

THE HOLY OF THE LORD!

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NOTE: - All Bible texts are taken from the King James Bible; and the compiler has supplied all emphasis throughout this Study Document.

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PART 1: - THE LORD'S INSTITUTION OF THE SABBATH IN GENESIS 2:1-3: -

The very first text of the Bible, points to God as the Creator of the universe.

Genesis 1:1: - "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."

NOTE: - Throughout Genesis 1, every time the word "GOD" appears in our Authorized English version, the Hebrew word "ELOHIYM" is used. (See Strong's Concordance; Hebrew, No. 430.) This is the plural form of the Hebrew word for "GOD" (the singular form being "EL" (See Strong's Concordance; Hebrew, No. 410.) We know that more than one member of the GODHEAD, was involved in the Creation of the heavens and the earth, which includes the creation of mankind, because of the following verses in Genesis 1.

Genesis 1:26 & 27: - "And God said, Let us make man in **OUR** image, after **OUR** likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them."

And we know from the New Testament Scriptures, that God the Father, created **ALL** things in the universe through his Divine Son, our Lord Jesus Christ

John 1:1 - 3, 10 & 14: - "**In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. ... He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. ... And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us,** (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth"

Ephesians 3:9: - "And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, **who created all things by Jesus Christ.**"

Colossians 1:13 - 17: - "Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: in whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: **For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: and he is before all things, and by him all things consist.**"

Hebrews 1:1 & 2: - "God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, **hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds.**"

God the Father recognizes his Son Jesus as God, and as the Creator of heaven and earth.

Hebrews 1:8 - 10: - "**But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O GOD, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom. Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows. And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands.**"

Our Lord Jesus Christ is the Creator of heaven and earth as recorded in the first week of this earth's history in Genesis 1 & 2. And therefore, at the end of the first six days of this world's history, Jesus saw that all his creation was "very good"

Genesis 1:31: - "And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, **it was very good**. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day."

We have previously read from Hebrews 1:8 - 10, that the Son of God, is recognized as the Creator of heaven and earth, by God the Father. And in fact, the heavens and the earth "are the works of thine hands." The Lord Jesus has made his wonderful works of creation, to be remembered by mankind.

Psalms 111:4: - "**He hath made his wonderful works to be remembered**: the Lord is gracious and full of compassion."

Why would Jesus Christ our Creator, want to make a "MEMORIAL" of his works of creation? Because the Biblical fact that he is the Creator, entitles him to be worshipped as the **ONE** and **ONLY** "LIVING GOD", and distinguishes him from all false gods.

Jeremiah 10:10 - 12: - "**But the Lord is the true God, he is the living God, and an everlasting king**: at his wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide his indignation. Thus shall ye say unto them, The gods that have not made the heavens and the earth, even they shall perish from the earth, and from under these heavens. **He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heavens by his discretion.**"

Acts 14:14 & 15: - "Which when the apostles, Barnabas and Paul, heard of, they rent their clothes, and ran in among the people, crying out, and saying, Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you, and preach unto that ye should turn from these vanities unto **the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein.**"

Revelation 4:11: - "Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: **for thou hast created all things**, and for thy pleasure they are and were created."

In fact, the Divinity and Eternal Power of Christ, is known by the things that he has made. In other words, by the things of creation.

Romans 1:20: - "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, **being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead**; so that they are without excuse."

So how did the Lord Jesus make "his wonderful works" of creation to be remembered? We find the answer to that in the second chapter of Genesis.

Genesis 2:1 - 3: - "Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: **BECAUSE** that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made."

NOTE: - God's institution of the Sabbath day is recorded in these three small verses. Let us summarize the three things that God did to institute the Sabbath day. And please keep in mind, that the Lord Jesus Christ, our Creator was the One who instituted the Sabbath day in these verses: -

1. God himself rested on the seventh day, from all his work of creating the heavens and the earth.
2. Then God himself blessed **THE** seventh day, for the future weeks of time. And when God blesses someone or something, they are blessed forever.

1 Chronicles 17:27: - "Now therefore let it please thee to bless the house of thy servant, that it may be before thee for ever: for thou blessest, O Lord, and it shall be blessed for ever."

3. And then, God sanctified the seventh day. The word "SANCTIFIED" means to "Set apart for holy use". So our Lord Jesus Christ set apart the seventh day for holy use. Genesis 2:3, gives us the reason **WHY** Jesus sanctified the seventh day. Because he rested upon it from all his work of creating the heavens and the earth. Many Christians, who observe the first day of the week, claim that it was an indefinite "one day in seven" which God sanctified at creation. But a candid reading of Genesis 2:3, plainly establishes

the fact, that it was the **definite** seventh day that God sanctified, because he rested from all his work upon that day.

When therefore, God set apart the seventh day to a holy use, it was necessary that he should state that fact to those who had the days of the week to use. Without such an announcement, the day could not be set apart from the other days of the week. This brings us to a crucial question: - WHO was the seventh day of the week sanctified for? As we previously found from Genesis 1:26 & 27 on PAGE 1, God created Adam and Eve, on the sixth day of the week. Therefore, they would have been present on the first seventh day Sabbath, when the Lord Jesus rested upon it. And they would also have been present when Jesus pronounced a blessing upon the seventh day; and when he sanctified the seventh day for holy use. Because Jesus did these three things as recorded in Genesis 2:1 - 3, he is entitled to claim to be "THE LORD OF THE SABBATH DAY". And as "Lord of the Sabbath", he has stated plainly in Mark's gospel, **WHO** the Sabbath day was made or sanctified for.

Mark 2:27 & 28: - "And he said unto them, **THE SABBATH WAS MADE FOR MAN**, and not man for the sabbath: Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath."

☞ The Saviour's language is yet more emphatic in the original Greek for this verse: - "The Sabbath was made for **THE** man, and not **THE** man for the Sabbath."

It is an interesting point, that the Hebrew word for "MAN", and which is translated as "ADAM" in Genesis 2, is the Hebrew word "ADAM" - See Strong's Concordance; Hebrew, No. 120. "The Sabbath was made for **THE** man (i. e. Adam), and not **THE** man (Adam) for the Sabbath." And thus, when the Lord Jesus sanctified the seventh day Sabbath for **THE** man - Adam, it was to tell him that he should treat the day as holy to the Lord. The Sabbath was made or sanctified for **THE** man - Adam, who was the representative head of the entire human family. And therefore, we are brought to the inevitable conclusion, that the Lord Jesus made or sanctified the seventh day Sabbath for **MANKIND**, as a **MEMORIAL** of the Lord being the Creator of heaven and earth, which shows him to be the TRUE and LIVING GOD!

And the seventh day Sabbath is clearly stated in the Scriptures as being a sign of the fact, that the Lord is the Creator of heaven and earth.

Exodus 31:16 & 17: - "Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant. **It is a sign between me and the children of Israel for ever: for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed.**"

Two more concluding points should be made concerning the facts brought out in this first SECTION of the study document: -

1. It would be impossible for Jesus to abolish the seventh day Sabbath, which he himself established at creation as a MEMORIAL or sign that he is the TRUE and LIVING GOD. Jesus would be abolishing the very institution that reveals his Divinity and Eternal Power (See Romans 1:20). For Jesus to do this, as Sunday-keeping Christians assert, would put Christ at variance with Christ. And as Jesus himself taught: - Matthew 12:25: - "And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand."
2. The Lord Jesus instituted the seventh day Sabbath in Genesis 2:1 - 3, **before** mankind had sinned; that is, before he needed Christ as Redeemer. And therefore, the seventh day Sabbath **CANNOT** be a shadow pointing forward to Jesus as Saviour, because **all** shadows have arisen as a result of the fall of mankind. But as Jesus blessed and sanctified the seventh day Sabbath **before** Adam and Eve had sinned, it is **not** to be confused with the shadowy ceremonies instituted to point forward to redemption through Christ. This can readily be seen by the fact, that if Adam and Eve had never sinned, they would still be required to sanctify the seventh day of the week for all future time, because of what the Lord himself did in Genesis 2:1 - 3. The seventh day Sabbath points to the Lord as Creator of the heavens and the earth, and **NOT** to the Lord as Redeemer.

PART 2: - GOD'S CALLING OF ABRAHAM AND HIS SEED: -

After the apostasy of the descendants of Noah at the Tower of Babel, as recorded in Genesis Chapter 11, when God confused the language of mankind; he chose to fulfil his Divine plan and purposes for mankind's salvation, through one individual named Abraham, whom he called, and to whom he entered into a covenant relationship with him and his descendants, to be their God, and they would be his people. The following Scriptures clearly establish this covenant relationship between God and Abraham.

Genesis 12:1 – 3 & 7: - “Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: and I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: and I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: **and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.** ... And the Lord appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an altar unto the Lord, who appeared unto him.”

NOTE: - The promise that the Lord made to Abraham in VS. 3, “and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed”, the apostle Paul calls “the gospel” in his book of Galatians, because it was a promise of the coming of Christ, who was Abraham's seed - See Galatians 3:8 & 16. So Abraham had the gospel preached to him by God himself.

Genesis 17:1, 2, 7 & 8: - “And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect. **And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly.** ... **And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee.** And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.”

WHY DID GOD CHOOSE ABRAHAM, AND MAKE A COVENANT WITH HIM?

The following passage sheds some light on this question.

Joshua 24:2 & 3: - “And Joshua said unto all the people, Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, Your fathers dwelt on the other side of the flood in old time, even Terah, the father of Abraham, and the father of Nachor: **AND THEY SERVED OTHER GODS.** And I took your father Abraham from the other side of the flood, and led him throughout all the land of Canaan, and multiplied his seed, and gave him Isaac.”

NOTE: - This passage informs us that Abraham's father and other family members, were worshippers of idols - “they served other gods” - VS. 2; and therefore, the Lord called Abraham to leave his idolatrous kin, and go to the land of God's promise, so that he could remain uncorrupted from serving the false gods of the nations about him. The reason the Lord would have chosen Abraham was because he would have been worshipping idols, but he would have been a faithful worshipper of the TRUE and LIVING CREATOR GOD.

This is plainly established by the following two passages, where it is stated that Abraham called upon the name of the EVERLASTING GOD, who is identified by the prophet Isaiah, as being the CREATOR of heaven and earth.

Genesis 21:33: - “And Abraham planted a grove in Beersheba, **and called there on the name of the Lord, the everlasting God.**”

Isaiah 40:28: - “Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that **the everlasting God, the Lord, THE CREATOR OF THE ENDS OF THE EARTH** fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding.”

NOTE: - So clearly, Abraham was a worshipper of the CREATOR GOD. He was not an idol worshipper like the rest of the world around him.

God found Abraham's heart faithful.

Nehemiah 9:6 - 8: - "Thou, even thou, art Lord alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee. **Thou art the Lord the God, who didst choose Abram, and broughtest him forth out of Ur of the Chaldees, and gavest him the name of Abraham; and foundest his heart faithful before thee,** and madest a covenant with him to give the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Jebusites, and the Girgashites, to give it, I say, to his seed, and hast performed thy words; for thou art righteous."

*** **NOTE:** - Most professed Protestant Christians only seem to quote Genesis 15:6, concerning Abraham and his faith in God's promises: - "And he believed in the Lord; and he counted it to him for righteousness." And this aspect of Abraham's faith is essential to the fact of God entering into a covenant relationship with Abraham. But this is not a balanced Scriptural portrayal of Abraham's faith. God could choose Abraham and fulfil his covenant promises concerning the coming of Christ to him, because Abraham possessed "the obedience of faith" - Romans 16:26. We shall establish this truth from the following Scriptures. ***

God knew that Abraham would be faithful in his instruction to his own household, so that they would be obedient followers of the way of the Lord. And because of Abraham's faithfulness, the Lord was able to again confirm the gospel promise of the coming of Christ through Abraham's seed, and thus to be able to fulfil his promises to Abraham.

Genesis 18:17 - 19: - "And the Lord said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do; seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, **AND ALL THE NATIONS OF THE EARTH SHALL BE BLESSED IN HIM?** For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment; **THAT THE LORD MAY BRING UPON ABRAHAM THAT WHICH HE HATH SPOKEN OF HIM.**"

NOTE: - Abraham's descendants, who ultimately developed into the children of Israel, were to "keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment" - VS. 19. They were to follow the ways of the Lord in the earth.

Abraham faithfully obeyed God's command to offer his only son Isaac, upon the altar. And because Abraham faithfully obeyed God's command (or voice), the Lord again confirmed to him, that he would fulfill the gospel promise of the coming of Christ through his seed.

Genesis 22:11, 12 & 15 - 18: - "And the angel of the Lord called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I. And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me. ... And the angel of the Lord called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time. And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the Lord, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: that in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gates of his enemies; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; **BECAUSE THOU HAST OBEYED MY VOICE.**"

James 2:21 - 23: - "**Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar?** Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect. **And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.**"

In fact, the Lord himself plainly stated that because Abraham kept God's Commandments and Laws, he could again confirm the gospel promise of the coming of Christ, to Abraham's son Isaac.

Genesis 26:3 - 5: - "Sojourn in this land, and I will be with thee, and will bless thee; for unto thee, and unto thy seed, I will give all these countries, and I will perform the oath which I sware unto Abraham thy father; and I will make thy seed to multiply as the stars of heaven, and will give unto thy seed all these countries; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed. **BECAUSE THAT ABRAHAM OBEYED MY VOICE, AND KEPT MY CHARGE, MY COMMANDMENTS, MY STATUTES, AND MY LAWS.**"

Abraham “believed in the Lord; and he counted it to him for righteousness” – Genesis 15:6, and his faith worked. Abraham was a faithful and obedient Commandment-Keeper, to whom the Lord could fulfil his covenant promises. And the following plain passage leaves us in no doubt that his example of faithful obedience is for us to follow.

John 8:39: - “They answered and said unto him, Abraham is our father. **Jesus saith unto them, If ye were Abraham’s children, ye would do the works of Abraham.**”

NOTE: - We now come to two very clear Scriptural teachings concerning the descendants of Abraham - the children of Israel, and the Gentile or Heathen nations of the world, which can be summarized as follows: -

1. ABRAHAM'S DESCENDANTS - THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL, WERE CALLED BY GOD TO WORSHIP HIM, THE TRUE AND LIVING GOD, WHO CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH;
2. THE GENTILE NATIONS WORSHIPPED SENSELESS IDOLS - FALSE GODS, WHO HAD NOT CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH.

We shall establish these two points clearly from the Scriptures.

2 Kings 19:15: - “And Hezekiah prayed before the Lord, and said, **O Lord God of Israel, which dwellest between the cherubims, thou art the God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; thou hast made heaven and earth.**”

1 Chronicles 16:25 & 26: - “For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised: he also is to be feared above all the gods. For all the gods of the people are idols: **BUT THE LORD MADE THE HEAVENS.**”

2 Chronicles 2:12: - “Hiram said moreover, **Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, that made heaven and earth,** who hath given to David the king a wise son, endued with prudence and understanding, that he might build an house for the Lord, and an house for his kingdom.”

Psalms 115:2 - 8, 15 & 16: - “Wherefore should the heathen say, Where is now their God? But our God is in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased. Their idols are silver and gold, the work of men’s hands. They have mouths, but they speak not: eyes have they, but they see not: they have ears, but they hear not: noses have they, but they smell not: they have hands, but they handle not: feet have they, but they walk not: neither speak they through their throat. They that make them are like unto them; so is every one that trusteth in them. ... **Ye are blessed of the Lord which made heaven and earth.** The heaven, even the heavens, are the Lords: but the earth hath he given to the children of men.”

Psalms 146:5 & 6: - “Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in **the Lord his God: which made heaven, and earth, the sea, and all that therein is:** which keepeth truth for ever.”

Jeremiah 10:10 - 12: - “But **the Lord is the true God, he is the living God, and an everlasting king:** at his wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide his indignation. Thus shall ye say unto them, The gods that have not made the heavens and the earth, even they shall perish from the earth, and from under these heavens. **He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heavens by his discretion.**”

The fact that the Hebrews were worshippers of the Lord who is the Creator God, is clearly established from the following text, concerning the prophet Jonah.

Jonah 1:9: - “And he (i. e. Jonah - compilers) said unto them, **I am an Hebrew; and I fear the Lord the God of heaven, which hath made the sea and the dry land.**”

See also: - Nehemiah 9:6; Psalms 96:4, 5; 135:5, 6, 15 - 18; Isaiah 37:15, 16; 45:15 - 18.

In fact, the apostles of Christ preached to the Gentiles, to turn from their idols to the worship of the Living God, who made heaven and the earth, and the sea, and all things therein.

Acts 14:14 & 15: - "Which when the apostles, Barnabas and Paul, heard of, they rent their clothes, and ran in among the people, crying out, and saying, Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you, **and preach unto you that ye should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein.**"

NOTE: - Therefore, as the only nation in the world who worshipped the CREATOR GOD, Abraham's descendants - the children of Israel, were entrusted with God's Word and his Commandments and Laws. They were to preserve a knowledge of the worship of the TRUE AND LIVING GOD in the earth, to enlighten the Gentile idol worshipping nations around them.

Romans 3:1 & 2: - "What advantage then hath **the Jew?** or what profit is there of circumcision? Much every way: chiefly, **because that unto them were committed the oracles of God.**"

Psalms 147:19 & 20: - "**He sheweth his word unto Jacob, his statutes and his judgments unto Israel. He hath not dealt so with any nation: and as for his judgments, they have not known them.** Praise ye the Lord."

If the children of Israel had been faithful in keeping "the way of the Lord" (See Genesis 18:19), the Gentile nations of the world, would have recognized the superiority of their God and his Law, and ultimately, the whole Gentile world would have been enlightened to fear and worship the Lord - the true God. That was God's plan in entrusting Israel with his Word and Law.

Deuteronomy 4:5 - 8: - "Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as the Lord my God commanded me, that ye should do so in the land whither ye go to possess it. **Keep therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people. For what nation is there so great, who hath God so nigh unto them, as the Lord our God is in all things that we call upon him for? And what nation is there so great, that hath statutes and judgments so righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day?**"

1 Kings 8:41 - 43: - "**Moreover concerning a stranger, that is not of thy people Israel, but cometh out of a far country for thy name's sake; (For they shall hear of thy great name, and of thy strong hand, and of thy stretched out arm;) when he shall come and pray toward this house; hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place, and do according to all that the stranger calleth to thee for: that all people of the earth may know thy name, to fear thee, as do thy people Israel;** and that they may know that this house, which I have builded, is called by thy name."

Psalms 102:15: - "**So the heathen shall fear the name of the Lord,** and all the kings of the earth thy glory."

☞ Unfortunately, Israel failed to fulfil God's plan to enlighten the Gentile world, by their backsliding into idolatry. As God had made a covenant with Abraham and his descendants - the children of Israel, to be their God, and they were to be his people; and as they were entrusted with the Word and Law of God, and were the **only** worshippers of the CREATOR GOD, the Lord entrusted to Israel, his seventh day Sabbath, as a SIGN that the Lord they worshipped was the CREATOR of heaven and earth.

Exodus 31:16 & 17: - "Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant. It is a sign between me and the children of Israel for ever: for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed."

*** This SECOND PART of our study, has answered the question which is commonly raised by Sunday-keeping Christians, as to why God entrusted his seventh day Sabbath to the children of Israel, and not to the Gentile

nations. Because God has made his everlasting covenant with Abraham and his descendants, and **NOT** with the Gentile nations. How then can a Gentile ever enter into a covenant relationship with God, and does God require a Gentile to keep the seventh day Sabbath? We shall answer these questions in PART 3 of our study. ***

PART 3: -THE SABBATH DAY AND THE GENTILE: -

NOTE: - As we have just found from PART 2 of our study, God made a covenant with Abraham and his descendants - the children of Israel, to be their God, and they were to be his people; and that through Abraham's seed, Christ was to come and to bless the world with the gift of salvation. Because Israel was the only nation that worshipped the Creator God, they were entrusted with God's Word and his holy Law, including God's seventh day Sabbath, which is a sign that the Lord is the Creator of heaven and earth. We also found that the Gentile or heathen nations of the world, were given over to the worship of false gods - senseless idols. We are now ready to consider some very important issues concerning the Gentiles entering into God's covenant relationship, because it needs to be stated plainly, that God has **never** made a covenant with the Gentile nations. This comes as a surprise to most Christians, but the simple truth of the Scriptures is, both covenants - the first and the new covenant, God has made with the house of Israel, and **not** with the Gentiles.

Jeremiah 31:31 - 34: - "Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the Lord: But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

NOTE: - It is very clear from VS. 31 - 33 that both covenants have been made with the house of Israel; and in VS. 33, where the Lord is listing his promises of the New Covenant to Israel, he repeats his promise made to Abraham in Genesis 17:7 & 8, to "be their God, and they shall be my people".

The above prophecy concerning the New Covenant is very clear. And the apostle Paul in the New Testament Scriptures confirms the fact, that covenants and the promises of God, pertain to Israel, and **not** to the Gentiles Romans 9:3 - 5: - "For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh: who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, **AND THE COVENANTS, AND THE GIVING OF THE LAW**, and the service of God, AND THE PROMISES; whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen."

NOTE: - Paul repeats in this passage what he stated previously in Romans 3:1 & 2, that to the Jews "were committed the oracles of God". Yes, "the giving of the law" does pertain to Israel, but so do the covenants (plural), and the promises of God.

That the idol worshipping Gentiles were without God, and were aliens from the house of Israel, and strangers from the covenants (plural) of promise, is clearly established from the following passage by the apostle Paul.

Ephesians 2:11 & 12: - "Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past **Gentiles in the flesh**, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; **that at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world.**"

As we have previously found on Page 8 of Part 2 of our study, that the children of Israel were entrusted with these precious spiritual blessings and revelations of God's will, to enlighten the Gentile world, that they might turn to the worship of the TRUE and LIVING CREATOR GOD. The following statement from the apostle James clearly teaches that it was God's purpose to take out of the Gentiles a people who would worship him.

Acts 15:13 - 17: - "And after they had held their peace, James answered, saying, Men and brethren, hearken unto me: Simeon hath declared how **God at the first did visit the Gentiles, TO TAKE OUT OF THEM A PEOPLE FOR HIS NAME.** And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is written, After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up: that the residue of men might seek after the Lord, **AND ALL THE GENTILES, UPON WHOM MY NAME IS CALLED, SAITH THE LORD,** who doeth all these things."

The gathering out of the Gentiles to worship the Living God who created the heavens and the earth (See Acts 14:14 & 15), is one of the things to be achieved through the gospel promise concerning Christ, which the Lord made with Abraham, "And in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed" - Genesis 12:3. And this is exactly what John's gospel records, concerning the work of Christ.

John 10:16: - "And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd."

The apostle Paul makes it plain, that through Christ's death upon the cross, he has reconciled both Jew and Gentile together, and now the Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners from the commonwealth of Israel; but they are now fellow-citizens with the believing Jews, and have equal access to God by the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 2:13 - 19: - "But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Jesus. For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; **for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; and that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: and came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh.** For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God."

The apostle Paul has clearly stated, that through the gospel of Christ, the Gentiles are partakers of the same body as Israel, and fellow heirs of the same promises God made to the children of Israel.

Ephesians 3:4 - 6: - "Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ) which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; **that the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel.**"

Paul likens the conversion of the Gentiles to the gospel of Christ, to their being a wild olive tree, and through faith in Christ, they have been grafted into the natural Hebrew olive tree.

Romans 11:13 - 24: - "For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify mine office: if by any means I may provoke to emulation them which are my flesh, and might save some of them. For if the casting away of them be the reconciling of the world, what shall the receiving of them be, but life from the dead? For if the firstfruit be holy, the lump is also holy: and if the root be holy, so are the branches. And if some of the branches be broken off, and thou, being a wild olive tree, wert grafted in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree; boast not against the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee. Thou wilt say then, The branches were broken off, that I might be grafted in. Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear: for if God spared not **the natural branches**, take heed lest he also spare not thee. Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off. And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be grafted in: for God is able to graff them in again. **For if thou were cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and wert**

grafted contrary to nature into a good olive tree: how much more shall these, which be the natural branches, be grafted INTO THEIR OWN OLIVE TREE?"

NOTE: - It is very clear from this passage, that Gentiles who exercise true faith in Christ, are grafted into the NATURAL HEBREW OLIVE TREE; in other words, they become part of spiritual Israel, and are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promises God made to Abraham and his seed. Such is the teaching of the apostle Paul.

Galatians 3:7 & 29: - "Know ye therefore that **they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham. ... And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed**, and heirs according to the promise."

On Pages 6 & 7 in PART 2 of our study, we found that Abraham had "the obedience of faith"; and we read several Scripture passages, which make it clear that faithful Abraham obeyed God's Commandments and Laws (See Genesis 26:3 - 5). We also read that Jesus stated, that if we are the children of Abraham, we would do the same works as did Abraham (See John 8:39). And the apostle Paul echoes these sentiments concerning Abraham's "obedience of faith", and our following in his example of obedience to God's Law.

Romans 4:11 & 12: - "And he (i. e. Abraham - compiler) received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had yet being uncircumcised: that he might be the father of all them that believe, though they be not circumcised; that righteousness might be imputed unto them also: and the father of circumcision to them who are not of the circumcision only, **but who also walk in the steps of that faith of our father Abraham, which he had being yet uncircumcised.**"

In fact, the apostle Paul commends those Gentiles who keep and fulfil the righteousness of the Law of Ten Commandments.

Romans 2:26 & 27: - "Therefore **if the uncircumcision keep the righteousness of the law, shall not his uncircumcision be counted for circumcision? And shall not uncircumcision** which is by nature, **if it fulfil the law** judge thee, who by the letter and circumcision dost transgress the law?"

NOTE: - The term "uncircumcision" is applying to Gentiles in these verses. And how do we know that Paul is referring to the Ten Commandments in this passage? By the immediate surrounding context.

Romans 2:21 - 23: - "Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself? thou that preachest **a man should not steal**, dost thou steal? Thou that sayest **a man should not commit adultery**, dost thou commit adultery? **thou that abhorrest idols**, dost thou commit sacrilege? Thou that makest thy boast of the law, through breaking the law dishonourest thou God?"

NOTE: - In this passage Paul is referring to four of the Ten Commandments, namely: - DO NOT STEAL; DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY; ABHORRING IDOLS (i. e. the 1st and 2nd Commandments), when he uses the term "THE LAW". And thus, Paul has established the fact, that Gentiles were required to keep the Law of Ten Commandments.

Perhaps the following verse from Paul, sums up the issue of "the obedience of faith".

Romans 3:31: - "Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law."

NOTE: - Having found previously in PART 2 of our study, that God entrusted to the children of Israel his Word and Law, to enlighten the Gentile nations, to the worship of the TRUE and LIVING CREATOR GOD and thus the Gentiles would forsake the worship of their senseless idols; the Scriptures make it abundantly plain, that if a Gentile was enlightened concerning the worship of the God of Israel, they could join themselves to the children of Israel, and participate in worshipping the TRUE God, including the observance of God's seventh day Sabbath. There is abundant Biblical testimony concerning converted Gentiles keeping the Sabbath day holy throughout the Scriptures.

Firstly, within the fourth Commandment itself, God has made provision for the stranger (i. e. the Gentile) to keep the seventh day Sabbath holy.

Exodus 20:8 - 11: - "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy

daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, **or thy stranger that is within thy gates:** for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.”

Exodus 23:12: - “Six days thou shalt do thy work, **and on the seventh day thou shalt rest:** that thine ox and thine ass may rest, and the son of thy handmaid, **and the stranger, may be refreshed.**”

The congregation of the children of Israel, during their exodus from Egypt, included a large number of believing Egyptians, who were called “the mixed multitude”.

Exodus 12:37 & 38: - “And the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand on foot that were men, beside children. And a mixed multitude went up also with them; and flocks, and herds, even very much cattle.”

See also: - Numbers 11:4.

The Lord commanded the entire congregation of Israel (including the “mixed multitude” of believing Egyptians), to keep the seventh day Sabbath holy.

Exodus 16:4, 5 & 23 - 30: - “Then said the Lord unto Moses, Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day, that I may prove them, whether they will walk in my law, or no. And it shall come to pass, that on the sixth day they shall prepare that which they bring in; and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily. ... And he said unto them, This is that which the Lord hath said, To morrow is the rest of the holy sabbath unto the Lord: bake that which ye will bake to day, and seethe that ye will seethe; and that which remaineth over lay up for you to be kept until the morning. And they laid it up till the morning, as Moses bade: and it did not stink, neither was there any worm therein. And Moses said, Eat that to day; for to day is a sabbath unto the Lord: to day ye shall not find it in the field. Six day ye shall gather it; but on the seventh day, which is the sabbath, in it there shall be none. And it came to pass, that there went out some of the people on the seventh day for to gather, and they found none. And the Lord said unto Moses, How long refuse ye to keep my commandments and my laws? See, for that the Lord hath given you the sabbath, therefore he giveth you on the sixth day the bread of two days; abide ye every man in his place, let no man go out of his place on the seventh day. So the people rested on the seventh day.”

NOTE: - We find VS. 4 that God designed to “prove” or test the congregation of Israel, whether they would “walk” or keep his Law of Ten Commandments or not, by their keeping holy the seventh day Sabbath. Unfortunately, reading VS. 27 & 28, we find that some of the congregation did not keep the seventh day Sabbath holy, and the Lord charged the people with breaking his “commandments” and his “laws” - plural. In other words, God considered that by not keeping the Sabbath commandment holy, they had broken all of his commandments and laws! Thus, the observance of the seventh day Sabbath was indeed a God given test, to see whether his people, would be obedient to his entire Moral Law of Ten Commandments. And this teaching is plainly stated by the apostle James, in the New Testament Scriptures.

James 2:8 - 12: - “If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well: but if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors. **FOR WHOSOEVER SHALL KEEP THE WHOLE LAW, AND YET OFFEND IN ONE POINT, HE IS GUILTY OF ALL.** For he that said, **DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY** said also, **DO NOT KILL.** Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law. So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty.”

NOTE: - We know that James is referring to a Law found in the “Law and the Prophets” (i. e. what we commonly call the Old Testament writings), by his use of the phrase “according to the scripture” in VS. 8. He states plainly in VS. 9 & 10 that when we commit sin, we are convinced or convicted by the law as a transgressor; and further, he teaches that if we break one part of the Law, we are guilty of breaking the entire Moral Code. In VS. 11 he is referring directly to two of the Ten Commandments, namely, “**DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY**”, and “**DO NOT KILL**” (See Exodus 20:13 & 14), which deal with our duty to love our neighbour as ourselves. And then in VS. 12, he tells us that we are going to be judged by this “law of liberty”.

Leviticus 19:1 - 3: - "And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, **Speak unto all the congregation of the children of Israel**, and say unto them, Ye shall be holy: for I the Lord your God am holy. Ye shall fear every man his mother, and his father, **and keep my sabbaths**: I am the Lord your God."

The prophet Isaiah pronounces a blessing upon "the man" who keeps the Sabbath day holy.

Isaiah 56:1 & 2: - "Thus saith the Lord, Keep ye judgment, and do justice: for my salvation is near to come, and my righteousness to be revealed. Blessed is the man that doeth this, and the son of man that layeth hold on it; **THAT KEEPETH THE SABBATH FROM POLLUTING IT**, and keepeth his hand from doing any evil."

NOTE: - The word "MAN" is not spelt "J - E - W". In other words, Isaiah is referring to any person, irrespective of their race, as being blessed for keeping the Sabbath day holy.

The prophet Isaiah specifically mentions "the son of the stranger" (i. e. the son of the Gentile), who converts to the worship of the Lord God, and keeps the Sabbath day holy, will be blessed by the Lord.

Isaiah 56:6 & 7: - "**Also the sons of the stranger, that join themselves to the Lord, to serve him, and to love the name of the Lord, to be his servants, every one that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it, and taketh hold of my covenant**; even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people."

NOTE: - We learn from VS. 7 that God's house or Temple, was to be an "house of prayer" "for all people" - i. e. for all nations. This verse again establishes the truth, that the Lord wanted all the Gentile nations, to turn from their idol worship, and to worship the TRUE and LIVING CREATOR GOD, and to participate in his worship services in his temple, and also for them to keep his seventh day Sabbath holy.

Turning to the New Testament Scriptures, we find that the Gentile who converted from idol worship and paganism to the worship of the Living God, kept the seventh day Sabbath holy, after the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Acts 13:14 - 16, 26 & 42 - 44: - "But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, **and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and sat down**. And after the reading of the law and the prophets the rulers of the synagogue sent unto them, saying, Ye men and brethren, if ye have any word of exhortation for the people, say on. Then Paul stood up, and beckoning with his hand said, Men of Israel, **AND YE THAT FEAR GOD**, give audience. ... Men and brethren, children of the stock of Abraham, **AND WHOSOEVER AMONG YOU FEARETH GOD**, to you is the word of this salvation sent. ... And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, **THE GENTILES BESOUGHT THAT THESE WORDS MIGHT BE PREACHED TO THEM THE NEXT SABBATH**. Now when the congregation was broken up, many of the Jews and religious proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas: who, speaking to them, **PERSUADED THEM TO CONTINUE IN THE GRACE OF GOD. AND THE NEXT SABBATH DAY CAME ALMOST THE WHOLE CITY TOGETHER TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD.**"

NOTE: - We find from a careful reading of this passage, that Paul's audience in the synagogue on the Sabbath day, was made up of two groups of people: -

1. Men of Israel - VS. 16; Children of the stock of Abraham - VS. 26; The Jews - VS. 42; and,
2. Those who fear God - VS. 16 & 26; The Gentiles - VS. 42; The religious proselytes - VS. 43;

We also learn in VS. 42 that the Gentile converts asked the apostles to preach the Word of God to them the next Sabbath day. Then the apostles of Christ exhorted the believing Jews and the Gentile converts, "to continue in the grace of God" - VS. 43. Thus establishing the fact, that keeping the seventh day Sabbath is **NOT** contrary to, or "falling from grace", as most Sunday-keeping Christians claim. And then on the next Sabbath day, almost the whole city of Gentiles came together to hear the apostles preach the Word of God to them in VS. 44. If the Sabbath day had been abolished or changed to the first day of the week, the apostles of Christ had the perfect opportunity to instruct their Gentile hearers on this point in VS. 42 - 44, and tell them that they would preach to them on the next day - Sunday. The fact that they did **NOT** do this, but readily agreed to the Gentile's request to preach to them the next Sabbath day, is solid New Testament evidence for the continuing obligation of the seventh day Sabbath, after the death and resurrection of Christ.

Acts 16:12 - 15: - "And from thence to Philippi, which is the chief city of that part of Macedonia, and a colony: and we were in that city abiding certain days. **And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made; and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted thither. And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, WHICH WORSHIPPED GOD,** heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul. And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought us, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there. And she constrained us."

NOTE: - Lydia was a Gentile convert who worshipped God on the Sabbath day, when Paul preached to her on the Sabbath.

Acts 17:1 - 4: - "Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where was a synagogue of the Jews: **And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures,** opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ. And some of them believed, and consorted with Paul and Silas; **and of the devout Greeks a great multitude, and of the chief women not a few.**"

NOTE: - The "devout Greeks" mentioned in VS. 4, who accepted Paul's message that Jesus is the Christ, were Gentile converts who were worshipping God on the Sabbath day, when Paul preached to them.

Acts 18:1 - 4: - "After these things Paul departed from Athens, and came to Corinth; and found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla; (because that Claudius had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome:) and came unto them. And because he was of the same craft, he abode with them, and wrought: for by their occupation they were tentmakers. **And he reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath, and persuaded the Jews AND THE GREEKS.**"

NOTE: - "The Greeks" mentioned in VS. 4, who accepted Paul's message concerning Christ, were Gentile converts, who were worshipping God on the Sabbath day, when Paul preached to them.

☞ The Biblical evidence is very clear in both Testaments; if a Gentile turned from worshipping idols, to worship the LIVING, CREATOR GOD OF ISRAEL, they would obey God's Word and Law, and they would keep God's seventh day Sabbath holy.

PART 4: - THE "HOLY OF THE LORD" AND PARTAKING OF JACOB'S INHERITANCE: -

Isaiah 58:13 & 14: - "If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: **FOR THE MOUTH OF THE LORD HATH SPOKEN IT.**"

NOTE: - We find from this inspired passage, which the Lord himself has spoken (see the last phrase in VS. 14 which clearly indicates that the Lord is speaking directly in these verses), that the Lord is calling the Sabbath day, "my holy day"; "the holy of the Lord". And the Lord himself states that, if we keep his Sabbath day holy, by refraining from doing our own pleasure, or doing our own ways (i. e. deeds), or speaking our own words upon the Sabbath day, but enter into the true spirit of Sabbath-keeping, by calling the Sabbath day a "delight", we are in fact, **HONOURING THE LORD** by sanctifying his Sabbath day. But more than this, the Lord himself in VS. 14 has given a promise to the person who keeps his Sabbath day holy, of being fed or nourished by the heritage or

inheritance of Jacob. The Lord is giving us a glimpse of the eternal inheritance of the true Sabbath-keeper in this passage.

This leads us to ask the question: - **WHAT IS THE INHERITANCE OF JACOB?** Jacob's inheritance is the same promise that God made to Isaac and Abraham. It was a promise of an eternal possession, in which Abraham and his seed, would inherit the earth made new. These three godly patriarchs were seeking a heavenly country, and a heavenly city, built and prepared by God himself, where God will be called their God.

Romans 4:13: - **"For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith."**

Hebrews 11:8 - 10: - "By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after **RECEIVE FOR AN INHERITANCE**, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, **THE HEIRS WITH HIM OF THE SAME PROMISE**: for he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God."

Hebrews 11:13 - 16: - "These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. But now they desire a better country, that is, **AN HEAVENLY: WHEREFORE GOD IS NOT ASHAMED TO BE CALLED THEIR GOD: FOR HE HATH PREPARED FOR THEM A CITY.**"

NOTE: - In VS. 16, we have a reference to the promise God made to Abraham and his descendants, that God was going to be their God - See Genesis 17:7 & 8.

This heavenly country that is the inheritance of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, is the New Jerusalem, which Paul states is the "mother" of all the righteous.

Galatians 4:26: - "But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is **THE MOTHER OF US ALL.**"

Hebrews 12:22: - "But ye are come unto mount Zion, and unto the city of the living God, **THE HEAVENLY JERUSALEM**, and to an innumerable company of angels."

The entry into this promised eternal inheritance is through twelve gates, with each gate bearing one of the names of the twelve tribes of Israel.

Revelation 21:10 - 12: - "And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal; and had a wall great and high, **AND HAD TWELVE GATES, AND AT THE GATES TWELVE ANGELS, AND NAMES WRITTEN THEREON, WHICH ARE THE NAMES OF THE TWELVE TRIBES OF THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL.**"

☞ To those professed Christians who disparage God's seventh day Sabbath, by falsely calling it "the Jewish Sabbath"; We pose a simple question to them: - How are they as self confessed Gentiles, going to be able to enter into the Holy City, through these Jewish gates? We notice that there is **NOT** a separate gate by which the Gentiles can enter into the New Jerusalem. We noted in PART 2 on PAGES 6 & 7 of our study, that Abraham, the "father of the faithful", kept God's Commandments and Laws. He was a Commandment-Keeper - See Genesis 26:3 - 5). And we also found that Jesus himself stated, that those who are truly Abraham's children will do the same works that Abraham did (See John 8:39). And thus, those who keep God's Commandments, will have the right to enter the Holy City through the twelve gates, of the promised inheritance of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and they will be able to eat of the Tree of Life, and thus be fed or nourished with the inheritance of Jacob, as the Lord promised in Isaiah 58:13 & 14.

Revelation 22:14: - **“Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.”**

CONCLUSION: - For all eternity in the new heavens and the new earth, flesh shall come before the Lord to worship him, every Sabbath day.

Isaiah 66:22 & 23: - **“For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the Lord, so shall your seed and your name remain. And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, AND FROM ONE SABBATH TO ANOTHER, SHALL ALL FLESH COME TO WORSHIP BEFORE ME, SAITH THE LORD.”**

NOTE: - It is quite clear from this passage, that the Sabbath day is going to be the day to worship the Lord, in the earth made new. In VS. 23 Isaiah states that “from one new moon to another”, shall all flesh come before the Lord. The phrase “new moon” is referring to a new month. Why would all flesh come before the Lord every new month? We find the answer to this question in the book of Revelation, concerning the Holy City - the New Jerusalem, which is the capital of the new heavens and the new earth.

Revelation 22:1 & 2: - “And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.”

NOTE: - The reason why all flesh come before the Lord every new month in God's everlasting Kingdom, is so that they can eat of the new monthly fruit from the Tree of Life, in the Holy City of God. Isaiah states that “all flesh” shall come to worship before the Lord every Sabbath day, in the earth made new. We find that the Psalmist and the apostle John are more specific in describing who will be coming before the Lord to worship him in his everlasting kingdom.

Psalms 86:8 & 9: - “Among the gods there is none like unto thee, O Lord; neither are there any works like unto thy works. **ALL NATIONS WHOM THOU HAST MADE SHALL COME AND WORSHIP BEFORE THEE, O LORD; AND SHALT GLORIFY THY NAME.**”

Revelation 15:2 - 4: - “And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God. And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints. Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for thou only art holy: **FOR ALL NATIONS SHALL COME AND WORSHIP BEFORE THEE**; for thy judgments are made manifest.”

NOTE: - “All nations” shall come and worship before the Lord every Sabbath day, in God's everlasting kingdom. All nations must include all the Gentiles, who have followed Christ in faithful obedience upon this earth. And they will be worshipping the Lord on the Sabbath day, throughout the ceaseless ages of eternity!



The popular assertion which is made by most Sunday-keeping Christians, “that God only gave the seventh day Sabbath for the children of Israel”, is really based upon blind prejudice and Biblical ignorance. As we found in PART 1 of our study, concerning Genesis 2:1 - 3, that it was God's original plan when he created the Sabbath day for THE MAN ADAM, that all mankind were to rest and worship the Lord on the seventh day Sabbath; so in the earth made new, and freed from the curse of sin and death, all the righteous nations shall come and worship before the Lord upon the Sabbath day, for all eternity. And thus, through the gospel promise made to Abraham concerning the coming of Christ, God's original plan for mankind's creation will ultimately be fulfilled.