Christ will be.

Brethren I hope you will all study this very carefully, searching all necessary scriptures so that you can know this truth; and not be offended at this truth, as many of Jesus' disciples were when he first told them that they need to eat his flesh and drink his blood.

Brethren, there is something that we all in this Laodicean age need to give sincere and personal attention to. In the twenty fifth chapter of the book of Matthew; Christ warns us all that the whole church has been slumbering, and sleeping to a certain degree. (*Verse 5*) The whole church in this age is pictured as ten virgins. (*Verse 1*) All ten of these virgins took their Lamps (*the word of God*) and went forth to meet the bridegroom (*Christ at his coming*) Five of these virgins (*one half of the church*) took oil (*Holy Spirit*) in their vessels (*selves*). The other half of the church neglected to keep their selves full of the Holy Spirit, even though they did have a pretty good carnal knowledge of the Holy Bible. The foolish virgins thought they had it all and needed nothing, until it was too late to be accepted into the wedding to our Lord at his coming. At the last minute they realized that they had lost the Holy Spirit, and the word (*lamp*) alone was not sufficient to be accepted into the Kingdom of God. The last days of this world is a very dark and evil world, and we had better have plenty "oil" in our vessels so that our Lamps shine bright. Bible knowledge alone will not give you faith and courage to remain faithful in trying situations. Brethren, to have eternal life in us; we must have the Word of God in our hearts and minds, and we also must Have the Holy Spirit in us. **The Holy Spirit is the life in the word, just like the blood is the life in the flesh.** We can understand all knowledge, understand prophecy, know all doctrines, preach to others, and still be nothing; unless we have the Love of God in us, which is a main fruit of the Holy Spirit. (1 Cor. 13: 1-13)

Brethren, there is division among God's Church in this end age, and it is partially because of a lack of true Godly, and brotherly love for one another. Do we not discern who our brethren in the body of Christ are? How can any man honestly say that he loves God and Christ if he has a lack of Love for the other members of the scattered body of Christ? Many vain, self interest seeking, ministers have been working to turn the hearts of the brethren against each other, in order to maintain their own "kingdoms" in this world. They do as Jeroboam did to keep Israel from uniting back with Judah. Jeroboam was afraid that Israel might decide to join back up with Judah if they went to Jerusalem to keep the Feast of Tabernacles. Jeroboam caused the people to sin greatly to try and hang on to his own kingdom. He didn't trust God to keep his word and establish him as king over Israel; no he trusted in his ability to drive a wedge between brethren, by having a feast in the eighth month, instead of when God commanded the Feast of Tabernacles to be kept. He replaced the Levite priests of God with some of the more simple minded men whom he could control; and thus turned the people to Idolatry. Brethren that is evil! Men who do such evil have no right to be called ministers of God. Read and study the 12<sup>th</sup> Chapter of 1 Corinthians: That chapter will show you how God expects us to treat the other members of the body of Christ. If we will not love our brethren in this way, we will lose the Holy Spirit. Gods Spirit will not continue with you forever if you grieve it continually. Brethren the parable in Matthew 25 is not just an interesting story. It is a prophecy! That is, and will happen just like Christ said. We all have a short time to decide if we will repent of our own personal unrighteousness and draw near to God in sincerity and humility that we may grow in the living Spirit of Christ in us; so that we can truly express the love of Christ to our brethren; or face the fate of the foolish virgins. God help us all wake up!

## Understanding about the Healing Doctrine

Brethren, the Passover symbols have not been properly and completely understood by God's Church in these last days. I hope that God will give you the ability to understand, and appreciate this truth that God has given to me to give to you all. It is provable if you are willing to believe the truth even when it

disagrees with our former beliefs. Brethren I pray for all of God's Church, that you don't stumble at this truth. Mr. Armstrong was a great man of God, yet God didn't reveal everything to him. Mr. Armstrong had to learn the truth, one doctrine at a time; and he occasionally had to learn that he had been wrong about some former belief, and then acknowledge the newly revealed truth. If he had not been willing to admit that he had been wrong about a belief; then God could not use him to reveal to us the many Bible truths that we now understand. Mr. Armstrong loved **the truth**, and was willing to be corrected by the word of God. I hope all of you are also like him in this matter. If we do as some seem to think that we should do: just hold fast to what Mr. Armstrong believed, and refuse to grow in new knowledge; then are we not doing as the fearful man who just went and hid his pound in a napkin and waited for his lord to come and receive the same at his coming? (Luke 19: 20-26) Brethren, I hope to make it completely clear; that no man is our lord except Jesus Christ. The Word of God is the only authority that we should **totally** trust in to lead us in truth. We must be careful of what we believe, and prove it all by the Word of God; but we should not stagnate; we must go forward in knowledge, character development, and seeking to be **unified by the truth**. Holding on to the former errors in teaching will only divide the brethren that God gives more understanding to, from the ones who only want to believe what they have always believed since their baptism. We should look to the Word of God as our final authority. There is one group out there who branched away from the Radio Church of God, who still refuse to accept the truth about what day to keep Pentecost on. Men do make errors, even well meaning Christian men. Those of us who truly are converted to **the truth**, are not just hung up on what we first believed; but what does the Holy Bible say about it, what is the truth? All doctrine that we believe; we should also, be able to prove by the word of God. If we have been mistaken in some teaching, then it is our individual responsibility to Christ; to be corrected when Christ reveals the truth on that matter. God doesn't reveal everything to us all at once; for we are not able to receive it. As in past with Mr. Armstrong, God continues to reveal knowledge to us as we are able to receive it. The same principle is true also in how God reveals our sinful nature to us; not all at once, but little by little as we are able to receive correction; God thereby helps us to grow in knowledge and grace. If we

ever reach a point where we believe we have it all, and have need of nothing; then we will stagnate, and stop growing. Brethren I can understand why some brethren are afraid to accept any new revelation; because they have been temporarily deceived into accepting some of Tkach's false doctrines, while they were spiritually slumbering and sleeping. When they woke up, they are now afraid to move forward, for fear of being deceived again. Brethren that is why we all need to draw near to God in regular, and sincere heartfelt prayer; and also following the lead of the Holy Spirit into being corrected in our own character and behavior. If we are truly close to God, he will help us to distinguish between truth and error, by studying and proving all things by his word. The false teachings that Tkach brought into the Church of God; he didn't give plain, clear biblical proof; he couldn't; he simply used his supposed authority which brethren were deceived into accepting, to force Satan's doctrines on the church. The only real authority at headquarters is God, Jesus Christ and his words. God did use Mr. Armstrong to teach us most of the truth that we know; but unless we proved it all by the Holy Bible, then we were only converted to Mr. Armstrong. Brethren we must prove all things that we believe concerning the word of God, by the Holy Bible; so that we have our faith in Christ and not Mr. Armstrong or any man. Too many brethren were just looking to the man, instead of Christ and our Heavenly Father.

Since the Passover symbols have not been properly understood, but have been associated with physical healing; I therefore feel it is necessary for me to explain some things concerning that teaching also.

Brethren, it is completely obvious from the scriptures that Jesus Christ did heal many people during his earthly ministry. The scriptures also bare record that his Apostles also healed many people. These healings included physical sickness, and disease, as well as spiritual sickness of the mind, and even demon possession. These healings took place suddenly when Christ spoke the word. Also when the apostles healed in the name of Christ, they took place suddenly. I don't need to give you all of the scripture verses; you know your bibles, that this is true.

I personally have witnessed at least two such miraculous healings. One was when I was only about four years old. I wrote of this in my booklet titled: "My

Personal Conversion.” I have seen many cases where myself and my family have been healed in a more slow and un-miraculous looking manner. Sometimes I think God just gives a little extra aid to *the miraculous creation* of our natural healing system, so that we get well without making an obvious to all, Miracle. God is not trying to draw the whole world’s attention to his miracles yet; for the same reason that he spoke in parables to the multitudes. When he gets ready to get their attention, he will. I also have seen times where someone is ill, and the medical doctors could help to save that life, but the people refuse to seek medical help, and the child or adult dies an untimely death. I believe that God wants us to have enough love for our child, so that we give all the help we can, even medical help, without the self righteous, self-glorifying attitude, of boasting of our faith for God, to do a miracle for us, without us using the available medical profession. “It is also written, you shall not tempt the Lord your God.” I knew one minister in Gods Church who let his sixteen year old daughter die from appendicitis, without giving her the needed medical attention. Was that faith in God; or was it fear of being thought of as a minister without enough faith to refuse medical help for his child? God knows the answer; but **love is even greater than faith.** (1 Corinthians 13: 13) And sometimes, what people think of as faith is nothing more than fear and vanity disguised as faith.

It is easy for some brethren to look down their noses at a brother or sister in Christ who uses the medical profession as if, “they must not have faith in God:” Brethren that is a self-righteous attitude, of pride and vanity, and is certainly not of true brotherly love. When such an individual is faced with a similar situation in one of his own beloved children, then he will experience what his brother was going through; and he will learn to show compassion and love, instead of pride and vanity.

About twenty seven years ago, one of my sons was born, Jan. 19, 1987. When he was about two weeks old he developed a condition known as Pyloric Stenosis; which closes off the stomach from the small intestines, and the baby’s food can’t go down, but is forced back out as vomit. I was worried and grieved over my son; and I fasted and prayed, but his condition was not healed. My wife’s brother’s son had been born with this affliction, and I thought that this was what my son

also had. Doctors operated on my nephew, in a rather simple operation, and he was well. By this I knew that this was a case where the doctors could save the life of the child. At that time I had accepted the church's teaching on; the use of doctors and medicine as being wrong and unfaithful; though it never did feel right to me; because that teaching is contrary to love. Even our Lord shows by his praise of the "Good Samaritan" that it is only right and good to give needed medical help to those people who are sick and afflicted. It is an act of love. Also Jesus said that, "they that are whole need not a Physician, but they that are sick." (Matt. 9: 12)

I took my son to the doctor and they confirmed my belief, that this was Pyloric Stenosis. They suggested sending him to a large hospital in Tulsa, to be operated on. I was grieved in my heart as never before, because I didn't want to be doing something that was contrary to the will of God; but at the same time, I didn't want to let my son die as our minister had let happen to his daughter. I had hoped that God would just quickly heal my son, and solve all of our troubles; but God had other plans. After much prayer and tears, I decided that it would not be love, if I didn't give my son the medical help that I could while praying for God's blessing to be on the doctors and my son. I realized that unless God wanted my son to live, the doctors couldn't save his life anyway; but by my trying to give as much help to my son as I could; it relieved me of the pain and guilt I would have for not showing love by doing what I could to help. It would be most difficult and painful but, I could have understood if God had told me to sacrifice my son, like he did to Abraham; but God has not commanded any such thing for us. I went ahead and had my son operated on and he has been fine ever since.

After the operation on my son, I still was troubled, because according to church teachings I had made the unfaithful choice. I decided to get up an hour earlier each day and pray one whole hour each morning before going to work, to draw near to God and seek understanding about this apparent conflict between love and faith. I continued in this one hour of prayer for what I now believe was about three weeks to a month. God did begin giving me understanding of this matter little by little. I came to the conclusion that the church teaching on this subject is partially in error. I realized that I was nobody to try and correct the whole church

teaching on this subject; so I decided to just keep this understanding, and freedom to use the medical profession to myself and family. I did pray much about this though, and around this time was when Joseph Tkach changed the “Passover-healing” doctrine. I think that most of the church accepted that change in doctrine, because deep inside of our hearts, it always seemed unloving and wrong to refuse medical help for our sick child. If God had specifically told us in his written word to not use the medical doctors, to aid us in healing, and repairing of the physical body then we could all have greater faith that; either God will heal, or God wants the person to die. God has not given such a command. Love dictates that a good parent will do all he can as the Good Samaritan did; without disobeying God to help his Child. God says he is a jealous God; in that he doesn’t want his people to start serving Idols; but God is not a jealous pot; he doesn’t have to do everything for us. God has given us minds that are made in the image of his own great mind; and when dealing with physical things, men are able to accomplish awesome things. God is not jealous of us getting medical help when we are sick or afflicted. Sometimes doctors can give some good help, and even prolong a person’s life in many cases. As the teaching was; brethren were told that they should seek medical help in such cases as a broken bone, or child delivery; but for other reasons it was considered as only for those who didn’t have enough faith; thus laying a guilt trip on the brethren. Brethren I hate hypocrisy, and will call it what it is: Does not God have the power and ability to set a broken bone, or give aid in child delivery? Certainly he does, but God does expect us to do what we can for ourselves. If we don’t love our Child enough to get him medical help; should we expect God to do a miracle for us? “For he shall have judgment without mercy that has showed no mercy; and mercy rejoices against judgment. What does it profit, my brethren, though a man say he has faith, and have not works? Can faith save him? If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, and one of you say unto them, depart in peace, be you warmed and filled; notwithstanding you give them not those things which are needful to the body; what does it profit?” (James 2: 13-16)

Brethren if we do use doctors and medicine we need to make sure that we first of all seek Gods will and help. Doctors could become an idol if you let it; just like

your automobile could also become an idol to you; but that don't make either one of them bad: We just have to put them to the right use, and not let them become as a god to us. We use the things and technology of man's world to help us in many ways, but we don't set our heart on them. God Almighty is still our God, love, savior, friend, hope, and eternal life. God can, and often will, do for us what we can't do for ourselves, if our heart is right with him; and if we love our brethren as our own selves.

One bad example of putting the physicians before God was in the case of Asa, king of Judah. He became angry with a prophet of God, and put him in prison for telling him that he had done foolishly for bribing Ben-hadad, king of Syria to join him in a league against Baasha, King of Israel, and trusting in Syria instead of relying on God to deliver Israel into his hands. The prophet told him that he would have wars from then on. Asa later became diseased in his feet, but he refused to seek God for help, but sought to the physicians and he died. Proper use of any real medical help would not have been wrong; but in his hostile attitude, he would not seek God for help. Even if we do use physicians, we had also better have a good relationship with God, and seek his help and trust in him above all. Doctors can help treat us for our sickness in many cases; but they should not be our only source of help. God is the one in charge above all; and if we don't look to God, but only to the doctors, we are putting our total faith in man, and not God. That is dangerous physically, but more so spiritually. We are capable of doing much for ourselves, if God is with us in it, but we had better always remember that we need our Fathers blessings in all that we do. If our heart is right with God he will bless our efforts, according to his overall purpose in our lives, whether in medical help, or financial matters, or in our crops, or any other right pursuits. But if we do as Asa did and forsake God, and become angry at his correction, then we can only expect punishment. Doctors can only do so much, but with God, all things are possible. God will bless us according to our faith, attitude, righteousness, and above all according to his plans for our lives. There comes a time when God will allow us to die, but that don't mean that we should give up on doing what we can for ourselves; for we don't always know what Gods plan is in every situation.

Another bad example was Ahaziah King of Israel. Ahaziah fell down through a lattice in his upper chamber that was in Samaria, and was sick. Instead of Ahaziah seeking help from God in his illness; he sent messengers to the pagan god of Ekron, Baal-zebub, to find out if he would get well. Elijah the prophet met the messengers in the way, and sent them back to Ahaziah with these words; "Is it because there is not a God in Israel that you sent to inquire of Baal-zebub the god of Ekron? Therefore you shall not come down from that bed from which you are gone up, but you shall die." He did die as God had said through Elijah. This was not a case of Ahaziah seeking medical attention from a medical doctor, but seeking help and knowledge from a pagan god, and demonism, witchcraft, sorcery. This is certainly Idolatry, and is nothing to compare with the proper use of medical treatment.

Brethren, after all of the evil changes away from the true doctrines of Christ that Mr. Tkach did; some look back in retrospect and say the healing doctrine was one of the first changes that he made in destroying the truth out of God's church; therefore they reject the truth. Brethren I believe that **Satan** purposely, and very subtly began with the "Makeup" doctrine to appeal to the women's vanity, to get them on Tkach's side; and then he moved on to the Passover-healing doctrine, to gain broader support for **Tkach's authority and power to make changes in doctrine**; because Satan knew that the Passover-healing doctrine was in partial error. By changing that doctrine **to make it more accurate**; he could gain the acceptance of the many brethren who had suffered from this unloving, inaccurate doctrine. By this acceptance of the brethren, Satan then could get this big "Tkach Change Machine" to rolling along the track of perverting and eventually destroying the true doctrines of God out of that organization of the church. I remember him talking of having a five year plan for the church; then later it became a ten year plan. This was the Devils subtle plan! When he began perverting the "born again" doctrine; the brethren knew that they had already accepted the "Makeup" doctrine, and the Passover-healing doctrine, so they certainly didn't want to give up those; and they had already accepted Tkach's authority to make changes in doctrine: So most accepted the *(born-a-new)* Perversion. Actually only the Word of God has authority to set doctrine in his

church. True doctrine is based solely on the word of God. Satan kept this evil Change Machine rolling until eventually he even changed almost every doctrine including the Sabbath doctrine; at that point many brethren finally woke up and left that Synagogue of Satan. He turned that organization into a Church of Satan; and God's faithful saints were cast out, driven out, and became scattered throughout the world, without an honest and faithful minister to lead them, and keep them united. God allowed this to test us, and because he wants us to look to our head Jesus Christ and his written word, instead of just following any man. Jesus Christ is our Head, not any man. God does work in and through men in some ways, but we as individuals had better know Christ, and his written word so that we can prove whether any man is speaking according to his word or not. If you really do love God and the true Gospel of the Kingdom of God; then you will not let any man take that hope away from you.

Now brethren I just want to make it plain that the Passover-healing doctrine did need to be corrected and taught according to the Holy Scriptures, and not according to any mans personal opinion. No matter how well meaning a man is; if he is in error, then we should not continue in that error after the truth is revealed according to the Word of God. God has simply not revealed everything to every faithful servant of God. I suppose we all will have to learn some things after we are born again in the resurrection. Even men like Job, Daniel, and Noah didn't understand everything that we now understand. God judges his saints based on how we believe, respect, and live by what he does give us knowledge of. Brethren as you well know; Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong led the Church of God to keep the Feast of First-Fruits (Pentecost) on the second day of the week for years, before God finally opened his mind to the true and accurate figuring of when to keep that annual Holy Day, which always comes out on the first day of the week. God didn't count it as sin for the Church of God to be keeping Pentecost on the wrong day, **until** the revelation of the truth came. God judges us that are called to be Christians, based on what we do with what we are given from him. God does also expect us to search the scriptures to learn as much true knowledge as we can; instead of just being satisfied with ignorance. God certainly don't want his people to reject Knowledge either. (Hosea 4: 6) Consider the knowledge

below to help us have a better understanding of the healing doctrine and the proper use of the medical profession.

Does the Holy Word of God teach that there are two kinds of sin, spiritual sin, and physical sin? **No.** Any violation of God's Word and law is sin, and the law is Spiritual, though the flesh is often afflicted from the acts of sin, such as diseases from adultery, or homosexuality.

What is sin? **Sin is the transgression of the Law.** (1 John 3: 4) What law is being talked about? (Romans 7: 7, 14) The Ten Commandments are a Spiritual Law given by God, that requires Love for God above all else, and love for neighbor equal to self to truly fulfill, and keep this law. To avoid having anything as a god in place of the true God; we must live by every Word that proceeds from the mouth of the Eternal God. An idol can be any lust, or anything, or even any Idea that we let come between us and God.

Is there a Physical Health Law given so that we may know what constitutes "Physical Sin"? **No,** we are told what animals are clean and unclean to eat, but to willfully eat of them in rebellion against God is not just Physical sin but Spiritual sin; just the same as it was with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, when they ate of a fruit that God told them not to eat of.

Did Jesus Christ have to be beaten with the scourging whip to pay for violations of good physical health principles; so that we can be forgiven, and healed? **No,** Jesus out of mercy had created in our human bodies a means of natural healing, because he knew we would need it. No sacrifice was necessary; for this healing, for the flesh is only temporary life anyway. *Jesus also miraculously healed many people of various sickness and disease before his being scourged, and before he had been waved and accepted as the first-fruits wave offering after his resurrection on that first day of the week.*

When did Jesus fulfill the prophecy in Isaiah 53 and first part of verse 4 about baring our grief and sorrows? Read all of Matthew Chapter eight and especially notice verses 16, and 17: "When the evening was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word,

and healed all that were sick; **that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the Prophet, saying, "Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses."** Brethren, when Jesus was patiently bearing with all of these sick and demon possessed people, and healing them; that is when he fulfilled the scripture in Isaiah 53: 4, first part. That is what your bible says. Will you believe your bible, or some man-made opinion? Jesus healed hundreds, maybe thousands of people, and that was definitely acts of love, mercy, compassion, and demonstration of the power of God; and it did require a lot of patience and bearing with them. Obviously at least some if not most of their sicknesses were physical results of real sin, spiritual sin.

What is being talked about in Isaiah Chapter 53, and last part of verse 4, and verse five? "Yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted; but he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed." Brethren; Jesus was wounded for our transgressions of the Law, which is sin. He was bruised for our iniquities. What are iniquities? Strong's Hebrew and Chaldee Dictionary says that word means; (moral) evil, fault, iniquity, mischief, and sin. That doesn't sound like violating good physical health principals; but it does mean sins. Jesus was bruised for our sins, which are against the Law of God. It is not a matter of not being physically healed, if Jesus didn't take on himself this scourging; but it is a matter of we need Jesus' complete sacrifice that we may have our sins atoned for and be forgiven and **healed in the heart and mind from our sinful way of living.** Our spiritual sins cause much pain and suffering, in both mind and body. Jesus suffered for us as well as died for us; but Jesus was healing peoples flesh before he took on him this final beating and crucifixion. When it says we are healed by his stripes; it is talking of a spiritual healing of the mind and heart. Isaiah the prophet continues on in verse 6 to explain why Jesus had to suffer this for us. "All we like sheep **have gone astray;** we have **turned everyone to his own way;** and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all." When speaking of going astray; and turned to our own way; it is obvious that this is referring to real sin; and not just good physical health violations such as: not getting sufficient sleep, not having a balanced nutritious diet, not getting

sufficient physical exercise, eating white sugar, eating white bread, drinking soda pop, or any number of health rules which God never gave us in a law. **Brethren Jesus Christ was beaten along with his death to pay for our spiritual sins of the heart and mind, which also do have an adverse effect on the flesh.** The Apostle Peter also makes this plain; (1 Pet. 1: 24, 25) “Who his own self bare our **sins** in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should **live unto righteousness**: by whose stripes you were healed; for you were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.” Obviously Peter is quoting and explaining (Isaiah 53: 5, 6). First notice he bare our sins in his body. Have you ever saw anything mentioned in the Holy Bible that calls anything sin, except transgressing God’s Laws, Word, and Holy Spirit? **Of course you haven’t.** Next, notice also that since Jesus bare our **sins** or iniquities in his own body; that we should live unto righteousness. Does this sound like he is just talking about taking great care of our physical health? Of course not; he is speaking of living by the Way of the Holy Spirit, and fulfilling the Law of God and Christ. Last of all; notice that Peter is telling the Church brethren, that they (*the whole Church*) had been healed by Jesus’ stripes. It is obvious that this is in reference to their spiritual healing: their conversion of heart and mind to Christ’s way. They had been like sheep going astray but now are returned to the Sheppard and Bishop of their souls. Look at an example in Matthew where Jesus explains Isaiah 6: 9-10. “Therefore speak I to them in parables; because they seeing, see not; and hearing, they hear not; neither do they understand. And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which says, by hearing you shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing you shall see, and shall not perceive: For this people’s heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears and should understand with their heart, and **should be converted, and I should heal them.**” It is again obvious that this is speaking of spiritual healing of the heart and mind, and spiritual conversion to God and Christ.

Brethren, there are many sicknesses and diseases that come upon people as a result of sin; spiritual sin. Most sins do have a physical action involved such as adultery, lust, (homosexuality, and bestiality, drunkenness, drug addiction and

such the like.) These and many other sins of greed and not loving fellow humans as self, has caused many sicknesses and diseases. Many diseases have also been made into weapons of war in government science labs. These have been used in past ages and will be used in the future. All sin which is a spiritual sickness, also leads to physical sickness and diseases in self and others.

For rebellion against God, and showing contempt for the other brethren of Christ's body; many have been smitten of God with sickness, and in some cases, death, to wake up the whole church, as well as an individual; and cause them to repent and turn back to God and his way. (1 Cor. 11: 20-32) God also punished Old Covenant Israel with disease when they were rebellious. Remember how God smote Moses' sister Miriam with leprosy for hers and Aarons speaking against Moses? (Numbers 12) Remember how God smote his people with a plague called Kibroth-hat-taavah when they lusted against God to have flesh to eat instead of the Manna? God sent quails to them, then while the flesh was still between their teeth, and before they chewed he smote them so that many died. (Numbers 11) Remember how God punished David and Israel when David numbered the men for war, instead of having faith in God? (2 Samuel 24) God gave David a choice of three things; seven years famine; or flee three months before their enemies; or three days pestilence (disease) in the land. David chose to not fall into the hands of his enemies; but to fall into God's hands. God sent a pestilence and killed seventy thousand men. I write these things so that we all in God's Church may know that God does use sickness and diseases at different times to correct his people from our sins. God would like for us all to enjoy excellent physical health; but sometimes it is more necessary for us to suffer in the flesh, so that the spirit may be made better in Christ. Even Paul had some physical affliction that he prayed about, but God let him know that it was to his spiritual advantage to suffer with this physical affliction (2 Cor. 12: 7-10); but that did not mean that God had not forgiven Paul of his sins. We have to keep in mind that God is more concerned with saving our spirit, instead of our fleshly bodies. Sometimes we have to afflict our own selves through fasting, so that we can humble the flesh and its desires into submission to Christ. It is not good physical health practice to go long periods of time without eating or drinking water; but

even our Lord did afflict his flesh for 40 days and nights, yet he never sinned. Sometimes it is necessary to be up all night without sleep in order to draw near to God and for other reasons also. Not getting proper sleep can lead to being more likely to catch a cold, and being sick. But if we really do need to miss some sleep in order to do what is right; then that is not sin; Jesus would be up all night at times praying, and he never sinned. God does desire us to take reasonable good care of our physical bodies, but he doesn't want us to make a religion out of it as many do. Eventually all flesh will become sick, or afflicted and die; and God will not heal the flesh every time, even as he allowed his servant Mr. Armstrong to become ill and die. The part of Mr. Armstrong that will rise from the grave to eternal life is not a healing of his old worn out sick flesh; but God will give him a new spirit body. If God were to give us healing in the flesh every time we became ill, he would have to give us eternal life in the flesh; and he will not do that. The flesh will die; our hope of life is in the Spiritual mind and Character. (1 Cor. 15: 42-54) Our hope of eternal life is in this new spiritual creation that we are growing into, since being given the Holy Spirit to unite with our human spirit, thus begetting us as a spiritual creation, after the spiritual image of our Lord.

Consider this brethren; If Christ wanted to teach his disciples about "physical sin", there would have been no better opportunity than the time when they were being accused of wrong doing, by violating the traditions of the Jews; for not washing their hands before eating. (Matt. 15: 1-20) Jesus could have explained that germs could make them sick, and that this "physical sin" would cause him to have to be scourged so that they could be healed. Obviously Jesus didn't consider eating with unwashed hands to be sin; because sin is a spiritual matter. Jesus turned the Jews condemnation of the Disciples of Christ around and asked them; why they transgressed the commandment of God by their tradition. Jesus then explained how the Jews were in fact doing that. Then Jesus explained that it is not what goes into the man that defiles the man, but what comes out of the man, such as real spiritual sins like; evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, and blasphemies, which come out of the heart. Jesus explains that these type things defile a man but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile a man. (Verse 20)

Now brethren we need to consider another question: Did Jesus break the unleavened bread at that last Passover meal with his disciples to imitate his soon to be scourging? No. If Jesus had intended for this breaking of bread to represent his scourging; he wouldn't have broken it his self. Why did Jesus break the bread? Jesus broke the bread so that they all could have a piece of it. This represented his fleshly body which represented his words (*John 6: 63*) that we all must eat to have eternal life. By us all eating of Christ's words we are all partakers of that one spiritual body of Christ. (1 Cor. 10: 16-17) The breaking of bread was a common custom in those days as a means of dividing up a larger piece or loaf of bread. It was so common that it even became a term used to mean "sharing a meal". (Acts 2: 42, 46), (Acts 20: 7, 11) Note that this in Acts Chapter 20 is after the Days of Unleavened Bread, so it could not be referring to the keeping of the Passover. They were simply sharing a meal and the writer of the book of Acts referred to it as "breaking bread".

Another point that needs to be cleared up is the belief that Luke chapter five and verses 23, and 24 teaches that physical healing is: the forgiveness of "physical sin". Look in your bibles at Luke chapter 5, begin in verse 17: "And it came to pass on a certain day, as he (Christ) was teaching, that there were Pharisees and doctors of the law sitting by, which were come out of every town of Galilee, and Judea, and Jerusalem: and the power of the Lord was present to heal them. And behold, men brought in a bed a man which was taken with palsy: and they sought means to bring him in, and to lay him before him. And when they could not find by what way they might bring him in, because of the multitude they went upon the house-top, and let him down through the tiling with his couch into the midst before Jesus. Notice verse 20: And when he saw their faith, he said unto him, "Man, your sins are forgiven you." Notice, it doesn't say that Jesus healed the man at that point; but he just forgave his sins. Continue in verse 21: And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, who is this which speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone? Verse 22; but when Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answering, said unto them, "What reason you in your hearts? Whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven you; or to say, Rise up and walk?" Jesus is not saying that they both mean the same thing. Verse 24:

“But that you may know that the Son of man has power upon earth to forgive sins, (he said unto the sick of the palsy,) I say unto you, Arise, and take up your couch, and go unto your house.” Verse 25: And immediately he rose up before them, and took up that whereon he lay, and departed to his own house glorifying God. Verse 26: And they were all amazed, and they glorified God, and were filled with fear, saying, “We have seen strange things to day.” Notice carefully brethren, Jesus forgave the man’s sins first in verse 20; but he didn’t heal the man until he said “Arise” in verse 24. Notice also that verse 24 shows that the man was still sick of palsy at the moment that Jesus turned to him and said Arise. By Jesus healing this man with his word of power, was witness that he also had power from God to forgive sins, and that he was acting on behalf of Almighty God. When the crowd saw this demonstration of the power of God in Jesus, they were filled with fear and amazement, (verse 26). Jesus had just proved to them all that he was not blaspheming when he forgave the man’s sins; but that he actually does have power of God to forgive sins. He demonstrated this when he miraculously healed the man of his palsy. Even the scribes and Pharisees knew that no man could do this wonder of healing unless he truly was sent from God with this power. That is one of the reasons that the Jews hated Jesus so much; because they were convinced against their will, that he was who he said he was, and that he spoke the truth, which they refused to acknowledge. Like the late Herbert W. Armstrong once said, “A man that is convinced against his will is of the same opinion still.” Brethren, when God reveals truth to us that is different than what we have learned; then we should not be as the Jews, Pharisees, and scribes who reject the truth, but examine it, using the Holy Bible as our guide, and prove if it is true. If we really are converted to the truth, then we will gladly believe and love the truth, even if it disagrees with a great man’s belief, like Mr. Armstrong. As you well know; Mr. Armstrong had to come to disagree with some of his own former beliefs and even things that he had taught, so that he could accept and teach the real truth, after God had revealed it to him. We must all realize that Jesus Christ is our Lord, and High Priest; and not any man.

Brethren I’m not trying to persuade you to not trust God for healing. There is much that medical doctors cannot do, and we certainly should call for the elders

of the Church to anoint us and pray for us for healing; and especially for critical sickness that doctors can't help with. If you just catch a cold, you can pray but, you will most likely just have to let it run its course; but if you get cancer or some other serious sickness; I'd be sure to seek God's intervention. Depending on what God knows is in our overall best interest; he will respond accordingly; but at the same time I wouldn't refuse medical help, if there is something that they can do to actually help.

Above all brethren, each person should act according to the faith that God has given him; and do all that we do to the glory and honor of our Father in heaven, and our Lord Jesus Christ. None should judge a brother or sister in Christ concerning such things except Christ. If we look down on a brother who uses medical doctors for his child's illness, then God may let us also get experienced in walking a mile in our brother's shoes. Remember brethren, faith to have miraculous healings is very good, but true Godly and brotherly love is better. (1 Corinthians 13: 13)

Brethren we are the body of Christ and each true Christian is a member of that body. When we all learn to be in agreement with our head, and love each other as our own self; then we may see more miracles being done among the Church. Brethren I hope you can appreciate the truth of this booklet.

Your brother in Christ,

Gary Stowers

