

THE WORD OF GOD

PART III – THE FINAL CHAPTER

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Let us continue this word where we left off in our last article. “The Logos” in Scripture refers only to Jesus Christ Our Lord himself. In our last article we spoke of, “The Body of Christ becoming the Logos.” I trust that my readers did not believe I was saying that we are going to dispossess Jesus Christ, but rather that we will possess Him as he will possess us. We as individuals, or we as groups, or we even as the whole Body of Christ on earth, can only hope to be a part of HE WHOM IS CALLED CHRIST. This is clearly stated in Ephesians.

Ephesians 4:15 “But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

4:16 “From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.”

Christ then, has three manifestations: (1) Pre-Advent (2) Advent (3) Post-Advent.

Before the appearance of Christ as the babe in Bethlehem, or shall we say the manifestation of the Logos in flesh, Christ made several appearances to men like Moses and Abraham. Let me give you two of many examples:

Genesis 18:1-5 & 8

18:1 “And the LORD appeared unto him in the plains of Mamre: and he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day;

18:2 “And he lift up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood by him: and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground,

18:3 “And said, My Lord, if now I have found favour in thy sight, pass not away, I pray thee, from thy servant:

18:4 “Let a little water, I pray you, be fetched, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree:

18:5 "And I will fetch a morsel of bread, and comfort ye your hearts; after that ye shall pass on: for therefore are ye come to your servant. And they said, So do, as thou hast said.

18:6 "And Abraham hastened into the tent unto Sarah, and said, Make ready quickly three measures of fine meal, knead it, and make cakes upon the hearth.

18:7 "And Abraham ran unto the herd, and fetch a calf tender and good, and gave it unto a young man; and he hasted to dress it.

18:8 "And he took butter, and milk, and the calf which he had dressed, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree, and they did eat."

This appearance of Christ to Abraham is one of the most amazing in the Scriptures. He not only appeared as a normal human being with a body, but he allowed Abraham to wash his feet, thus feeling his body, then he allowed him to make a meal and he ate. Of course, unlike a human being or an angel he allowed Abraham to worship him and to call him "*my Lord*" and to refer to himself as "*thy servant*". Let us continue to look into the appearance of Christ on earth before his coming in Bethlehem.

The following passage tells us of the appearance of Christ to Moses when he saw the back of Christ walking away from him.

Exodus 33:18 "And he said, I beseech thee, shew me thy glory."

33:19 "And he said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy.

33:20 "And he said, Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live.

33:21 "And the LORD said, Behold, there is a place by me, and thou shalt stand upon a rock:

33:22 "And it shall come to pass, while my glory passeth by, that I will put thee in a clift of the rock, and will cover thee with my hand while I pass by:

33:23 "And I will take away mine hand, and thou shalt see my back parts: but my face shall not be seen."

As I have said before, these are only two of very many appearances of Christ before his advent as a babe born of Mary in Bethlehem of Judea.

Let us now look into two examples of his **Post-Advent** appearance of which also there are many.

Luke 24:36 "And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

24:37 "But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit.

24:38 "And he said unto them, *Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts?*

24:39 "Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.

24:40 "And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet."

Here we see Christ appearing in his natural body after his resurrection. The next appearance of the Christ then, which matters in this progression of His appearing is that **WITHIN HIS BODY**. The Spiritual Body of Christ must show forth Christ even as his natural body was a vehicle for God to show himself to His people. God told Moses that he could not see His face and live, and that no man could see His face and live, thus He shows us himself through Jesus Christ our Lord. This appearance began at Pentecost as was ordained of God:

Acts 2:

2:1 "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

2:2 "And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

2:3 "And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

2:4 "And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."

The same Holy Ghost who was in Jesus Christ had now entered into the individual members of the Church even as He was in Christ Jesus himself. This therefore, was the beginning of the coming of the Logos within the Body, and this also is the meaning of Matthew 16:28, which states:

Mat. 16:28 "Verily I say unto you, *There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom.*"

THE CANDLESTICK OPERATION:

The picture of Christ in his kingdom functioning as a unit, is the picture of the Candlestick of the Holy Place in the Tabernacle. Christ and His body must eventually function as one man with one head directing one body. This promise has been attested to directly or indirectly by all the prophets. Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel all agree in the words of their prophecy with Paul who quoted the fulfillment of Christ in Hebrews 8:8. Let us read Jeremiah 31:31 & 33:

Jeremiah 31:31 "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:

31:32 "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:

31:33 "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."

The Law of God in the inward parts is the coming of the Holy Ghost within who dispenses the Christ into the human soul (innermost being).

Let us look at the picture in John's vision in the Revelation; the picture of Christ and the Church as one entity.

Revelation 1:10 "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,

1:11 "Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.

1:12 "And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks;

1:13 "And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.

1:14 "His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire;

1:15 "And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.

1:16 "And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp two edged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength."

After looking at this picture the casual observer will quickly come to the conclusion that this is Jesus Christ. Since we are not casual, let us look at this picture in depth.

Every Bible student will agree that the Candlestick of the Lampstand is the type of the whole church. There are many references in Scripture to the "seven lamps" which means the Menorah with its seven lamps, but one stand.

In the midst of the Lampstand or better interpreted as in the middle one of these lamps "One like unto the Son of man". Let us look into the word to find the meaning of the Candlesticks and the lamps.

Revelation 1:20 "The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels (messengers) of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches."

The lamps then representing the churches would mean that the center lamp with the Son of man (Jesus himself) being a part of it would be one of the churches. This picture must absolutely agree with Scripture before it can be accepted as truth. It must more than just agree with the plan of God in our opinion, but is must agree with his nature.

2 Thessalonians 1:10 "When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day."

This scripture speaks of Christ coming in His saints. The Logos within the human being.

John 14:17 "Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you."

In Matthew 25 the story of the ten virgins clearly points to the fact that a part of the church will be possessed of the Christ and be in perfect peace and happiness, while another part of the church will be outside in the darkness seeking for oil to light their lamps.

Matthew 25:10 "And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut."

There is another scripture in Matthew 24 which speaks of a separation in the church. We will not go into the details of these words but just mention these scriptures in order to prove that the Christ will come forth in a part of the church while the other part will be in tribulation. This of course is the picture we see in the Candlestick in Revelation 1 with the feet as if it were burned in "fire and the head white," the head of the Christ standing in the midst of the seventh church.

Finally in order not to make this word too long, let us read this word from the Apostle John as Jesus speaks to his disciples:

Let us look at the other attributes of this center candlestick which John saw in his vision:

- (1) LIKE THE SON OF MAN
- (2) CLOTHED FULLY
- (3) GOLDEN GIRDLE
- (4) HAIR WHITE AS SNOW
- (5) EYES AS FLAMES OF FIRE

- (6) FEET AS FINE BRASS BURNED IN AN OVEN
- (7) VOICE OF MANY WATERS
- (8) RIGHT HAND SEVEN STARS
- (9) OUT OF MOUTH SHARP TWO EDGED SWORD
- (10) COUNTENANCE AS THE SUN SHINING IN HIS STRENGTH.

(1) LIKE THE SON OF MAN:

Daniel 7:13-14 “I saw in the night visions, and, behold one like the son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. And there was given him DOMINION, and glory and a kingdom, that all people, nations and languages, shall serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.”

The question that this passage raises is, who is “*one like the son of man*,” and who is the “*Ancient of days*”. The picture we see in ‘Revelation One’ is that the one standing in the midst of the candlestick (lampstand) is like the Son of man. You will notice as we go on that there are dual characteristics of this person; he will look like the Christ in some descriptions and like the church’ in others; the reason for this being that he is both. The Ancient of days in Daniel 7 is Christ Jesus himself, and the “*one like the son of man*” is the church ‘with Christ as its head.’

Daniel 7:27 “And the dominion and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom and all dominions shall serve and obey HIM.”

Take note that this passage agrees with the one we read before, that the kingdom and the dominion will be given to the saints, except that in the first passage the dominion was given to ‘*one like the Son of man*’, and in this passage it merely says “*the saints*”. There is no difference in what these two passages are saying – note that the last passage speaks of the saints as “*HIM*”. At that point in the development of the church we will be one man; one “*NEW MAN*” and our head will be Christ Jesus himself.

(2) CLOTHED FULLY:

Clothes in scripture represent righteousness:

Isaiah 64:6 "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away."

(3) GOLDEN GIRDLE :

Leviticus 8:7 "And he put upon him the coat, and girded him with the girdle, and clothed him with the robe, and put the ephod, upon him, and he girded him with the curious girdle of the ephod, and bound it unto him therewith."

There were two types of girdle, one worn over the breast by the priest, and the other commonly worn around the waist for obvious reasons. In this rendition we are reading of a girdle made of gold instead of linen around the chest as priests would wear. The girdle covers the vital organs of the chest and binds the ephod to the wearer. Gold is the nature of God, and for one's vital organs to be covered by God's Divine nature is having the perfect cover, in the Spirit.

(4) HAIR WHITE AS SNOW:

His hair is described as woolen and white as snow. This has three basic meanings –

- a. Woolen points to the sacrificial lamb,
- b. White as snow is the absoluteness of whiteness and purity,
- c. White suggests maturity – a matured body with a matured head,
"When he shall appear we shall be like him..." I John 3:2

(5) EYES AS A FLAME OF FIRE:

When the church comes together under the headship of Christ, then the world will be judged. The image we are seeing is that of the "Manchild" church, (Rev. 12:5) who is to rule the world with a shepherd's staff made of iron.

(6) FEET AS FINE BRASS BURNED IN AN OVEN :

I can describe this in seven words – 'The church is going through the tribulation.' Just as an erring child needs the rod, so does the church need the

tribulation. The tribulation upon the church will be the greatest blessing since Pentecost.

Daniel 12:1 "And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book."

(7) VOICE OF MANY WATERS:

This is the voice of the church:

Revelation 19:6 "And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth."

(8) RIGHT HAND SEVEN STARS:

In Revelation I and verse 20 there is an explanation of the seven stars:

Rev. 1:20 "....The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches:"

The word in the Greek for 'angel' is "aggeloi" which means 'messengers'. It is applied to human messengers as well as spirit messengers. In Luke 7 and verse 24 the word refers to the messengers of John as 'aggelon'. In James 2:25 the word messengers 'aggelous' is used to describe Caleb and Joshua, the two spies who Rahab hid when they were sent to spy out the promised land.

From these references we can see then that the word angel used in scripture does not always denote a spirit being from heaven, but sometimes it refers to human beings by context. The context from the passage under review tells us that the Christ standing in the center church has seven messengers, in his right hand means, they are under his control. These messengers could not be spirit beings, because God ordains men to be set over churches and not spirits. There is one church that I know which say they have a spirit presiding over them, and they do not even believe in salvation by the Blood of Jesus Christ, which in itself disqualifies not only them from being part of God's church, but also their spirit from being one of God's spirits.

The table of showbread in the Tabernacle is made of wood, but covered over with gold. This signifies that God has ordained men to feed men, but His ministers are covered over by His divine nature.

(9) OUT OF MOUTH SHARP TWO EDGED SWORD:

Revelation chapter 19 and verses 13-15 fully explain this phrase:

Rev. 19:13 “And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called the Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp two edged sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron; and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.”

We see the LOGOS coming out of heaven with the sharp two edged sword coming forth from his mouth. This of course is, the power of the spoken word coming from his mouth, with which he will bring judgment to the world. Is this Logos different from the Logos of John 1:1? The answer is no, but only that there is something different about him. One of the identifying phrases in describing him is “.....and he shall rule them with a rod of iron.”

This passage gives us the full identification of who and what is the full difference between the Logos of John 1 and the Logos of Revelation 19:

Revelation 12:5 “And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron:”

“She” the church brought forth a man child. Let us not be confused by Biblical terminology. The travail of the church in the tribulation will allow Christ to complete his incorporation of the church; but to be more specific let me say that the “Manchild” is the seventh church in which Christ will come forth as the head at midnight (Mat.25:6) and will reign and rule in the earth during the Millennium.

(10) COUNTEINANCE AS THE SUN SHINING IN HIS STRENGTH:

Matthew 13:43 “Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their father.”

Here again we see the church and the Christ showing forth the same attributes. Jesus said, “I am the light of the world,” then he said, “Ye are the light of the world.”

