

Bible Class Ezekiel's Temple study Continued

Mortals in the Kingdom of God

January 30th 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters

As we read through the section of the book of Ezekiel, where the future Temple of the Lord is described, the first we realise that there are a mortal population living in the land of Israel is in chapter 42:14 *When the priests enter therein, ... they shall lay their garments wherein they minister; for they are holy; and shall put on other garments, and shall approach to those things which are for the people.* Here we see how priests have to change their clothes when in the proximity of “the people”, taking off their holy garments, and putting on other garments. This is part of a process to ensure there is segregation, a separation and sanctification in the Temple, so that the Glory of Yahweh which is manifest upon the Altar in the Most Holy Place, and will be seen from a distance, is not in any way corrupted by the presence of sin. It is a process which is designed to show a difference between clean and unclean.

As those who have been judged righteous at the judgement seat of the Messiah will have been given eternal life, and will be able to freely communicate and mingle with the angels, and to converse freely with God Himself, they are obviously not the ones who are unclean.

As we read further into these later chapters in Ezekiel's prophecy. We find out that animal sacrifices will be reinstituted in the Kingdom as well. In chapter 44 speaking of the priests who will be given the work in the Temple: 11 *Yet they shall be ministers in my sanctuary, having charge at the gates of the house, and ministering to the house: they shall slay the burnt offering and the sacrifice for the people, and they shall stand before them to minister unto them.*

Immortal people will need no priest, or minister, no sacrifice of offering, as they are one with God, they have become the Elohim.

This reinstitution of various sacrifices and offerings is there for “the people,” those who are still in need for covering for their sin, who need a Priest, and who need ministering for. As we read earlier in Ezekiel in chapter 18: 20: *The soul that sins it shall die.* Those who require a covering for sin, are sinners, therefore they will die. Therefore they are mortal.

Jesus said in Luke 20:35: *But they which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry, nor are given in marriage:*

But in Ezekiel 44 we read of these same priests :22 *Neither shall they take for their wives a widow, nor her that is put away: but they shall take maidens of the seed of the house of Israel, or a widow that had a priest before.*

This proves that these priests are not those who have been accounted worthy of eternal life, and have not “*obtained the world*”. These priests are mortal, are still therefore under probation and testing, and will be under the same dispensation we are under now, and subject to relationships which are of a temporary nature – such as marriage. This difference is made clear in the following verse: 23 *And they shall teach my people the difference between the holy and profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean.*

So we read in verse : 25 *And they shall come at no dead person to defile themselves: but for father, or for mother, or for son, or for daughter, for brother, or for sister that hath had no husband, they may defile themselves.*

This verse of course proves that there will be a mortal population in the Kingdom, as clearly it states here that there will be dead people in the Kingdom! Indeed we can read in Isaiah 65:20 in the NET for clarity: *Indeed, no one will die before the age of one hundred; anyone who fails to reach the age of one hundred will be considered cursed.* The context shows the prophet is talking about during the Kingdom.

It can be seen that during the Kingdom of God, there will be a Mortal population as well as an Immortal population. Two classes of people.

Who are these mortals?

They are those who are alive at the time of the return of the Lord Jesus, and who are not responsible to the judgements seat, because they either are not aware of the Gospel of Christ, or who do not understand it. None of this class of people – which will be billions of people – will die without being given the opportunity of learning about the Son of God, and to make the simple decision whether to ignore, rebel, or disobey the laws and commandments which will come forth from Jerusalem.

All nations will become subject to Christ. Even after the great wars of Armageddon, the suppression of the nations will continue for some time. Presidents and Prime Ministers and rulers with their military forces who do not meekly surrender and comply to the ultimatum from Jerusalem will be destroyed, but those who do, will lay down their crowns at the victors feet as Psalm 72:10 indicates: *The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring presents: the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts.*

Gradually there will be a change. We read of how nations no longer scoffing and disparaging of the Jew, Zechariah 8:23: *ten men will grab hold of the robe of him that is a Jew, and say we will go with you, because God is with you...* The nations will send hand-picked delegations in homage and respect, offering their alliance and allegiance to the newly enthroned King and world supremo.. *Yea, all kings shall fall down before him: all nations shall serve him.* The whole ruler class, all aristocracy, all the ruling elite, all men and women in power will be forced to resign, or face certain destruction, as their ways have been destructive, corrupt, self-serving, and violent, and so will face the same end, unless complete subservience and obedience is shown.

Discipline will be exercised upon all nations. This will be by the medium of a universal law. Jerusalem will be the centre of the world, as is made clear by reading these last chapters of Ezekiel - all will go up to worship, where the prophet describes a huge and vast house of worship will be constructed upon the ruins of Jerusalem, on a new elevated great plain, created by the massive earthquake. This will not just be used for worship, but also for the giving of a law. The authority will be the Scripture, the law which will go forth from Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. As Isaiah 2, reminds us: 1-3 *And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.*

One judgement and one law will apply to all, by Divine edict. Isaiah 11:4. *But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth:* The meek and the poor is not referring to the Immortal Saints. These will be given positions of authority and will replace the kings and

priests of this world, and will be Kings and Priests instead richly blessed with all power, ruling over the nations. The poor and meek refers to the mortal population who repent, and are docile, submissive to the iron rule of purity and true justice. The poor will no longer be oppressed, and taken advantage of; guidelines and edicts will not be a random hotchpotch of faceless bureaucrats, differing from state to state, and nation to nation, laws which are ultimately designed to line their own pockets and secure their own power, but in contrast Psalm 72: 4: *He shall judge the poor of the people, he shall save the children of the needy, and shall break in pieces the oppressor.* Who is this lawgiver, but the King, Jesus Christ, *it is he who will judge the world with a rod of iron* (Psalm 2).

All mortal peoples will be required to attend the house of prayer at least once a year, as a minimum, an international confluence of representatives of every people for the Feast of Tabernacles or Booths. (Zechariah 14:16-19) But Isaiah adds in 66:23. *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.* Showing other visits will be a regular occurrence, pilgrimages will be very much part of everyday life in the Kingdom. If nations refuse not to worship and go to Jerusalem, they will have no rain, and suffer severe drought as a result. Egypt which doesn't have much rain anyway will receive a nasty plague – (see Zechariah 14:17-18)

The 14th chapter of the Revelation describes a global education program *the everlasting gospel being preached unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people.* Villages and towns across the globe will be overflowing with happiness as a result, of the spiritual lessons and teaching and preaching that the saints of Christ will instigate teachings from the law, the psalms and the prophets, teachings from the Apostles, and teachings from the faithful martyrs of Jesus, to love God with all their heart soul and mind, and their neighbour as themselves. Regular scripture study will pull different communities together; worship will be weekly, monthly, annually. It will be worldwide, and regular. One basis, one foundation and one common ground. Every town, city, and nation will be fully committed to the new world order. What will be the most thrilling, will be to witness, to experience the world- as one - moved to praise God. To observe true global unity. To be able to stop and greet and chat, to anyone, anywhere, at any time on the street corner and to talk frankly and with understanding, with zeal and gladness, with no compulsion, of the holy things of the word, to hear people moved to say *Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the*

Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: all will honour and respect the name of the Lord from the least to the greatest. Psalm 72: 17 -19. His name shall endure for ever: his name shall be continued as long as the sun: and men shall be blessed in him: all nations shall call him blessed. Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things. And blessed be his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled with his glory; Amen, and Amen!