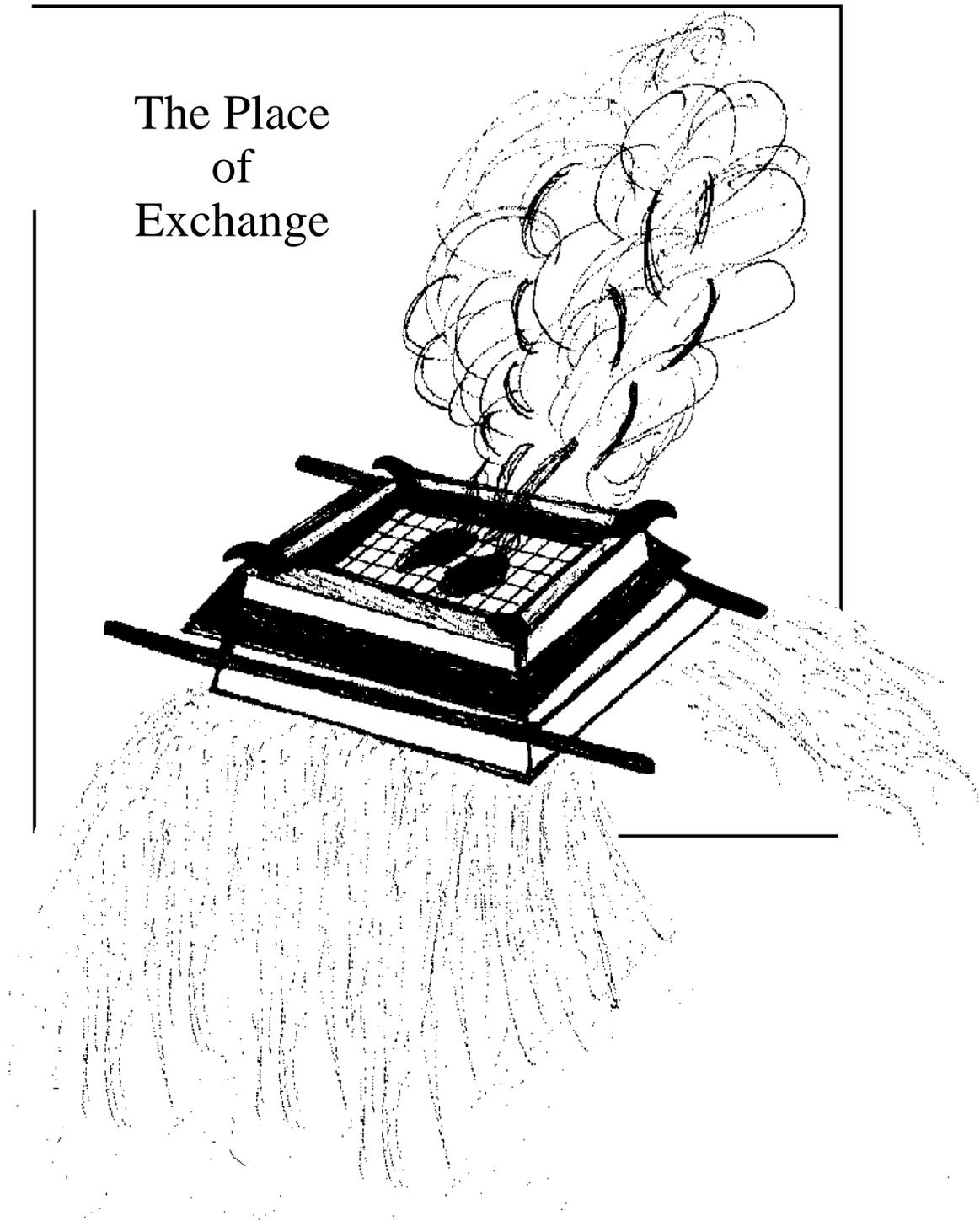


# THE ALTAR

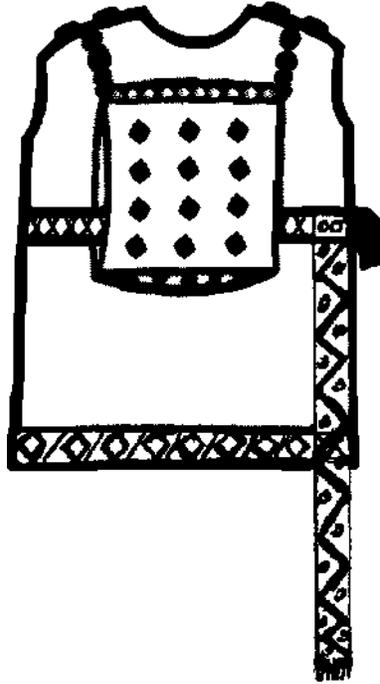
The Place  
of  
Exchange



# THE EPHOD AND BREAST PLATE

## TRIBES

Judah	Issachar	Zebulun
Reuben	Simeon	Gad
Ephriam	Manasseh	Benjamin
Dan	Asher	Naphtali



## STONES

Sardius	Topaz	Carbuncle
Emerald	Sapphire	Diamond
Jacinth	Agate	Amethyst
Beryl	Onyx	Jasper

The Tabernacle Home Study Course  
P. O. Box 627, Fountain Inn, SC 29644

## A PERSONAL NOTE

Each of us in this Earth experience, which is designed to transfer the Kingdom of Heaven to Earth, is an individually unique expression of our Heavenly Father's Life. His Life is the only Life in the Universe. He is Life. His Perfect "Kingdom of Heaven Expression" is defined in Jesus. He is the Truth about Life.

Because each of us is so different due to our genetic design: when and where and to whom we were born; our environment and peers and teachers; etc. -- no other "person" can accurately interpret for you the scriptural answers that you are seeking. The Bible is your "User's Manual."

Our prayer and hope is that this study of The Tabernacle will instill in you the confidence that our Father has placed right inside of you -- your own Teacher, Interpreter, and Guide to assist you in your journey. Polly, Dianne, and Rudy never expect to be anything more than just a second witness to what you hear and see the Holy Spirit showing you. This will be our fulfilling experience.

"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me..." Gal. 2:20

## INTRODUCTION TO LESSON 3 -- THE ALTAR

It is my personal conviction that many of us in the body of Christ have experienced frustration in our Christian walk because the message about the purpose for the Altar has, through the years, become clouded and even confused.

Let me try to be clear about my perspective: I am not Anti-Church; but I do believe that organized religion has created Christian confusion. It is possible to be very religious and actively involved in “Church” without understanding its Biblical Christian Message. The Altar must be understood correctly. The correct application of every other Tabernacle appointment hinges on a correct understanding of the Altar.

At the Tabernacle, the Altar symbolized a mountain. The Altar illustrated the necessary steps for the ascension away from the mundane earthly existence, (from physical birth until physical death), into a higher Spiritual Adventure in life, which fulfills the Purpose of God.

The Altar announced the promise of an elevated consciousness out of the mundane into the excitement of spiritual creative power... into oneness with the Creator... into (*Huios*) mature Sonship.

The Altar established God’s required standard for man’s transition from the bondage of a earthy, flesh ruled life into the spirit realm of Christ. The Altar pre-figured the three steps from Redemption of the Spirit, to Transformation of the Soul, and ultimately the Transfiguration of the Body.

The Altar declared: “If you don’t start right, it will be impossible to reach the right destination.” (Understanding the Altar is not an option in Christianity -- it is a required subject!) In any particular church, their belief of the function for the Altar defines the purpose of that particular fellowship and reveals their definition of the word Church.

I believe there is overwhelming evidence of a Biblical message which says: “A person’s life is controlled by that individual’s definition of words.” It’s been said, “Life is experienced by one’s definition of words.”

The Greek word for Church is #1577: *Ekklesia*. My personal definition of the word *Ekklesia* is: “**To have been given, from the Origin of Life, a personal assignment.**” (I told you, we are different. This is a New Day and I believe we will need to re-examine many traditional definitions and to go beyond where religion has brought us.)

You have the right and I encourage you to ask, and to ask more and more: Where did you get your definition of the word Church? Please don't just take some teacher or Preacher's word. Ask where, and ask why, and ask when.

Theologians have defined Ekklesia (Church) "a calling out, a religious gathering" for 2,000 years. You have a right to know that there is much more to the word Ekklesia than simply that. In every language words have a history. Each word's meaning grows from an original or root usage. The study of the history of a word is called etymology, much like the study of your family history is called genealogy.

Let's look at the word Church... Strong's #1577: *Ekklesia*, "A calling out, a religious congregation"; from #1537 and #2564. #1537: *Ex*, "a primary preposition denoting 'origin' (the point from whence motion [life] proceeds.) [Life is motion.] #2564: *Kaleo*, "to 'call,' [to be called], to call forth by name," akin to the base of #2753: *keleuo*, "to incite by word, commandment, [assignment]," developed from "Priest's Breast Plate and women who assembled at the Gate of the Tabernacle." (The word "assembling" in Exodus 38:8 is #6633: *tsaba*, "muster for battle, army, war." #4753: *Strateuma*, from #4754; "an armament, a body of troops, army." #4754: *Strateuomai*, "to serve in a military campaign; figuratively, to execute the apostolate, to contend with carnal inclinations: -- (go to) war (-fare)." #4756: *Stratia*, feminine of *Stratos*, "(an army from the base of #4766, as encamped); camp-likeness, i.e. an army, i.e. (figuratively) the angels, the celestial luminaries [stars]."

Please read again my personal definition of Church. "**To have been given, from the Origin of Life, a personal assignment.**" Wow! As my Dad used to say, "Oh my goodness." My friend, you are the Church. You were called by name from the Origin of Life. (Yeshua was the Origin, the Beginning of the Plan for Life.) You were assigned to a military campaign to contend with carnal "personalized inclinations, and you were sent as a Star (Sun) Luminary to serve an Apostleship." You are Ekklesia.

Jesus was given a Name. And you should know that in Hebrew and Greek the word NAME signifies "Character or Nature." Praying in the Nature and Character of Jesus is a world of difference on opening or closing a prayer, "in Jesus name." Oh WOW! Do you understand why He could boldly say, "Whatever you ask the Father in my Name [Nature] He will do it"? You can pray in/as His Nature because you and He are One.

Referring to the Cross Jesus said, "**...for this cause [purpose] came I unto this hour.**" (John 12:27). When He came into this dimension and was given His Name there was more involved than a simple identification. His Name incorporated His assigned purpose. The name Church goes much further than the identification of

a person who is affiliated with some denomination or assembly. The word Church connects you to Jesus, His Name and His Father's Name. As in our custom of giving and receiving of a name in a marriage ceremony, Jesus joins us to our Heavenly Father by His Name. Now read carefully John 17 -- especially verse 6, **"I have manifested Thy Name [the Father's Nature] unto the men which Thou gavest Me out of the world: Thine they were, [my paraphrase -- Thine they were before now, even in the beginning], and Thou gavest them [to] Me; and they have kept Thy Word."** John 17:26, **"And I have declared unto them Thy Name, and will declare it [Thy Nature]: that the Love wherewith Thou has loved Me may be in them, and I in them."**

Listen to Stephen; Acts 7:37, **"This is that Moses, which said unto the children of Israel, A Prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; Him shall you hear."** (Stephen is referring to Jesus, quoting from Deut. 18:15). Acts 7:38, **"This is He, that was in the Church in the wilderness...."**

Israel had **"the Church in the wilderness,"** the Tabernacle; but the Tabernacle was a living, dynamic Spiritual Organism due to the Tablets, the "living oracles," words, in the Ark of the Covenant. Act 7:38 continues, **"...with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina [Sinai] and with our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us."** This 7th chapter of Acts is the Court Testimony of the Apostle Stephen and an excellent one chapter history of Israel.

My point: We are required to learn from Israel's experiences and not make the same mistakes (1st Cor. 10); Israel had the Church in the wilderness but they never "learned" their identity nor their assigned mission for God, on the earth. They became religious -- very religious. Their traditions became more important than His Words.

Church is more than a gathered congregation, more than a called out assembly. The Church is that, but more -- it involves you when you are made aware that: you were given the Christ sur-name and your assignment on this earth from the Origin, before the foundation of the earth. When we were "born" into the earth, into an earthen body, we inherited a "human" Adam nature; but we were already Spirit and we already had that **"Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world"** (John 1:9).

Our assignment, from my perspective, was and still is to raise or to cause to ascend the earth body and the human nature, to a spiritual consciousness which conforms to the Life of Christ. As the etymology of the word Church suggests -- changing and elevating the "earth," this personal "Earth," to a visible expression of Christ -- requires a war like commitment. It is a war for Life.

## THE BRASS ALTAR

EXODUS 27:1-8

The Altar can be thought of as the “Alterer” or the place of being “Altered.”

In the Pageant of Salvation (Salvation in progress), the Altar was God’s way of showing how He had provided the mechanism by which He could change flesh nature into a Spirit Nature; flesh consciousness into Spirit Consciousness; the power of the rule of flesh which must submit to the Authority of Spirit.

Exodus 27:1, “**And thou shalt make an altar of shittim wood...**” I love the way the Septuagint translates the word “shittim” as incorruptible wood. That is correct. As I have already stated, “The Tabernacle is a symbolic structure of your Spiritual Body,” which is incorruptible. You have a natural body and you have a spiritual body.

The height of the Altar is given in Exodus 27:1 as “3 cubits” or 4-1/2 feet; however it was set on two mounds of dirt so that the Altar was actually visible above the 7 cubit or 7-1/2 foot tall fence. In the Pageant the Altar represented a mountain, establishing in the First Act of God’s Play that this Salvation Pageant is all about “ascending”... going up in the thoughts to higher perspectives. And the very first step involves altering your identity from the lower, human flesh consciousness -- to a Spiritual, Anointed, Righteous Mind. This change begins at the Altar and is “a work in progress.”

Since the scriptures are clear in Ecclesiastes that “**there is nothing new under the sun... everything that is now has already been,**” God is not requiring you to learn something new that is foreign to you. He is helping you, through this Pageant, to “Remember” that you were born above, your citizenship is in Heaven, and your name is recorded (your birth certificate is) in Heaven.

Canst thou Remember? You are Spirit and your earth assignment is to put on an earth body (your earthen vessel) and raise it into alignment with the “Love” laws of Spirit Life, which is in Heaven. Your assignment is to, by the Power vested in you (the Holy Spirit of the Ascended Christ), overcome the law of sin and death (gravity) and impose a higher law (like unto aerodynamics over gravity), the law of Spirit Life in Christ Jesus, elevating your Earth out of the bondage of the “without form and void” condition. And Jesus said you can do it, “**if thou canst believe.**” Selah --

The best way to understand the full impact of the Altar appointment in the Plan is to turn to the first account of the Altar in operation. The event is recorded in Leviticus 9 and reports the activity of the 8th day (the number 8 always refers

to something new). Leviticus 9:1-4 records the different animals for sacrifice: Aaron was to take a young calf for a sin offering, and a ram for a burnt offering (a male calf, a bullock and a male sheep, a ram); and the people were to take a kid of the goats for a sin offering and a calf and a lamb for a burnt offering, and also a bullock and a ram for peace offerings and a meat (meal) offering mingled with oil. The burnt offering is symbolic of a flesh quality which needs to be completely changed to Spirit control.

In the interest of space, after all the activity of preparation, offerings and dedication... we forward to the last verse in Leviticus 9:24, which focuses on the point I think is most important here, **“And there came a fire out from before the LORD [in the Holy of Holies], and consumed upon the altar the burnt offering and the fat [the marrow]; *which* when all the people saw, they shouted, and fell on their faces.”** (We are not told whether for joy or fear.)

My particular point right here is: You cannot ever disassociate the Altar from fire. The activity of the Altar is incomplete without the fire. Many people have gone to their church altar and never heard about the fire that is sure to follow. And then they become greatly discouraged, even to despair, when chastening and tribulations for cleansing come, because -- they were never taught the whole truth about the Altar. You can never go forward in the progressive Plan of Salvation without the full experience of the Altar, flesh and fire.

**Have you been baptized with fire?**

John the Baptist was an apostle because he was **“a man sent from God.”** The word “apostle” means “sent,” so the baptizer was an apostle who said, **“He Who is coming after me is mightier than I. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire”** (Matt. 3:11). Many people never understand the necessity of the fire part.

Fifty days after His Resurrection, Jesus baptized His disciples with the Holy Ghost, and cloven tongues of FIRE were manifested. One of two lessons in the “cloven” (divided in two) tongues can be discerned by looking at James 3, where it is written that **“the tongue is a fire.”** If your Anointed tongue is divided, speaking both blessing and cursing, praising God and cursing men; you are destined to tribulation, which Paul said worketh persistence.

The second lesson in the cloven tongue could be this; “at the mouth of two anointed, advising witnesses -- a true seeker should take heed” at their counsel.

The Altar is your wonderful introduction to a new life; but our Father is telling us right up front: it is a big challenge; it will probably not be easy for you; it will

require contemplation and discipline; this is a journey which requires a commitment; but, I promise you, it will be worth it all when you see Jesus manifested in your flesh. Symbolically, the Altar is a Mountain and there will be times when you may think; “Mount Everest would be a snap compared to this, but let us go on to perfection.”

You should notice in Leviticus 2:13, **“And every oblation [presentation] of thy meat [meal] offering shalt thou season with Salt; neither shalt thou suffer [allow] the Salt of the Covenant of thy God to be lacking from thy meat [meal] offering: with all thine offerings thou shalt offer Salt.”**

Also, Numbers 18:19, **“All the heave offerings of the holy things [things acknowledged as a gift from God were to be heaved, lifted up toward heaven]... by a statute for ever: it is a covenant of Salt forever.”**

Also, Mark 9:49-50, **“For every one shall be salted with fire, and every sacrifice shall be salted with salt. Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his saltness, wherewith will ye season it: Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another.”** Everyone shall be salted with fire. Your character is tempered by the tests you overcome -- Salt represents your sincerity and dedication.

Salt, which is interconnected with fire and interconnected with Peace, is a reminder that the “offerings given to God” are simply a returning of something He gave you to begin with, and that His Covenant with you and with the Earth is the reason you have what you have. He doesn’t actually need anything you can offer Him; but in this part of the Covenant you show Him that you Remember His Covenant, and that you know **“that every good gift and every perfect gift cometh down from the Father of lights [from above]”** (James 1:17). Your gifts to God are simply a Remembrance that All you are and have are His.

Remember; fire is also a symbol of passion. You need to make this decision now; “Circumstances will never rob me of my passion for Christ.”

So we acknowledge with the “salt of the Covenant” (commitment and discipline) that, whether it is fire for purifying or passionate joy and peace, “it is from God, and it is to fulfill His Covenant” in your life.

Our Father is fully aware of the overwhelming power of the flesh. He fully understands that with out Him we could not achieve our assignment of overcoming the power of the flesh. So He asks us to trust Him, as He administers by His Holy Spirit, purifying fire when we need it or passionate Righteousness, peace and joy, when it will build us up in Faith. So we must learn to trust Him when it seems that He “just builds us up to tear us down.” To God be the Glory -- Amen.

## THE PRIEST, THE ALTAR AND THE STARS

In every pageant there is a story, or a book and a script; and there is a cast; there is a stage setting; and there is a director, etc. In the Biblical Pageant called “The Tabernacle,” the LORD God was the Producer and the Holy Spirit was the Director. Out of the Nation of Israel, the Tribe of Levi was selected for the “Road” Company; and out of Levi, Aaron and his four sons were chosen to be Priests. The leading role of High Priest was given to Aaron, and his four sons were his understudies. The “sons” were out of his loins.

When the Pageant opened and the Gate Curtain was raised, the first thing the audience saw was the Brass Altar. The players were rehearsed to convey, through the Altar and the sacrifices and the fire, that God had provided a “way” out for man’s imprisoned flesh condition.

The Tabernacle Pageant is a Mystery. And like any good mystery, you do not know the true message until the end of the Last Act. I remind you, this is a three act play. Since all of you have read the Book, my assignment is comparable to a tour guide explaining the stage settings and the “props” you might have missed when you read the Book.

Having lead “tour groups” through the Tabernacle story several thousand times, I am most impressed by the fact that the majority of people have never understood that mankind was placed in a “flesh prison” from the beginning.

Although the hidden mystery of man’s genetic flesh prison is alluded to in the first act of the Pageant, called the Old Testament, the truth of man’s bondage is clearly addressed in the New Testament by Priest Paul in Romans chapter 8 and verse 20. I will help you recall; **“For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected *the same* in hope”** (Rom. 8:20 KJV).

Romans 8:20 is an “earth-shattering” revelation. You need to memorize it. The Holy Spirit puts the role of man, in the purpose of God, in perspective. The entire creation, including man and all nature, was purposely made subject to vanity. Understanding this verse will clarify for you Genesis 1:2, **“And the earth was without form, and void [that is vanity]....”** The Bullinger Companion Bible defines vanity as “disappointing misery.” Can you identify with me? Have you “been there, done that”?

Pay special attention in Romans 8:20, to the phrase following the words **“For the creature was made subject to vanity, NOT WILLINGLY....”** Let’s explore other Biblical translations:

**Rotherham:** “not by choice.”

**Knox:** “not for some deliberate fault of its own.”

**The New English Bible:** “not by its own choice.”

**Authorized Standard version:** “not of its own will.”

**Revised Standard version:** “not of its own will.”

**Jerusalem Bible:** “It was not for any fault of creation that it was unable to attain its purpose.”

**Moffatt:** “Creation was not rendered futile by its own choice, but by the will of Him Who thus made it subject, the hope being that creation as well as man would one day be freed from its thralldom [imposed slavery; Webster] to decay....”

All 20 of the other translations agree with the King James Version. The flesh nature is a prison. In the darkness of our “Cell” man condition, we were unable to see the Light until Jesus, the Captain of our Salvation, came to “open the prison doors and set the captives free.” The cross of Christ, at the place of the skull, was the key which opens the Cell door.

Remember: Jesus said, “**I go to prepare a place for you.**” The place He prepared was the Cross. Whosoever will can receive the benefits of His Cross will be released from Adam’s prison, by accepting Jesus as your Head in exchange for the carnal Adam head.

The Altar at the Tabernacle prefigured the Cross and illustrates graphically how man’s nature -- portrayed by the man who brought his animal sacrifice to the Priest at the Altar and gave “himself” in type into the hands of the Priest, to die -- dies to animal passions and flesh control. God’s provision was that man could “die” through substitution, yet live, but the new life was portrayed by the Anointed Priest.

The Pageant tells the story about each person’s True Life. Every person who made that act of death was then reckoned a part of the Priesthood who played the role of the Spirit Man. Therein lies the “Hope” spoken of by Paul in Roman 8:20; “**Him who hath subjected *the same* in hope.**”

The Hope or “Expectation” of God is that there will arise a corporate Priesthood (a corporate Spiritual Son) who comes to maturity (**Huios**) and will release all creation. **Huios** is the definitive Greek word for “mature Sons of God” described in verse 19 of Romans 8. The word **Huios** is translated “adoption” in verse 23. The very same word (**Huios**) is translated both “Sons” and “adoption” and is characterized as the hope of a travailing creation and also the expectation of the redemption of our bodies (Rom. 8:22-23). Nature’s hope is redemption from the curse -- God’s hope is for a matured family of Sons.

### **The Altar is the Place of Exchange.**

Do you see how important the Altar is? WOW! The tragedy is that religion, under the guise of Christianity, has changed the marvelous truth of the Altar (death to and release from the prison of the flesh) to “another gospel.” The “religious” altar is now a place of joining a denomination or dedication one’s life or one’s baby to God, or to a place of pledging.

Man’s carnal best falls pitifully short of God’s least requirement. The fact is that only Christ can meet God’s standard. That is why “Christ [the High Priest] in you is your only hope.” His requirement: “Give up your old life in order to experience His New Life.” Give up “Prison” for Priestly “Community Service.” You still won’t be independently free, but you will be fulfilling God’s Will and Purpose for mankind.

### **The Priest is who you “Am.”**

The Priest at the Tabernacle portrays the spiritual life of the Believer, in Christ. Your Spiritual Life in Christ is the truth about you. Every activity after the Altar (the Cross) was to prophesy, for the Holy Spirit, that the progressive steps toward the transforming experience of going “beyond the veil” (beyond the flesh) within the Holy of Holies (The Secret Place) was a “work in progress.”

Every facet of the Priest’s costume and every administration of his office is of important significance. But at this time I wish to focus our attention only on the “Breast Plate” of the High Priest. (Jesus, our High Priest)

The “Breast Plate” was worn upon the breast or we might say, upon the heart of the High Priest. This, in type-ology, is to teach us a truth about our High Priest, the Lord Jesus Christ. We are interconnected to His Heart. “The Breast Plate” was made up of twelve precious stones, set in four rows. There were three stones in each row. The order of the stones, a stone for each tribe, was the same order as their encampment, which we studied in Lesson 2.”

The stones on the Breast Plate, as well as the order of Israel’s encampment, was a type of Calendar. The first row was made up of Judah’s three, then Reuben’s three, then Ephraim’s three, and finally the bottom row of stones represented the three tribes in Dan’s camp. All 12 tribes, comprising 4 camps, collectively represented the Tabernacle as a composite in the heart of the High Priest.

It will help you to understand the “message” of the Breast Plate if you think of the stones as “birth stones.” Each stone not only characterized a personality trait and a ministry quality of each family or tribe, but connected each tribe to a sign in the heavens. Each sign represents a Lunar Month -- each month was represented by a stone -- each stone represented a month, a sign and a Son.

The signs in the stars are called in the Bible, “**Mazzaroth**” (Job 38:32). Mazzaroth is the English word Zodiac.

Abraham was told by the LORD to look toward heaven and see if you can number (sapher - interpret) the stars, “**So shall your ‘seed’ be**” (Genesis 15:5). Abraham’s descendants are associated with the message in the stars. Paul referred to the message in the stars in Romans 10:18 and connected the message of the Zodiac to the receiving of faith. Romans 10:18 is a quote from Psalms 19; “**The heavens declare the glory of God.**” Christ is the Glory of God. The heavens declare the message of Jesus the Christ.

This is a very complex and fascinating study, but I only wish to touch one aspect of it as it relates to the High Priest’s Breast Plate. I feel that this will help us understand the excitement we should experience as we see where we are today in God’s great and wonderful Plan for the reconciling of the earth to Himself and how we are involved.

The Zodiac is made up of twelve constellations of stars and each constellation has two supporting constellations, or two witnesses. In this study I only want to focus on four constellations. In Psalm 19:4 we are told that the constellations are as a “**Tabernacle for the Sun.**” From our view from earth, due to the earth’s rotation every 24 hours, we get the effect of the Sun going into a constellation “house” each evening and spending the night. In the twelve months of earth’s journey around the Sun, it gives the appearance that the Sun spends one month in each constellation house and visits all twelve during the year. We are all the “house” of the Son, each in our order.

There is a greater revelation to the message of faith in Jesus Christ given to us in the Stars. Astronomy verifies for us what the Bible has told us. Our entire galaxy, made up of our Sun, the Earth, Moon, and the Planets (the Bridegroom, the Bride, the Maid of Honor and the Bridesmaids) is moving in a “giant” circle. About every two thousand years our Sun and his court visits a different constellation. There are 12 constellations in our Zodiac, so to complete the journey requires approximately 24,000 years.

We know from Bible history that at the time of Adam, our galaxy was in the “house” of Taurus the Bull. We know during that 2,000 year era the Egyptians

and the Chaldeans and probably other nationalities worshiped idols of a Bull. (i.e. Israel made a golden Bull (calf) their memory of Egypt and their desire to go back. Do you know that it is psychologically more comfortable to go back to your old comfort zone than to push on to new Revelation?)

When, in the progression of time, the LORD God made covenant with Abraham, He introduced the Lamb (Ram). And when Israel came out of Egypt, it was the blood of the male Lamb which secured their redemption.” I must point out that it was the Death of the Lamb which by association allowed Israel to “die” to Egypt.

We know from Biblical chronology that it was about 2,000 years from Adam to Abraham. And from Abraham to Jesus was approximately 2,000 years. And we know that Jesus was introduced as the Lamb of God and that He died as the Lamb of God on Passover.

We know from Astronomy that about the time of Jesus’ death, our galaxy moved out of the house of Aries the Lamb, where the Church had been since Abraham, into the constellation of Pisces the Fish. The sign of the Church for 2,000 years has been “the Fish.” We have been in the sign of the Church and the Sign of Pisces for 2,000 years. (2,000 Laver years)

Right now, at this time, our galaxy is changing houses. We are moving into the constellation of Aquarius the water man. The water man, in the Star Maps, is the picture of a man pouring water out of a vessel, into the mouth of a large fish. I believe the Heavens declare the Glory of God and the earth showeth forth His handiwork. Can this be the mature Son pouring the Word out of his earthen vessel into the Fish?

I believe that the Holy Spirit has and is preparing a Church (Fish) who is enabled to receive the water of His Revelation.

I believe He is pouring out His Spirit (the Spirit of His Word -- the Spirit of the Word to be made flesh) upon all flesh. The true Church is finding the Spirit of His Word to be sweet in the mouth but grievous to the stomach; because this Word is causing birth pangs.

As Paul said in Romans 8:18, “**...the suffering [birth pains] of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.**”

More about the Stars later.

# PSALM 19

*Paraphrase:* (The Tabernacles of the Sun)

**T**he heaven(s) declare Christ, the glory of God.

**2** Day after day their message is proclaiming His message of salvation.

**3** There is no audible speech. The language is clear.

**4** The Message of their Inheritance went to all the peoples of the earth, with the announcement; you are the Tabernacle of the Son.

**5** Christ, the Son, is like a bridegroom coming forth from the Chuppah, the bridal canopy, every corpuscle in His Body anxious to consummate the union.

**6** There is no distance nor is there any hidden place where His Presence is not felt.

And just as the preciseness and the infinite accuracy of the movement of the Sun and stars, so is --

**7** The Law of Life of the LORD is perfect converting the independent nature of the Soul. The testimony of the dependability of the LORD's WORD is sure, giving wisdom to the simple.

**8** The Statutes or Precepts of the LORD are established in Righteous-

ness -- giving equality to the Soul in her new name. The Commandments, the Marriage Covenant, of the LORD is pure and undefiled and puts a brightness in the eyes.

**9** The Reverence for the LORD has the power to cleanse the consciousness and endures forever. The Redemptions of the LORD are true and absolutely Righteous.

**10** More to be desired are the Laws and the Testimonies and the Precepts and the Commandments and the Reverence and the Redemption than the riches of gold.

**11** Moreover by His very Nature, expressed as the Christ within, is His yielded Soul Mate enlightened and instructed. And in faithfulness is great reward.

**12** No one can fully understand His Presence in and to all the earth and the heavens, cleanse me from presumptuous speculations.

**13** LORD keep me from Man who presumes independent superiority. Let me not be placed under their rule. And keep me from their powerful influence.

**14** I pledge the words of my mouth and the contemplations of my heart be always acceptable to you, O LORD, my life and my redemption.

**R**

## THE ALTAR SUMMARY

Please understand that we today are not more intelligent, not smarter, nor anointed more than other generations. We are privileged to see things more clearly. It is due to the timing of God.

Jesus is The Way, The Truth, and The Life. To only know Him as the Way (illustrated by the Gate) is an "in part" message. The Way is the way to the Cross. (The Cross is illustrated by the Altar.) Organized religion has turned the Altar into a place of dedication, not a place of death. If there is no death, there is no severance of "what runs in my family," and I remain mortal.

Going to the Altar to "DIE" is not a popular message and does not draw large crowds. Going to the Altar to dedicate your life to live for Jesus is "another gospel." Going to the Altar to dedicate and re-dedicate -- trying harder to do more, to pray harder, and to give sacrificially -- appeals to the flesh and attracts the idealistic flesh. But going to the Altar to "DIE" to your flesh rule will allow Christ to be resurrected in you and live His Life through your redeemed humanity. The Altar shouts this message: "If you will die to your ability to live for God, Christ will live for God -- for you. Only Christ can express God. He in you is your Hope. He is God." This is the True Gospel.

Man was created to "image God." When you look into a mirror, the only thing the mirror can do is reflect the image in front of the mirror. The Spiritual Law of the Bible declares that only God can image God. And the Gospel of the Bible proclaims that Christ is God. He was the "Word that was with God in the beginning and was God in the beginning" (John 1:1). That is why Christ, the Word in you, is your Hope of Glory. That is why Christ is the only Hope of the world.

Every religion is the out growth of the teachings of a "good or great philosopher." Only Christianity presents the Life of the Resurrected Christ in exchange for you life -- His indwelling Life is the image of God.

The Altar requires death to the "individual ego driven ambition" to be like God. Only Christ can be like God -- for He is like God. The Altar demands the transference of personal choice and sovereign control over to The Invisible God.

The two Pageant players at the Altar (the Sinner and the Priest) provide us a moving picture account of how a person gives up the animal controlled life in order to be changed into a Spiritual Priest -- controlled by the Anointing of God. The Tabernacle is a graphic illustration of you as a Spiritual Priest articulating the Anointings of the Christ Life of your spirit.

The person giving up the Adam animal carnal flesh rule also gives up the controlling factors of the family genetic bondages as well. In exchange, through death to the mortal nature, the Resurrection Life of Christ is birthed. When you give up the natural family, your larger Spiritual Family becomes your support team and God is your Father.

At the Tabernacle Pageant, after the Altar “exchange,” the only player remaining is the Priest. A Priest is a person who represents the first born (the resurrection from the dead) status of every person; a Priest represents a person who is promised no earthly inheritance; he is God’s inheritance and God is his inheritance. A Priest is a person who goes before the Presence of God in behalf of others and goes before others in behalf of God.

A Priest is equipped by the Spirit of Christ’s Anointed Presence to live in two different worlds.

# THE ALTAR

(The place where you die in order to live.)

## *Practical Applications:*

Everything works by faith -- Everything is progressive -- Nothing is automatic. Faith is what you are responsible to do. The Blood Covenant established with Abraham was a co-equal responsibility. God is the Be-ing, you are the do-er of His Word.

The LORD has transferred and intrusted to you the operation of the Kingdom of Heaven in your life -- by Faith.

*“Rudy, please explain what this scripture, Galatians 2:20, means to you?”*

**“I am crucified with Christ [at the Cross]; nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me” (Gal. 2:20).**

*“Rudy, In your view, what am I saying when I say, ‘I am crucified with Christ’? Am I saying “I am” is crucified? (Is this the false “I am” belief that “I am separate from God” which died?) Is the Christ in me the higher understanding of my true righteous relationship to God? Did He become “one of us,” coming down to our level of understanding, and did HE physically die to show us that the “I am separated from God consciousness” must die? Was He showing us that it was necessary that the “I am separate Adam consciousness” must die? And was He showing us that we can join ourselves to Him through the act of pouring out the old Adam consciousness and accepting the New “I Am” identity? And is He saying that as a New Creation, joined to our Father, in Union Oneness, we are now an extension of the Life of our Father? The Truth is that I have been in Christ from the beginning, but has the carnal mind robbed me and made me blind to the Truth?”*

Dianne, These are provoking questions. Let me try to put it in my perspective. The “Old I,” the “I” we were subject to by natural birth (the earthy Adam nature), caused us to live subjected to the visible physical world. We were ruled by the five senses of our flesh nature and the very emotional Ego. To become a Spirit-ruled person -- joined to the Purposes of our Loving Spirit Father -- the old nature must die. Dying starts with a commitment to give up your will and replace it with God’s Will. That death functions as a process of giving up one flesh-ruled facet at a time and replacing it with a Godly Spirit quality. It is a walk -- proceeding one step at a time: giving up your will / accepting His Will -- giving up your ego / accepting His anonymity.

The “New I Am,” the new consciousness of Christ within, gives us the ability to live life with the same consciousness and desires as Our Lord Jesus Christ. He lived every day with the fixed awareness that God (El Elyon, the Most High) was His Father, and that His Father had sent Him into the physical world for a specific purpose. That exact same consciousness and attitude is ours, the “New I Am,” in Christ. **“I come to do thy will, O God”** (Hebrews 10:9).

Jesus’ Life was ruled by “this Spirit” of Sonship Oneness and Purpose. He was never governed by what He saw. His Faith was established on “Being the Son of God.” Our Faith must be the same as His Faith. It’s His Faith, but His Faith must become our Faith. His Faith does not automatically make you like Him. It is, as He said over and over, “It is **your faith** that makes you whole.”

**His Faith, as the Son of God --  
must become YOUR Faith, as a Son of God.**

It was the blood of Jesus, as the first Adam, which is the Door to our Salvation. Jesus, **“Who knew no sin** [separation],” willingly -- in the upper room during the Last Supper -- partook of the Passover Covenant, and was **“made... to be sin for us”** (2nd Cor. 5:21). Jesus was sinless. He demonstrated the power of Blood Covenant at the Passover Meal. He exchanged with the disciples His sinless nature and took their Adam sin nature. He did no act of sin to be made sin -- just as you do no act of righteousness to be made righteous. **“Christ is made unto you... righteousness** [of God]” (1st Cor. 1:30).

**Jesus took upon Himself the Adam blood (sin nature) from the disciples.**

It was the Adam blood -- poured out in death -- which broke the power of death. In His Resurrection, He proved that His Covenant with His Father was more powerful than death. He died -- not only as Adam -- but He also died as Christ to prove that our Father was faithful to His Word: **“For thou will not leave my soul in Hell** [the grave]” (Ps. 16:10). It was the blood of Adam which He presented to the Supreme Court in Heaven to prove that the “I am separate Adam consciousness” had died at the Cross. It is registered in Heaven’s Court that Adam is dead and the New Man Christ (in you) is alive -- forever more. The New Spirit Man uses the five senses, which had fed the flesh, to manifest the Covenant Word of God. His Word will become flesh in you and as you.

Your own voice and your own words become the creative power which divides the Light of Life from the darkness of “death.” It is imperative for you to agree with the Truth within “The Mind of Christ,” within you, and to dis-allow the carnal mortal mind and even the thoughts thereof. Jesus said, **“For by your words you shall be justified, and by your words you shall be condemned”** (Matt. 12:37).

“**Detachment**” is the key word, as we learn to walk in the Spirit -- as a Spirit person -- in the world, but not of the world. We must **detach** and **distance** our True Spirit self -- from the Ego self, which tends to lose its peace in human and personality conflicts.

We must learn, as a Christed Spirit person, to step back from every conflict, **detach** ourselves, and watch and learn and grow in the Spirit.

For instance, if you find yourself drawn into a disagreement where you want to defend your position -- detach and step back. Let the Spirit of Life rule. From your position of Spirit evaluate: “Here are two adults who are in disagreement.” Do not identify “yourself” as in the human conflict. Let your Spirit observe and grow. Learn to judge according to Spirit.

And since the Cross dealt with all past and all future “dis-ease” -- as an act of your spiritual faith -- you will find it helpful and healing to go back and “erase” hurtful events in your past, especially in childhood.

If you had a parent or teacher or even a friend who emotionally hurt you, embarrassed you, rejected you, didn’t support you, or “whatever” -- **detach** yourself from that memory scene. See the event as an adult or friend who was not pleased or confident with their own circumstances in life and tried to compensate by judging and hurting you or someone else. Then say to yourself, “Oh, thank you Lord for releasing me from human, fleshly insecurity and inferiority. Thank you for giving to me your confident righteousness. Thank you for helping me to discover who I Am, who I really Am.”

The Altar (the Cross) is the place where you go and by Faith, with Jesus, detach yourself from the human flesh related weaknesses and appropriate the strengths of the Anointed Christ in your Spirit.

This is the way Life will come forth out of death. We can no longer be double-minded. We must decide to be Spirit absolutely. The Spirit of the Anointing of Christ must be your Anointed Life. That’s how the Word (Christ) becomes manifested flesh.

**Lesson 3:**

- Introduction to Lesson 3 ■ The Brass Altar ■ The Priest, Altar, and Stars
- The Altar Summary ■ The Altar (Practical Applications)

*Your next lesson will be sent to you upon receipt of this completed questionnaire.*

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**THOUGHT PROVOKERS:** *(Please circle the corresponding letters to your answers)*

- 1. The word “Church” came from the Greek word *Ekklesia* and means:**
  - A. The Body of Christ B. The Chosen Generation
  - C. The Army of God D. The Corporate Priesthood
  
- 2. The Altar of Sacrifice was a place for:**
  - A. Exchanging Natures B. Dedication to God
  - C. Executing a Salt Covenant D. Death by Substitution
  
- 3. Priests were and are required to attend the appointment of the Altar:**
  - A. Yearly B. Three times in the year C. Daily D. Monthly D. Once
  
- 4. The Apostle Paul said, “I die \_\_\_\_\_.”**
  
- 5. Offering a Burnt Sacrifice meant:**
  - A. Life is futile
  - B. Asking God to “let the fire fall”
  - C. Commitment to being completely changed
  - D. Offering to be a Martyr
  
- 6. The The Altar was a raised up place and symbolizes:**
  - A. Ascension B. Place of Judgement
  - C. The Government of God D. Mountain
  
- 7. The word “Altar” in Hebrew is *Zabach*, #2076 Strong’s, and is defined as:**
  - A. to turn around B. to burn
  - C. to slaughter D. to conform
  
- 8. We welcome your Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
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