

YOUR COVENANT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD by Sam Fife

Neh 8:1 And all the people gathered themselves together as one man into the street that *was* before the water gate; and they spoke unto Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded to Israel. 2 And Ezra the priest brought the law before the congregation both of men and women, and all that could hear with understanding, upon the first day of the seventh month. 3 And he read therein before the street that *was* before the water gate from the morning until midday, before the men and the women, and those that could understand; and the ears of all the people *were attentive* unto the book of the law.

Those that are hearing from heaven in this hour, know that this is God's great hour of restoration. They know that it is the hour in which He is fulfilling the prophecies that came through the prophet, Joel, long ago. Wherein God spoke and said, "Behold, I will restore that which the cankerworm hath eaten." They know it is the hour in which He is fulfilling the scripture in Acts 3, where He spoke through Peter and said, "Jesus must remain in the heavens till the time of restitution, or restoration of all things, that God has spoken through the mouths of the holy prophets since time began."

They know that this is the hour in which He is fulfilling all the great truths in the books of Ezra, Nehemiah, Zechariah, Haggai, and Malachi, which we call the restoration books in the Bible. These books are called the restoration books in the Word of God, because they contain the record of the restoration of Old Testament Israel from their captivity to Babylon. And not only that, but they contain the record of the restoration and the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem. And not only that, but they contain the record of the restoration and the rebuilding of the temple of the Lord.

What makes these restoration books so important to us today, is because the restoration of Old Testament Israel's captivity from Babylon, is only a type and a revelation and a prophecy, of the restoration of New Testament Israel, from that eighteen hundred years of captivity they have been in to Babylon. Since eighteen hundred years ago after the first century of Christianity, when because, like Old Testament Israel, the people of the New Testament church turned away from their God, and from the word of their God, and from that divine order that Jesus had brought. And because they did so, they lost the anointing and the power of God. Thus the demons of hell swept in. And when they took the gifts of the Spirit out of the church, they tore down the walls of Jerusalem, its gates were burned by the fire of God's judgment.

That divine order that Jesus was setting His New Testament Temple in was scattered and separated into a thousand sects and schisms, until you can not find two lively stones to lay one on top of the other and make them stay there.

Then God's people were taken down into eighteen hundred years of Babylonish captivity. Captivity to a naturalistic Babylonish system of Christianity, that says, let us build a million dollar hospital, and hire a bunch of atheistic, unborn again doctors to minister to the sick of Israel, and say we are having a great healing ministry for the Lord Jesus Christ. Captivity to a naturalistic, Babylonish, Baalistic system of Christianity which says, let us send the demon possessed off to the secular psychiatrist, who does not even know our God and our Jesus, and proclaim that we are fulfilling the great commission of Him who said, "Go, and preach the gospel to every nation. These signs shall follow them that believe: in my name they shall cast out the devils, themselves, they shall speak in new tongues, they shall have authority over every deadly thing, and they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover."

The restoration and the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem were only a type of, and a prophecy of, that great restoration movement today, in which God is restoring and rebuilding the walls of the New Jerusalem.

In order to understand that fully, God's people need to know and understand what the New Jerusalem is. Today most of God's people are so carnal and fleshy in their understanding of the Word of God, that they think the New Jerusalem is some physical city out beyond space somewhere. But the Bible reveals that we, the church, are God's New Jerusalem. For twice in Revelation, chapter 21, which is that great chapter that describes the New Jerusalem, twice there the New Jerusalem is called the Bride of Christ. In verse 2, John said, "I saw the New Jerusalem descending down from heaven adorned as a bride prepared for her husband." Then in verses 9 and 10, the angel said to John, "come up hither and let me show you the Lamb's bride." And in verse 10, John says, "he carried me away in the spirit into a high mountain and showed me the New Jerusalem."

Therefore, we see that twice in Revelation chapter 21, the Bible calls the New Jerusalem the Bride of Christ. If we know anything at all about the Bible, we know that many other places in the New Testament, the Bible also calls us who are the church the Bride of Christ. Well, dear friends, there are not two brides of Christ revealed in the Scripture. The Bible does not make Christ a bigamist. If the Bible says the New Jerusalem is the Bride of Christ, and it also says that we the church are the Bride of Christ, then the simple truth is that the two are synonymous. The church is the New Jerusalem, and the New Jerusalem is the church, having been brought to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that the nature of Christ, which is the nature of God, is in us in the fullness, and God will be dwelling in His Holy City.

Not only do we need to know that the church is the New Jerusalem, we also need to understand that the walls of the New Jerusalem are the Gifts of the Spirit. For we are also told in Revelation, chapter 21, that the walls are garnished with all manner of precious stones. Those who know the symbolism of Scripture, in the mystery of Jesus Christ, know that precious stones are symbolic of the supernatural Gifts and Operations of the Spirit of God. In the symbolism of Scripture, gold is symbolic of the nature of God. Since gold is the perfect metal and cannot be tarnished, so God's nature is perfect and cannot be tarnished.

Silver is symbolic of the redemptive works of Christ. Silver is the metal that is second in value unto gold, so Christ is the second person of the God-head. Precious stones when you find them in the Scripture, are symbolic of the Gifts of the Spirit, supernatural Gifts and Operations of the Spirit of God. Those twelve precious stones that garnish the walls of the New Jerusalem are listed in Revelation, chapter 21, the sardius, the amethyst, the emerald, the topaz, etc. When you look back, in the book of Numbers in the Scripture, you will find those same twelve precious stones were placed in two places on the High Priests garment. First, they were placed on the head, and then they were placed on the breastplate of righteousness, upon the High Priests garment.

Now we were told all of our orthodox life, that the Old Testament High Priest was a type of Jesus, who is the head of the Body of Christ, but the body of that Old Testament High Priest was a type of you and I, who are the Body of Christ. The reason that those twelve precious stones were placed on the head of that High Priest, was to typically proclaim that all the supernatural Gifts and Operations of the Spirit of God, would be working in Jesus, the head of the Body of Christ, while He was here in the flesh, nineteen hundred years ago. But the reason those same twelve precious stones are placed on the breastplate of righteousness, on the body of the High Priest, was to proclaim to us today that it is through the operation of the supernatural Gifts and Operations of the Spirit of God, that we are going to come to that perfect righteousness of which the breastplate of righteousness was a type.

Now let me give it to you another way. Old Testament Israel had a wall around their city, the old Jerusalem, also. And it was a physical wall, great and high. What was it for? It was to protect them from the enemy. Old Testament Israel needed a physical wall around their city, for their enemies were physical enemies, the Philistines, the Jebusites, the Amorites, etc. But you see, in this New Testament age, the age of the Spirit, we who are New Testament Israel according to the Spirit, do not need a physical wall around us, because our enemies are not physical enemies, but spiritual enemies, demon

spirits. For Ephesians 3:12 in the New Testament says, we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world. Therefore, a physical wall around our city would not do us any good. For our enemy is not a physical enemy, but a spiritual enemy, demon spirits. A physical wall around a physical city would not keep our enemy out, because demon spirits are spirit and they do not care about the walls. They can go right through them. But when God has restored the Gifts of the Spirit to the church, yea, when He has perfected the Word of Knowledge so that we will have knowledge of our enemy, supernaturally through the Spirit, when He has perfected the Word of Wisdom, by which we will have the wisdom to use that knowledge effectively. Yea, and perfected the Gifts of Healing, and Gifts of Miracles to deal with the afflicting work of demons, and then go on to perfect Prophecy, Tongues and Interpretation, which is given to build up our faith, so that we will have the power of God to defeat our enemy. And then perfect the Gift of Discerning of Spirits, and bring them all to an orderly operation in the church of Jesus Christ, then we will throw up a wall against the demons of hell, wherein no demon, no sickness, no suffering, no sorrow, can ever get to us again.

For you see, we are in the hour of God's great restoration, the hour in which He's restoring New Testament Israel from our captivity to Babylon. The hour in which He is restoring and building up again the walls of Jerusalem. The hour in which He is relaying the foundation of the Temple of the Lord, and restoring the Davidic ministry of apostles and prophets. The hour in which He is rebuilding again the true Temple of the Lord, which temple we are. For you see, that Old Testament physical Temple and Tabernacle which old Israel built, was only a type and a shadow, and a prophecy of God's Holy Spiritual Temple today. That is why the apostle Paul says in I Corinthians 3, that in this New Testament age that we are the Temple of God. That is also why Ephesians 2:19-22 says we are being built upon the foundation of apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ being the chief cornerstone, into a Holy Temple of the Lord.

And just as surely as God brought a remnant up out of captivity to Babylon, in the days of Ezra and Nehemiah, and restored and rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem, and restored and rebuilt the Temple of the Lord, so just that surely all across the world today, God is calling by His Spirit, a remnant out of Babylon. Bringing them back to the New Jerusalem, a spiritual Jerusalem. As He restores the Gifts of the Spirit He is restoring and rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem. And as He purges all the division and sectarianism that is in us, also denominationalism, and step by step restores us to that divine order, that Jesus was setting His Temple in, in the first century, He is rebuilding the Temple of the Lord today.

But as we continue to study the restoration move of God, in the books of Ezra and Nehemiah, we see that the restoration and rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem was not the most important aspect of God's restoration move. For the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem was not the purpose of God for Israel, it was just something that needed to be done in order that they might have protection from their enemies, while God was fulfilling His purpose in them. Even so, the rebuilding of the Temple of the Lord was not the purpose of God for Israel, for the Temple only needed to be rebuilt, that God might restore its furniture to it, and restore that divine order of worship, that had been there in the beginning, so God could go on and fulfil His purpose in Israel. For God's purpose for Israel was not just to have an empty temple built in the city of Jerusalem, to His glory or not even just to have some beautiful pieces of furniture in it, neither just have the Shekinah Glory of God fill it, when it was completely built. For that Shekinah Glory that filled old Israel's Temple was only a type and a prophecy of the true Glory and Life of God that shall fill the true Temple today when God has finished building it. Therefore, God's purpose for Israel in restoring and rebuilding the Temple, and filling it with the Shekinah Glory of God was just to use them to set before the world a great type, and shadow and prophecy, of the day in this New Testament age when God would rebuild the walls of the true Jerusalem, draw us together and make us one body in Christ, and rebuild the true Temple of the Lord. Then fill this Temple today with the very life of God Himself.

Even so, we see today that the purpose of God for us is not to just bring us out of Babylon, out of the Babylonish organization.

Neither is it the purpose of God for us just to restore the walls of Jerusalem and Gifts of the Spirit and stop there, as many Pentecostal brethren have done. Neither is the rebuilding of the Temple of the Lord the most important aspect of restoration for us today. For it is not just the purpose of God to draw us together and make us one body, one church, nay, for then all we would have would be an empty temple. Neither is it the purpose of God to set us back into that divine order alone, that the furniture was set in, in the Old Testament Temple. These are only the things that must be done so God can take us on to His true purpose for us. For the true purpose of God for us, is to fill this Temple today with the pure, perfect, holy, powerful, life of Jesus Christ, which is the life of God Himself.

Therefore, after the walls were rebuilt in Jerusalem, and the work of the Temple was progressing well, the children of the remnant of Israel began to move into the more important aspects of the restoration. The first of which was to call upon all the priests and the princes, and the people of Israel, to put away their strange wives that they had married while they were in captivity. For you see, while they were down in captivity, many of the men of Israel had committed abomination, that abominable thing that God had said that Israel must not do when He placed them in their promised land. And that is that they had taken themselves wives from the women of the nations about them. Therefore, when the remnant came back into the land it was not the pure seed of Israel that came back, but it was a mixture, and God can never fulfil His eternal purpose with a mixture. So the anointed ministries that were leading the remnant sent out word to all the priests and the princes of Israel, and all the men of Israel, that they must put away their strange wives that Israel might be purified. That only the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, might live before God.

And as the Spirit of God continues to lead us into the more important aspects of restoration today, you are going to find the Spirit of God calling upon us to put away all our strange wives that we married while we were down in captivity to Babylon. Of course I'm not speaking in the literal, and in the letter, because I do not believe those great types that we have in the Old Testament are to be fulfilled in us in the New Testament age in the literal, and in the letter, but in the Spirit. And therefore, I'm not saying that if a child of Israel today, man or woman, has married one who is not a Christian, a born again child of Israel, that in order to be in this glorious remnant they have to divorce their companion. But what God is calling us to by His Spirit is to put away our strange wives spiritually. For what the children of the remnant of Israel need to realize today is that when God speaks a word, he speaks a Spirit word. And when you find the term marriage in the Scripture it is speaking only of a union. And with God it doesn't matter whether that union is with a person, or with a thing or with an idea, it is still a marriage to God.

Many of us who are coming up out of Babylon today, while we were there in captivity have joined ourselves to many things, and many purposes instead of just our true husband Jesus Christ and the eternal purpose that God has for us. Therefore, let me say to the children of the remnant today, that whatever you find yourself joined to, that interferes with your bride-bridegroom relationship with your true husband Jesus Christ, whether it be your business, or your church, or your home, or many other things which you find taking a piece of your heart and your life, it is a strange wife to you, and it is time to put it away.

Many a preacher today is married to his ministry. Joined in union with only his ministry. His ministry fills his life, and he is more concerned about what is going to happen to his ministry, than his relationship with his true husband. When his true husband, Jesus, speaks true revelation to him, by the Spirit of God, he doesn't judge on the basis of whether it is truth or not, or whether it is a revelation of the Holy Ghost or not, but the first thought that comes to his mind, is, if I preach this how will it affect my ministry? If I preach this how will it hinder my ministry? If I preach this will it separate me from my ministry? Preachers, receive a word of wisdom. You had better realize that in this New Testament age you don't have a ministry, and I don't have a ministry, Christ has a ministry. Christ alone has a ministry through His body in this New Testament age. And your ministry has become a strange wife to you. It is separating you from your true husband, and the voice of your true husband, and you had better put it away. Many a

woman today, her natural husband has become a strange wife to her spiritually, for she set him before her true husband, Jesus Christ. She cannot walk in Jesus as He calls her to, or follow the calling He has upon her life, because her natural husband stands in the way. If this be so, he has become a strange wife, and though we don't mean put him away literally and physically nevertheless, he had better be put in the place behind Jesus, the true husband, where he is supposed to be, if she would continue to dwell in Israel. Otherwise the anointing of God will depart from her and the leadership of the Spirit of God would depart from her, and she will be separated from this holy remnant that God is purifying in the land today.

Many a man, his natural wife has become a strange wife to him, in as much as he has put her before his true husband Jesus, for he is a part of that holy Bride that is waiting for the coming of the Bridegroom. Yea, and if he doesn't put her in her place behind Jesus, then the anointing will also depart from him, the leadership of the Spirit of God will depart from him, and he also will find himself separated from the holy remnant in the land that God is purifying today.

There is many a preacher that has put his natural wife between him and his true husband, Jesus, and she has become a strange wife to him in the spirit. And unless he places her in her true position the anointing of the Spirit of the Lord will depart from him also and he will find himself separated from the pure seed of Israel that God has brought back into the land and is purifying in this hour. Homes, businesses, cars, bank accounts, relationship with denominations that are still held on to, many of these things are strange wives that the remnant of Israel have become married to while they were down in Babylon. And in this hour when God is purifying His remnant and bringing forth the holy seed in the land to fulfil His eternal purpose through, again it is time to put away our strange wives.

Then the children of Israel began to move into the next most important aspect of restoration. The anointed restoration ministries began to go back, and search out the genealogy of all those that had come up in the remnant, to see who had been born of a marriage between an Israelitish man, and an Israelitish maiden, or who was the child of an abominable marriage between an Israelitish man, and a woman of one of the nations round about. Even so, beloved, in these last days we are going to find the Spirit of God, with the word of truth, searching deep into our genealogies, and going back into our spiritual ancestry, right back to the day of our birth, to see who is a pure seed of Israel, born of a union between a ministry that Christ has been moving through in the anointing, and a church congregation, a bride, a woman who is moving in the anointing, or who has just been run through the baptismal waters, in an unholy union between a preacher who is just seeking converts. A preacher who is just seeking spiritual scalps to hang on his spiritual belt. A preacher who is just seeking to mark up the number of people that he baptized, and a church congregation, a woman who is not anointed, but who is only seeking to get members for its church, and more tithe in the tithing plate. And therefore, the Spirit of God with the word of truth in these last days, is going to search out everyone's genealogy. And everyone who has not been born a pure seed of Israel, with a supernatural new birth, come forth as a result of the union between a ministry moving in the anointing of Christ, and a congregation that is anointed so that a true soul is born into the kingdom, all those who are not the child of such a marriage are going to be separated from the great move of God, and from the remnant of Israel.

For if they are not a pure seed of Israel, brought forth through such a marriage, the message, Let Us Go On To Perfection, will not be received by them. There will be no Spirit of Christ and no anointing, to witness to them that it can be done and they will be separated and go their way. Only those that are the pure seed of Israel will remain in that pure remnant, that God has brought back into the land.

Then after the genealogies have been searched out, the children of Israel began to move into the most important aspect of the restoration move of God, and that was the renewing of their covenant with their God. Because, not only did God raise up a Zerubbabel to lead the remnant out of Babylon, not only did He raise up anointed leaders to lead them into the restoring of the walls of Jerusalem and the rebuilding of the Temple, but the Bible tells us that God also brought up out of Babylon ready scribes, who were

learned in the law of their God, Ezra and Nehemiah, to gather the children of Israel before the Lord in Jerusalem, and to re-teach them their covenant, that they might renew their covenant with their God.

For you see, the children of the remnant that came up out of Babylon, did not even know that they were a covenant people, in covenant relationship with God. And the reason that they did not know this was because they had been born down in Babylon. Their parents that bore them had been too busy trying to get along with their Babylonish slave masters and trying to make themselves attractive to their Babylonish lovers, that they did not have time to teach their children that they were people that were separated from all the people of the earth, and a people that had been brought under a covenant relationship with their God.

Now the children of Israel, the children of the remnant, had been in captivity to Babylon for 70 years. Therefore except for a few ancient gray heads, just about all the children of the remnant who had come up out of Babylon, had been born there. And their mothers that bore them were spending all their time trying to get along with their Babylonish slave masters, and making themselves attractive to their Babylonish lovers. Therefore they were too busy with this to sit down and teach the children that they had birthed, that they the people of Israel were a separate people, that they were a covenant people, that they were a people in covenant relationship with their God. Therefore, the remnant came up out of Babylon and never even knew that they had a covenant with their God. And if they had they wouldn't have known what the covenant was. What its terms and conditions were, neither what it meant to them.

And so one of the most important necessities of the restoration movement was for God to anoint ready scribes who were learned in the covenant of their God. Ezra and Nehemiah, who gathered the children of Israel to Jerusalem day after day, began to re-teach them their covenant, that they might renew their covenant with their God. For you see it was because their fathers had not walked in their covenant with their God, and had not kept their covenant, that they had gone down into captivity to Babylon in the first place. Therefore, the most important aspect of the restoration was that the children of Israel might renew their covenant with their God, and walk in their covenant again. Because even if they rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem, and even if they rebuilt the Temple of God, laid every stone in its place and set each piece of furniture back in, and restored the divine order of worship, still if they did not walk in their covenant, the anointing of God would depart from them. The leadership of God would depart from them, and the power of God would depart from them, and their enemies would take them back into captivity again.

And even so it is today dear friends, with the remnant of God's people that are coming up out of Babylon today. It is important that we come back into the land. And most important that the walls of Jerusalem be rebuilt, that the Gifts of the Spirit are restored. And it is important that we be drawn together as one body once again and the Temple of the Lord be rebuilt. Nevertheless, the most important aspect of the restoration move of God today is that we renew our covenant with our God. And therefore God today also is anointing ready scribes, apostolic ministries, who have been alone with God and who are learned in the covenant of our God, who can gather the people of God before the New Jerusalem and re-teach them again their covenant with their God.

They will go back into the covenant that God gave through Moses, and uncover that spiritual reality behind every type, and every shadow, that is in the Old Testament covenant. For you see the Old Testament age was the age of the flesh, the age of the literal and the letter. And therefore every literal letter, type, and shadow, that was given by God through Moses in that Old Testament covenant, when we let the Holy Spirit show us the spiritual substance, the reality, of which the types and shadows are but prophecies and symbols, then we will have a revelation of the New Testament covenant in this age of the Spirit. For the spiritual fulfilments of all the types and shadows in that Old Testament covenant are the revelation of our New Testament covenant with God.

So it is today that the children of New Testament Israel, who are coming up out of Babylon, even as the children of old Israel, have no knowledge of their covenant with their God. They are not even

consciously aware that they are a covenant people, in covenant relationship with their God. Neither do they know the terms of the covenant. Neither do they know what it means to be under covenant relationship to God. Like the children of Old Testament Israel, we have been born when our old mother, the church, was down in Babylon. And again like the children of Old Testament Israel, our old mother that bore us and birthed our souls down in Babylon, was too busy trying to get along with her Babylonish slave masters of this world and the political systems of this world, and the church organizations of this world. Too busy painting up her face with stained glass windows and million dollar buildings and robed choirs, to make herself more attractive to her fleshy Babylonish lovers, her promoters of a naturalistic religion, to take time out to teach her children that were birthed in her womb supernaturally, that they are the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, which seed is Christ. And that they are a covenant people, under a covenant relationship with God, and just what it means to be under covenant relationship with God.

Therefore, they are like the remnant of Israel of old who needed to be gathered again before the Lord at Jerusalem, and re-taught the covenant. Therefore in chapter 8 of Nehemiah, verse 1, we read; "And all the people gathered themselves together as one man into the street that was before the water gate."

Notice that statement, "And all the people gathered themselves together as one man." We find that this was a mark of the restoration move of God in Ezra's day. Everything the children of Israel did they did as one man in these restoration books. When you study the other books of the Old Testament, you find that the children of Israel were always divided and striving against one another. Benjamin was divided from Ephraim, and Ephraim was divided from Judah. Always divided and fighting against one another, but then when you come over into the restoration books you find that everything they did they did as one man.

The reason was, they had been down in Babylon through many years of captivity. There in Babylon their Babylonish slave masters had divided and separated them from one another, and sent them off to different sections of Babylon to be slaves. Mother had been separated from daughter, son had been separated from father, brother had been separated from brother, sister had been separated from sister, and sister from brother, and the Babylonish slave masters had cut them up and divided them up and sent them off into different sections of Babylon.

They had spent seventy years in division and therefore when they came back to the land, they were sick of division, they were weary of division, and they were tired of being separated brother from brother, and sister from sister. Therefore it is recorded that everything that they did in the restoration movement they did as one man.

In Ezra 3, as they began to re-gather back to Jerusalem to start to work on the walls, it says they gathered as one to Jerusalem, to begin the work on the walls. Here, as they gathered together again to Jerusalem to restudy their covenant, it is recorded again, as one man to Jerusalem. So it is with God's people who are coming up out of Babylon today, glory to God. The watchword we find, and a mark of the restoration movement today is God's people are seeking once again to do what they do as one man.

Like the Israel of old we have been down in Babylon for many hundreds of years in captivity, and there in Babylon, the Babylonish slave masters who led the organizations of Babylon cut us up and divided us. They separated brother from sister, and sister from brother, unto different segments of the Babylonish system, the Baptist segment, the Presbyterian segment, the Methodist segment, the Episcopalian segment, and the Pentecostal segment. There each section of Babylon kept its slaves in bondage and if anyone dared break free and try to visit their brother and sister in another section of Babylon, they are just liable to be turned out of the church organization. Baptist were not allowed to visit their Pentecostal brothers and sisters, Pentecostal brothers and sisters aren't allowed to visit the Baptist brothers and sisters. For each Babylonish slave organization are scared they will lose their members if they let them visit around from brother to brother, and sister to sister. Often in my own meetings across the country, I have seen the Baptist preacher sneak into the Spirit-filled meetings scared to death that

some members of his organization are liable to see him and he is liable to be in trouble with his slave masters. Or some member of one of the other denominational systems slip into the Spirit-filled meeting, cautiously look around to be sure that no members of his Babylonish organization are present, lest he get in trouble with his slave masters.

Now God's remnant is coming up out of Babylon and no matter what section of Babylon that we come from, we recognize one another in the Spirit as brother and sisters. We are being restored to all our brothers and sisters, and the name tags that were given to us in Babylon, Baptist, Methodists, Pentecostal, Episcopalian, etc., are passing away, and we are being restored to oneness again. The mark of the restoration move of God today is God is moving us into that oneness that whatever we do, we are going to do it as one body, one man.

Then you will notice that the Bible says, it was before the water gate that the children of Israel gathered to re-study their covenant. I like that also. Because the water gate was the gate through which water was brought into Jerusalem, and water is a type of the Holy Spirit of God. Certainly if we want to re-gather today to re-study our covenant, and study the Word of God we need to gather before the gate through which the water is brought in.

Then the Bible says, Ezra the priest, brought the law before the congregation both the men and women and all that could hear with understanding, upon the first day of the seventh month, and he read therein before the street that was before the water gate, from the morning until the midday. How do you like that? Here was a service that lasted four hours and nobody got up and walked out. Nobody fell asleep and nobody went away and said, Brother so-and-so preaches too long. The people stood faithfully as the Word of God was read and ministered for four long hours, and they didn't even have plush-covered pews to sit on, that Christians that can't stand more than thirty minute sermons have today. But this was a people who were hungry for the Word of God. The reason was they had been down in seventy years captivity to Babylon and they recognized that the reason that they had been in captivity was because they had not had the Word of their God inside them, and had not known their covenant. Therefore, when they came up out of captivity there was one thing that their heart hungered for, one thing that they could not get enough of, and that was the Word of God, the Word of their covenant.

So it is with us the remnant that is coming up out of Babylon today. The mark of those who are in the restoration move of God today is that they are hungry for the Word of their God. They aren't interested in any little thirty minute sermonettes. In our end-time conventions, we start at ten o'clock in the morning with thirty or forty end-time ministries present, until one-thirty, two, or three o'clock in the afternoon. One ministry after the other rises up under the anointing and lays line upon line, and precept upon precept of the Word of God. The people sit for four, five, six hours, four or five hundred of them, nobody moving, devouring every word, and for a good reason, too. They are a people who have been down in captivity to Babylon and we recognize that the reason that we could be taken into Babylonish captivity, held there and bound there, and kept there by the demons of hell who deceived us, was because we did not have in us the Word of our God and the word of our covenant.

Therefore, those that are coming up out of Babylon are hungry for the word of their God. They are not interested in any thirty minute sermonettes, neither in preachers who preach only thirty minute sermonettes. But they are hungry to sit at the feet of the anointed ministry receiving the revelation of God, the revelation of their covenant with God in this hour. That they may be taught again the word of their covenant, that they might know how to walk with their God.

In verse 5 it says, "And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people; (for he was above all the people;) and when he opened it all the people stood up: and Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God. And all the people answered, Amen, Amen, with lifting up their hands." Surely this was not a Baptist Church, neither a Presbyterian or a Methodist, nor any of the other denominational churches and systems for had it been they would not have been allowed to answer, amen, amen, and with lifting up of their hands. Nay,

but this was an anointed remnant of overcomers who had come up out of Babylon and the Spirit of their God was alive within them again. Therefore, when the Word of God was ministered they could not help but respond.

In verse 8 says, "So they read in the book of the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading." This was another mark of the restoration movement, in that the anointed ministry that was re-teaching the people their covenant didn't, as they dealt with the scriptures, just take a text for a pretext and then ramble on with a bunch of philosophical garbage that means nothing to the people of God. But the Bible says they gave the sense and caused them to understand the reading. So is this a mark of the restoration movement of God today. God's anointed apostolic ministries, who have been alone with God in the desert and have come out to re-teach God's people their covenant, you won't find them taking a text for a pretext and offering to God's people a bunch of philosophical garbage that comes from the modernistic minds of this world. But you will find God's apostolic ministries who are anointed of God, to go back behind every type and uncover and unveil that spiritual reality behind every shadow and symbol in the Old Testament covenant, so that God's people can understand the reading and be given the sense of it.

Verse 9 says; "And Nehemiah, which is the Tirshatha, and Ezra the priest, the scribe, and the Levites that taught the people, said unto all the people, "This day is holy unto the Lord your God; mourn not, nor weep. For all the people wept, when they heard the words of the law." Then he said unto them, "Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this day is holy unto our Lord: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the Lord is your strength." You see, as all the children of Israel were given the sense of the covenant with their God again, and began to understand it, they began to realize that their fathers had not walked in the covenant of their God. That they themselves had not walked in the covenant of their God, and that this was the reason that their God had allowed them to go down into captivity. Therefore, a deep sense of conviction suddenly seized them, which soon turned into condemnation, and they began to groan and mourn and weep. But the anointed ministries, Ezra and Nehemiah also knew that it was because they had not walked in the covenant of their God that God had allowed them to go into captivity. But at the same time, they knew the fact that God had brought them back into the land, and relaying the foundation of the house of the Lord, meant that the Lord had put away their sin, and that His countenance was smiling upon them once again, and His blessed hand was upon them once again. Therefore, they called to the people, stop you're weeping and stop you're mourning, this day is a holy day unto your Lord your God, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.

So it often is today. As God's people begin to truly understand their covenant, they begin to know that the reason we have been in captivity to Babylon, is because our fathers did not walk in their covenant with their God. Neither have we walked in our covenant with our God. Therefore, it would be very easy for God's people today to begin to weep and mourn. Too often do we have ministers today who are more interested in getting God's people weeping and groaning and mourning over their sins than in seeing the Temple of the Lord built. Many times your ministries will begin to beat the people with God's Word, and show them the legal aspects of God's Word, revealing to them only how sinful they are, and beating them down until they get people mourning and groaning, confessing their sins at the altars of God.

Then of course, this builds up the ego of the minister and he can go out and say, "My what a great service we had last night. How the Spirit of God did move. There were such and such a number of people at the altar weeping, mourning, and confessing their sins before God." But God's anointed ministries who are hearing from God today are not interested in the sound of God's people weeping, groaning, and confessing their sins. They are listening for the sound of joy. For they also know that because we have not walked in the covenant of our God, neither have our fathers, God allowed us to go down into captivity. But they are also aware that our God is bringing us back into the land, relaying the foundation ministries of apostles and prophets, and thereby relaying the foundation for the Temple of the Lord, means that our God has put away our sins and that His countenance is smiling upon us once again, and

that He is ready to lead us on into that ultimate fulfilment of His eternal purpose. Therefore, they are calling to the people that this day is a holy day unto your Lord. Mourn not, neither weep, for the joy of the Lord is your strength. They have no desire to get God's people under condemnation, neither at the altars confessing, groaning, moaning, and weeping. Not so long ago, down in a South American city, in what was supposed to be an open meeting where the Spirit of God could use whomsoever He would, a young South American minister got up to preach one night. He was one of those who was out to build a reputation for himself, by being able to get many people to the altar moaning, groaning, and weeping, through beating them with the Word of God. He began to beat the sheep of God. To tell them how no good they were, how sinful they were, and how God was going to punish them terribly for their sins. He continued this until the people of God began to be pressed down more and more, so then they all began to weep, groan, moan, under the condemnation. When this began, then he gave an altar call and said, "Everybody come down to the altar now and confess your sins." About a hundred of God's people poured out to the altar and fell on their knees with crying, weepings, and mournings. This young minister began to feel that he was a great preacher, that there was a great move of the Spirit of God because of all these goings on. He looked out and saw this present writer refusing to participate and said "There is someone here tonight who refuses to humble themselves before their God."

But you can be sure I was having no part of that thing. I confessed my sins once, for all, and forever fifteen years ago when I came to Christ and put them under the blood of Jesus. Now I am too busy trying to grow strong enough in God to overcome them to have time for any weeping, mourning and confessing. Like the apostle Paul, forgetting those things which are behind, looking forward to those things which are before I press on to the mark of the high calling in Christ Jesus.

The next night it came my turn to preach. I ministered from Ezra, chapter 3 where the remnant came up out of Babylon. There in the third chapter it tells us that where the foundation of the Lord's house was relayed some of the old ancient gray heads in Israel, who had seen the glory of the former house, when they saw the foundation of this house relayed, began to shout with such a great shout of joy, that they were heard for miles off. I came down to this part of my message, I said to the people, for fifteen years, ever since I have been saved I have been down in Babylon with God's people. I have heard their cryings, their groaning, their moaning, and their condemnation over the fact that they couldn't overcome their sins, and their sufferings and their sicknesses. I have heard the groanings and moanings of Baptist people in the denomination I belong to, as week after week they would get under condemnation after the preacher preached against sin, and run down to the altar and rededicate their lives. Then because the preacher didn't know where to take them from there, and gave them nothing with which to overcome the weaknesses in their flesh that caused them to commit the sin, they went right back out again the next week and did the same things over again. Then when they heard a sermon preached, got under condemnation again, over and over, year after year.

There in Babylon with God's people, I've heard this weeping and moaning over their weaknesses until my soul is weary of it, and the soul of God is weary of it. Therefore, the sound that my ear is listening for today, the sound that rejoices my heart, is not the weepings, groanings and moanings of God's people in condemnation over their sins. The sound that my heart is listening for today is the shout of joy that the foundation of the Lord's house has been relayed again, in Israel.

Then Nehemiah, the anointed leader, told them what it was a day for. He said it is a time for you to go your way, eat the fat, drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared. That is what it is a time for today, beloved. It's a time to go our way. And our way is on to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ. Not only that but Nehemiah said it is a time to eat the fat. The fat was that portion of the lamb that was sacrificed from which the oil came. So it is for us today, beloved. It is time to eat the fat. For this is the hour when God is pouring out for us line upon line, precept upon precept and truth upon truth. Giving us that portion of our lamb Jesus that was sacrificed, the truth which brings forth the holy oil. Therefore, it is time for us to eat this fat that God is bringing forth in this hour. Not only that, he said go your way, eat the fat and drink the sweet. The sweet of course, was the wine.

The wine wherever you find it in the great mystery of God in the scriptures, is symbolic of the supernatural life of Christ, which is the life of God. Jesus said, I am the vine, ye are the branches. The fruit that comes forth from the vine is grapes. But the ultimate fruit that comes forth from the grapevine is not the grapes but the wine that comes after the grapes are crushed. Jesus is the vine and we are the branches. Glory to God, the ultimate fruit that we see coming forth from that vine today is the life of Christ, which is the life of God, which is coming forth in God's people. Therefore, this is a time for drinking the sweet. As I drink of the life of God that is coming forth in you, you drink of the life of God that is coming forth in me.

Last of all, Nehemiah said, it is time to go your way eat the fat and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared. Above all in this hour, beloved, as God brings forth these great, glorious end-time truths, we must not forget to send portions to them for whom nothing is prepared. God help his people, who, like other moves of God, sit and eat the glorious fat of God's truths that God brings forth and drink of the glorious wine of God, and just sit and feed and eat themselves, and get fat, and don't send out portion of that word to many in the world for whom nothing is prepared. God doesn't need anymore churches on the corner, but He needs anointed, moving, end-time bodies in which ministries are coming in at the bottom, being called by the Spirit and being trained in their ministries in the local bodies, and sent forth out at the top, as apostles of God, to go forth into the world. Sent out to carry portions to them for whom nothing is prepared.

Recently this writer returned from the jungles of South America. Down there on the jungle rivers, many, many converts who had already been won to Christ by missionary evangelists of old, are hungry for the truth of God's Word that God is bringing forth today. Truths that Christians in the United States have long since taken for granted, and won't even go to church to hear anymore; down there they are like little birds with their mouths open. But the trouble is that they don't have anointed ministries, teachers to carry portions to them. God help us in this move of God. If like all other moves we just sat in our own churches and got fat on the Word of God, so fat that were not able to move, that it weakens us instead of strengthening us, that we don't even move in the life of God. God help us to send portions, yea, send forth ministries to carry portions to those in lands where nothing has been prepared.

Many of the people of God, in moves across the land today, and in end-time bodies, where God has raised up anointed ministries to feed them, are not aware of how fortunate they are. If they knew how many letters we get in our office in Miami, from people across the United States, who have gotten a glimpse of the glorious thing that God is doing in this end-time, and they write us, "Brother Fife, can you send us a publication, can you send us a tape, send us something so that we can feed on this word too." Sometimes they write and say, "Brother Fife, there are only four or five of us in our town who are moving in God's move of the Spirit. And there is just a few of us, we can't give much offering, but do you ever come and hold a meeting for just four or five?" You can bet your boots, that if God can make the way for us to get to them, we'll fly a thousand miles to go and teach them whether they can give an offering or not.

For this is not just the hour for eating the fat and drinking the sweet, but this is the hour for sending portions to God's children everywhere who don't have an anointed ministry raised up in their midst, for whom nothing is prepared. God help us not to forget to send portions as we eat this fat and drink this sweet.

Then the rest of this chapter and chapter 9 tells how that as they heard their covenant explained and understood the sense of it, they began to go back through their minds over the hundreds of years. They began to confess to their God at which points their fathers had turned away from Him and begun to walk out of His covenant, and they themselves had turned away from Him.

Then in verse 34 of chapter 9, when they came down toward the end of their confession, they said, "Neither have our kings, our princes, our priests, nor fathers kept thy law, or hearkened unto thy

commandments and thy testimonies." Certainly this is our testimony today beloved. Our kings, our princes, our rulers, have not kept the law of our God. Neither have they hearkened unto His commandments. Our priest, our spiritual leaders, in past years, and decades and centuries, have not kept the law of our God. Neither have they hearkened unto His commandments and His testimony. That's why you and I were born in a church that was in Babylonish captivity, and in exile away from the presence of our God. That is why we haven't seen the power and the glory of God in our lives and in our churches.

In verse 35, they went on to say, "For they have not served thee in their kingdom, and in thy great goodness that thou gavest them, and in the large and fat land which thou gavest before them, neither turned they from their wicked works." Surely this is our testimony today too. For our civil leaders and our spiritual leaders, have not served God in the kingdoms that He has given them. In this large and fat land which our God has given to us. Certainly America is the largest and the fattest land in all the world today. Our civil rulers and our spiritual leaders, our kings and our priests, have not served our God in this large and fat land which our God gave us. They have taken prayer out of the schools. They have taken the name of Jesus out of our government. Today the leading governmental policy-making tribunal in this country is the United Nations. The President of the United Nations is a Buddhist, and Buddhist priests run up and down the halls of the United Nations Building offering incense to their devil God. Our priests and our leaders, our kings and our rulers, have turned away from our God and worshipped false gods.

Ezra went on to say, "Behold, we are servants this day, and for the land that thou gavest unto our fathers to eat the fruit thereof and the good thereof, behold, we are servants in it. And it yieldeth much increase unto the kings that thou hast set over us because of our sins: also they have dominion over our bodies, and over our cattle, at their pleasure, and we are in great distress." This again is our testimony today. The great land that God gave to our fathers, he didn't give it to the politicians and the governmental systems of this world. He gave it to the pilgrim church fathers, the people who came to this land looking for a place to worship God in freedom. But it has been taken away from us, and today it belongs to the devil's people, and it yields its increase to the kings which God has allowed to come into dominion over us, because of our sins. Today they have dominion over our bodies, and at their pleasure we are in great distress.

The hour is soon coming when we are not any longer going to be allowed to meet in public meetings to worship our God. We are very fast heading for bondage through our governmental system. One brother, who is in the move of God, was recently sent by his company to a computer school in New York City. There he learned that plans are under way in this country to computerize our whole life. Soon we will be living in a check less society, where when we work all week we won't even draw our own pay check, but it will just be sent to a central center, and we will be given a number in order to draw upon it, when we want to buy something.

At their pleasure we are in great distress. The children of Israel said because of all this we make a sure covenant and write it and our princes and Levites and priests seal unto it. Here was where the children of Israel renewed their covenant with their God. And this is the next great step that the Spirit of God wants to lead us into in restoration. That we renew our covenant with our God.

But the problem is most of the children of God today know nothing about their covenant with God. They were birthed in the Spirit from the womb of an old mother church that was down in captivity to Babylon. Captivity to the Babylonish system, the Babylonish organizations of this world, and Babylonish religious organizations, that have no supernatural headship of Jesus through the Spirit, no five-fold spirit ministry, no nine spirit gifts, and above all no nine spirit fruits. No divine order of worship in the service toward God, but the church filled with disorder and confusion. And that is what the word Babylon means, as it is used in the scripture, confusion.

Therefore the remnant that is coming up out of Babylon in this hour, their need also is to be gathered before the Lord at Jerusalem. Gathered at the New Jerusalem, at the spiritual Jerusalem, and there be taught their covenant through anointed apostolic ministries that God is raising up. Ready scribes whom God is taking back into the Old Testament and unveiling for them every type and every shadow that was in the covenant that God gave through Moses. So that they might set before God's people today that spiritual fulfillment of every type, and every shadow which God purposes to be fulfilled. That they might know their covenant with their God. That they might renew their covenant with their God. That they might walk in it again.

For it is not enough just to come out of Babylon or to come out of the organization. It is not even enough for us to come back into God's spiritual promised land, or to walk and live in the Spirit, in order that great spiritual gifts come forth from us, and the walls of New Jerusalem are built up again. For that is not the purpose of God for us, it's only something that needs to be done, so that we can be protected from our enemies, the demon spirits, while God is fulfilling His purpose in us. It's not even enough for us just to rebuild the Temple of the Lord, come together as one body. It's not even enough for us to restore the divine order of worship to that Temple, but these are all things that must be done so that God's purpose might be fulfilled in us. They are not themselves the purpose of God. But only when we once again know our covenant, and walk in our covenant with our God will we then continue to have this power, blessing, and leadership so that we can never be taken into captivity again. Therefore, in the closing points of this message, we would like to reveal to all of God's people just what it means to be in covenant relationship with God. And explain to them that they are a covenant people separated from all the people of the world. And make them to understand their covenant that they have with their God. In the first place, God's people need to be made to know that God is dealing with them through a covenant. A covenant is a contract, a binding legal contract. And most of God's people are not aware that God is dealing with them legally. One might say, Brother Fife, I thought we were not under the law. This is true. We're not under the law. God is no longer dealing with us through a covenant of law, but He is still dealing with us through a legal covenant of grace.

Therefore, He is still dealing with us legally. What most of God's people do not understand, is that the very essence of God's nature is justice. Which entails both law and grace during this age in which God is dealing with humanity. And what God's people don't understand is that though grace and mercy are the front parts of God's nature, nevertheless, behind God's ability to dispense mercy and grace, is His ability to deal and mete out justice through the law to all those who reject mercy and His covenant of grace. Therefore, God is still a God of law.

Most of God's people do not know that even the court systems, and the legislative systems, that are in our secular government and the laws upon which they are based, came out of the very nature of God Himself. For every lawyer knows that all the laws that we have in our land have their root in the Law of Moses. When I was a young man I thought once that I wanted to study law and become a lawyer.

So I began taking a correspondence course in law. One of the first truths that I was taught was that all laws had their root in the Law of Moses, that was given by God. Because before the Law of Moses was given there was no law in the earth. Therefore, we see that law comes from the very nature of God Himself, and though God is not dealing with us through a legal covenant of law as He did in the Old Testament age, nevertheless, He is still dealing with us through a legal covenant, a legal contract of grace. He is still dealing with us legally. Most of God's people don't even understand their covenant of grace.

Talk to them of experiences, the born again experience, or perhaps the baptism of the Holy Spirit experience, of Gifts of healing experience, or other Gifts of the Spirit experiences and they can talk to you, but speak to them of their covenant with their God and they can no longer converse with you intelligently. Therefore, we would like to share with God's children everywhere, the true meaning of their covenant.

First, they need to realize that God is dealing with mankind through two covenants. They are called in the Bible the old covenant and the new covenant. They are also called the Old Testament and the New Testament. But many of God's people are in such ignorance concerning the real truth of God's Word that they think the Old and New Testaments are just the first and second half of the Bible. That is the extent of their knowledge, understanding, of the Old and New Testament and the Old and new covenant. But this is far from the whole truth. You see, the word testament, needs to be fully understood. For a testament is a revelation of someone's will concerning the dispensation of their goods. When a man dies here upon the earth, and has acquired much goods while he was here, we say that he leaves behind his last will and testament. That is, he leaves behind a written revelation of what his will is concerning the dispensation of his goods that he left behind here on the earth, what he desires to be done with his goods. That is what a testament is, and that is what the Old and New Testaments that we have in the Bible are. They are a written revelation sent down to us from God, to give us a revelation of what His will is concerning the dispensation of His goods here upon the earth, which goods we are. It is a written revelation of what God wills to be done with His goods here upon the earth, which goods we are. And not only us, but all other things that have been created here on the earth which are His goods.

These two testaments are also called the old covenant and the new covenant. Now, a covenant is a contract between two parties. A legal binding agreement by which two parties come into covenant relationship with one another. What God's people are not consciously aware of today is that they are a people who are under a covenant relationship with God. And when one is related to another party through a covenant or a contract, they are no longer free to do anything they want to do, anyway they want to do it. No longer free to move anyway they want to when they want to, but they are only free to move in relationship to the other party and in relationship to their contract. Before one signs a contract with another party, they are free. They are their own to do what they want to do, when they want to do it, anyway they want to do it. But once they sign a contract with another party, and for mutual benefit and assistance enter into covenant relationship with another party, then this is no longer so.

I learned that great truth real well many years ago when as a young man of seventeen, I signed a contract with Uncle Sam and joined the United States Navy. Before I signed that piece of paper in the recruiting officer's office, I was free to do what I wanted to do when I wanted to do it, for I hadn't entered into a covenant relationship with Uncle Sam. But the recruiting officer began to tell me all the romantic adventures of joining the Navy and seeing the world, and therefore even though my dear mother tried to warn me against it, he talked me into signing that paper. Suddenly the instant that I signed that paper, I was no longer free to move anyway that I wanted to.

They quickly took me up and put me on a train, and sent me away to a boot training camp. There in this boot training camp, along with some other recruits, the training officer put me on an obstacle course that looked like a race track, about a half a mile around. He commanded us boys to run around it for about three hours, until our breath was short, and our tongues were hanging out, and our feet felt as heavy as lead. Then he who had not been running got in the race. He had a big thick paddle in his hand. Every time he would pass one of us he would whack us across our back ends with that paddle. He could get away with it too because I was no longer on my own. For I had entered into covenant relationship, contract relationship with Uncle Sam. I recite this to make God's people aware of the great truth that since they have entered into this covenant relationship with God, through Jesus Christ, that they are no longer free to do what they want to do when they want to do it, the way they want to do it, as they have been doing. But they are in covenant relationship with God. They are under contract to God, and therefore only free to move in relationship to their contract with that other party.

The Bible makes it very clear that God was very legal in His entering into a covenant with us, and that He is dealing with us legally. Because there are certain legal steps that must be fulfilled when two parties enter into a covenant relationship with one another. When we study the Bible we find that God diligently and specifically fulfilled each one of these legal steps, in drawing us into a contract relationship with Him. The first of these legal steps, in two parties entering into a covenant with one another, is that the

covenant or contract must be ordained in the hands of a mediator. Now the mediator is the go-between, who draws the two parties together into covenant relationship with one another. And here on the earth, when two parties enter into contract relationship with one another, the mediator is always a lawyer, an attorney who draws the two parties into his office. And there, he is the mediator, the go-between who draws both parties into a contract relationship with one another. A covenant to be legal must be ordained in the hands of a mediator. And the book of Hebrews tells us that both of these covenants that God has entered into with humanity were ordained in the hands of a mediator. The mediator of the old covenant was Moses, the mediator of the new covenant was Jesus. When God gave to Old Testament Israel the old covenant, He ordained it in the hands of a mediator. The mediator was Moses. God called Moses up into the mount, and there in the mount He gave Moses the terms and conditions of the contract, the covenant. And then Moses went down to the people to act as mediator, go-between, between God and the people.

The second legal step that must be taken, when two parties enter into a covenant relationship with one another is that the terms and conditions of the contract have to be written up. Again we see that the Bible reveals that God fulfilled this legal step too. He called Moses, the mediator, up into the mountain, and there in the mountain He gave Moses the terms and conditions of the contract. Yea, the Bible says that some of those terms and conditions were written on tables of stone, by the very finger of God Himself. Then Moses wrote up the rest of the statutes and the laws which were a part of the conditions and terms of the contract. Then, the third step, that must be fulfilled in order for two parties to enter into a contract together is that the mediator must read off, and present to both parties, all the terms and conditions of their contract. When we study the Scriptures further, we find that this is exactly what Moses, the mediator did.

The Bible says he came down from the mount of God and he gathered the children of Israel before Mount Sinai and there he read off for them all the terms and conditions of the contract, every statute and every judgment. We have them all recorded and written for us in the books of Exodus, Leviticus, and Numbers in the Scriptures.

Then the next legal step that must be taken, for two parties to enter into a contract with one another is that both parties must accept the contract. And the Bible makes it very clear that this legal step was fulfilled too. For we read that after Moses presented the covenant to the people, the people said, "All that the Lord sayeth, we will do." They accepted the contract. And when they did so, they bound themselves in a legal, binding, covenant relationship with God. From that hour forth Israel was under contract to God.

Israel was thereby responsible according to the great law of the universe, the highest law that exists, to fulfil the covenant and walk in the covenant. Therefore, when they broke the covenant after that, and they did break it continually, God had the perfect right to bring them to justice and allow them to go down into exile and into captivity to their enemies. But then there is one more legal step that is necessary to take when two people enter into a covenant with one another, and that is that both parties must sign the covenant,

Even this legal procedure was fulfilled by God to the letter. For when God gave the covenant through Moses He signed the covenant also. He had Moses kill a lamb and sprinkle the blood of the lamb on the two tables of the law, on all the statutes, and all the judgments. And this was God's sign, God's signature, God's sign-a-ture to all the world that He was binding Himself in a legal binding contract covenant relationship with the people of Israel, out of all the people of the world. And that He was binding Himself to do and to fulfil all the terms and conditions of the contract.

What were the terms and conditions of the contract? God had said to Israel if you walk in my statutes and keep my judgments, then I will be your God and you shall be my people. I will bless your corn and your wine and I will take sickness away from the midst of you. If the people of Israel had walked in their covenant with their God, God would have done just this. They would have always had material plenty and the sicknesses that came upon the people in the nations roundabout them would never have come

upon them. But Israel did not walk in their covenant with their God. They continually broke it. And thereby God was just when He judged them and allowed them to go into captivity to their enemies.

Now nineteen hundred years ago, Jesus Christ came from heaven with a new covenant, a new contract, with God. And once again, God step by step fulfilled each one of these legal procedures that was necessary to draw us into covenant relationship with Him. In the first place, the covenant must be ordained in the hands of a mediator. And Jesus was the mediator of the new covenant. God did not have to call Him up in the mount as He did Moses, in order to give Him the terms and the conditions of the covenant, for Jesus was already in the mount, in the heavenlies with God.

All God had to do was send Him down with the terms and the conditions of the new contract, the new covenant. Secondly, the terms and the conditions of the contract must be presented to both parties. God of course already knew them, but Jesus spent the three and a half years that He was here on the earth, preaching and teaching the terms and conditions of this covenant. Then God had them recorded for us in the New Testament, and new covenant that we have in our Bible, so that there would be no mistake in our minds concerning the terms and conditions of our covenant, both its rights and privileges and responsibilities.

Then the third step that must be taken in order for two parties to be legally bound together in a covenant is that both parties must accept the covenant. God, of course, accepted it when He sent it forth, but when you came to Jesus and when you accepted Jesus Christ as your Saviour, that was when you accepted the covenant. This brings us to the great truth that most of God's people are completely ignorant of. That is, that when they accepted Jesus as their Saviour, it was not just Jesus that they accepted. It was not just the person of Jesus that they accepted. But what they accepted was the covenant that Jesus brought down from God. Just as Old Testament Israel, when Moses brought down the covenant to them and they said, "All that the Lord sayeth we will do," and thereby accepted the covenant, that's exactly, dear reader, what you did when you accepted Jesus Christ as your Saviour. You were accepting the covenant that He brought down from heaven and you were saying, all that the Lord sayeth we will do. When you accepted that covenant you bound yourself in legal contract covenant relationship with God to walk in it and to fulfil it.

The great tragedy among God's people today is that they are so ignorant of their covenant, that they think that they are going to be saved by the person of Jesus alone. The person of Jesus is never going to save anyone. It is through your covenant with God that you are going to full salvation. The total purpose of the person Jesus coming, was to act as the mediator, and bring you the covenant, and then shed His blood to propitiate the justice of God and fulfil His mediatorial work, in drawing you and God together in contract, covenant relationship with one another. And that is what He did when He hung on the cross as your mediator. He hung between heaven and earth and stretched one hand toward God, and one hand toward the earth, and drew you and God together in a covenant contract relationship with one another. Then He said, "It is finished." Now what He meant was that His mediatorial work was finished. He had brought the covenant, presented the covenant, shed His blood to cleanse you of your sin, so that as a part of the contract His Spirit could be sent back to indwell you, and give you both the teaching and the leadership of the Spirit, and the power of the Spirit to walk in the covenant and to fulfil it. Now it is up to you, for you are under contract to God, and I am under contract to God, and it is not just through the person of Jesus that we are going to have full salvation but it is through the fulfilling of our covenant with Him. For God is not just dealing with us through the person of Jesus, He is dealing with us through our covenant, our contract with God.

Like Israel of old, we have broken the covenant. We have broken the contract, many times. And if it were not a covenant of grace, if Jesus had not suffered to propitiate the justice of God, so that God could overlook our breaking it, we would long since have been called before the judgment bar of God. But Jesus shed His blood to propitiate the justice of God, so that God could overlook our breaking of the covenant during this period of grace that He has given us. Therefore, we are not called to justice yet. But

if we waste away this period of two thousand years of grace that He has given us, in order that we might grow to the fullness of Christ, and be able to fulfil the covenant, then the day is going to come when the two thousand year period of grace is going to be over, and the judgment day is going to begin. The people of the world are going to be called before the judgment bar of God, but the peoples of the church, the Christians, are going to face the judgment seat of Christ. To face judgment and present cause why they have not used that period of grace to grow to the point where they could fulfil their covenant with God. That judgment seat of Christ is not going to be one literal day of judgment where Jesus sits behind a courtroom desk, and tries everybody.

But that judgment seat of Christ is going to be a period of time called the great tribulation, in which great tribulations are going to come on all the earth. All the Christians who have wasted away their period of grace and not allowed the Holy Spirit which has indwelt them, to teach them in all things and lead them into all truth, and bring them to the measure and the stature and the fullness of Christ, will then not have the power and leadership of the Spirit to go through that tribulation, without being terribly hurt. Therefore, they will bear their judgment for wasting away their period of grace, and not walking in their covenant. For most Christians do not even know the terms and conditions of their contract. And the reason is because they have never bothered to study the New Testament, under the tutorship of the great Spirit of God, and be taught and have read off for them the terms and conditions of their contract.

Therefore, they don't even know what their rights and privileges are under the covenant, neither how they can claim them through the Word of Faith. Neither do they know their responsibilities toward the other party, God, and the conditions of His contract. Because they have never bothered to study their covenant, and its terms and conditions, which are written up for us in the New Testament.

God's people are so foolish that they signed the contract with God, and they have never bothered to study it to see what their rights and privileges, and their responsibilities under the contract are. I wonder what we would think of a businessman here upon the earth, who signed a contract with another businessman, and entered into covenant contract relationship with him, without ever reading the terms of his contract. We would think this businessman was the most stupid and the most foolish businessman on the face of the earth, to sign a contract without ever reading it. And yet that is what God's people have done. They have signed a contract and entered into contract covenant relationship with God, and they have never bothered to study the terms and the conditions of their contract, what their rights and privileges are under their contract, how they can claim them, and what their responsibilities are.

This is why God's people are not receiving from God all those things that God has provided for them in their contract, the covenant through Jesus. It is because they are not even aware of what their rights and privileges are under the contract, and how to claim them. The reason for this is because they have never bothered to study the contract. Oh, if God's people could have this great truth burned into their hearts, you wouldn't have to have Sunday School visitation programs to get people to come to church to study the New Testament, you would have to build the doors bigger in order to get them in. If God's people became aware of this great truth, you wouldn't have to beg people to come and sit at the feet of God's anointed ministries, through whom the Holy Ghost is teaching God's children their contract, but again you would have to build a building bigger to get them in. But God's people are in such ignorance of the fact that they are under covenant with God, that they don't bother to study their contract.

No businessman would do so. When a businessman signs a contract with another party, he carefully studies every clause in that contract. Not only the big print but the fine print, for it is in the fine print of the contract that you have the true spirit of it. Even so, if God's people would turn their hearts, and their minds, away from the television and the movie houses, and seeking after the systems and pleasures of this world, and turn their hearts and minds to the New Testament, yea, and to God's anointed ministries who are uncovering for them the spiritual fulfilment that is in the types and shadows of that old covenant, then they would know their covenant with their God. Then they would know all the rights and privileges that are given to them in their covenant, through the work of Jesus Christ at Calvary. Then they would know

how to claim them. Also they would know the responsibilities to God, the other party in this contract, and be able to fulfil them. For this contract not only contains rights and privileges for us, but it also contains responsibilities to God, the other party, with whom we are in covenant relationship.

Our responsibilities under this covenant are to do everything that Jesus says do in the New Testament. Love our brother, turn the other cheek, go the second mile, if any man have two coats and his brother has none, let him give his brother one. And if we would say this is too much, I cannot fulfil such responsibility, then if you knew your covenant you would know that it is also in the covenant that if you just believe, God will then give you the power and the wisdom and the revelation and the anointing even, to fulfil your responsibility. Hallelujah!

Therefore, if God's people realized the seriousness of their covenant with their God, they would study not only the big print, the letter of the Word, but they would study the fine print, the Spirit of the Word also. For it is in the fine print, the Spirit of the Word, that you find the true Spirit and purpose of the covenant. Then no longer would they go about sick and suffering. No longer would they go about wearing their glasses on their eyes. No longer would they go about having to look to the world to place machines in their bodies to keep their heart ticking. Hallelujah. But they would know that in their covenant with God provision is made for all these things, and they would know how to claim it, and in walking in that covenant with their God they would have life.

God has provided in this covenant all the revelation, the anointing, the strength, the power that we need to have victory over sin, sickness, suffering, sorrow, yea, even power over death, that we might come to incorruptibility. All these things are in our covenant. Even as the old apostle Paul, who had the revelation said "Christ is made unto you wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption."

If God's people would only study their covenant they would know all their rights and privileges that are given unto them, by their contract with God, and how to claim them. Then no longer would they be at the mercy of the hucksters, and the so-called healers, who have proclaimed to them that through all kinds of little tricks they can get God to answer their prayer. One healer was bouncing a golf ball, and said to the congregation, "Catch the golf ball and believe God and God will heal you." Another so-called healer says to God's people, run down the aisle and jump up in the air and click your heels and shout hallelujah three times, and God will heal you. Another healer says go back and bang on the back wall three times and shout hallelujah, and God will heal you.

Dear friends, when we grow up, and know our contract, our covenant with our God, we don't need to go through all these little tricks to try to persuade God to answer our prayers. Neither do we need to cry, moan, groan, and weep as we have done like children in the past. All we need to do is take our contract, and walk into the presence of the just God who is under contract to us also, and point out those things that are provided in our contract, that we need.

Then stand up in the face of God, and say, God it is in my contract, and therefore in perfect confidence in the justice and integrity of your just nature, I stand in faith waiting for it to come to me.

Too long have God's people dealt with God as little children, coming to Him as if they had to cry, weep, moan and groan to get God to answer our prayer. We do not have to do any of those things. For God has bound Himself in a legal binding contract to provide for us everything that we need to have life, which includes healing, health, faith, revelation, power, anointing, and on and on until corruptible puts on incorruptible and mortality puts on immortality. We do not need to come into His presence, crying, moaning, and begging, like a little baby, neither do we need to play tricks on Him, and bounce golf balls, and bang on walls and click our heels in the air. All we need to do is walk into the presence of God, the great just judge of all the earth, with the sickness or the need and point out to Him, God it is here in my contract and it's my just right before the just God of all the universe, therefore, in faith in the justice and the integrity of your nature, I am going to wait in faith until it comes to me.

It is time that we stop dealing with our God as little children, and deal with Him according to our covenant. You can be sure that our father, Abraham, when he stood in the presence of God, dealt with Him according to the covenant that he had with God. You can be sure that Moses when he stood in the presence of God was not weeping, groaning and moaning, but he dealt with God according to the just integrity of His nature. When God said to Moses, "Get out of my way, I am going to destroy the children of Israel," Moses looked in the face of God and dealt with Him according to his knowledge of the just integrity of His nature. He said, "Shall not the judge of all the earth do right." When we study the prayers of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, our fathers in the faith, we don't find any crying, and groaning and moaning, like their children. One of the first things we see, as we study their prayers, we hear them saying, "God we know that you are a covenant-keeping God, and therefore we desire that you do this, and thus, and thus." They dealt with God according to His covenant and according to their contract that they had with Him. According to the just integrity of His nature.

In order that you might know that we can do so too, I would like to point out in closing, that God fulfilled that last legal step that must be fulfilled in order for two people to enter into contract with one another, when He gave us this new covenant, and that is, He signed the contract. For the last legal step that must be taken for two parties to enter into a contract with one another, is that both parties must sign the contract. And therefore, when God sent Jesus, the mediator, from heaven with the new contract, and when He presented the contract to us, God also signed the contract. Only in this New Testament age He did not sign it with the blood of an animal, as He did the old contract given through Moses. Nay, this contract God signed with the blood of His own Son, Jesus. For when Jesus hung upon Calvary's cross, before the whole world on Golgotha's Hill, and shed His blood, and sprinkled it all over the earth, this was God's sign, this was God's signature. This was God's signature to the whole world that God was binding Himself in a legal covenant, contract, agreement, with everyone in every generation who came to Jesus, and through accepting Jesus as mediator, accepts this covenant, this contract with God.

And even though you and I were not there that day, when God signed the contract, it became legal before God that day. Because you see, sometimes when a lawyer, a mediator, draws two people into a contract with one another, when it is time for the contract to be signed, both parties can't be in his office at the same time. And so he will have one party sign the contract in his office and have the other party come in later and sign the contract. This is exactly what God did, that day long ago on Golgotha's Hill when He entered into contract with us. Hallelujah, Jesus was the mediator.

God was there, but you and I were not there at that time. We had not accepted the covenant at that time. But nevertheless, Jesus the mediator was there and God was there. God signed the contract with the blood of His own son and it became legal that day.

In every generation after that, whosoever comes to Jesus and accepts Him as mediator, and in the presence of Jesus, accepts the covenant and then puts their signature to the covenant, then that contract becomes legal and binding in their lives also. For you see, not only did God sign the contract, but we also had to sign the contract. When we signed it, it was not with circumcision, as it was in the days of the old covenant. But our signature to the contract was water baptism.

When we accepted water baptism, and allowed ourselves to be baptized in water, that was our sign, our signature, our sign-a-ture to all the world, that we had accepted Jesus the mediator of the new covenant and accepted the covenant that He had brought. In signing that contract with water baptism, we are binding ourselves in a legal binding relationship with God, who has bound Himself in a legal binding contract covenant with us, to do all that that contract says.

Therefore, you see dear friends, we do not need to deal with God as little children, and we do not need to deal with Him with golf ball bouncings, wall soundings, heel clickings, weepings, cryings, and groanings as little babies. For God has already bound Himself to give us everything that is provided in

the provisions of that contract. All we need to do is to study our contract, and to know our rights and privileges are under the contract, and what our responsibilities are.

Then when we have a need, simply go into the presence of a just God in prayer, and in faith, yea, the great judge of all the universe. Whether our need be healing, health, provision, financial, material, spiritual, hallelujah, whatever it is all that we need to do is stand in the presence of the just God of all the earth. Then say, God it is in my contract, and therefore I am going to stand in faith, in the just integrity of your nature, to keep your part of the contract until it comes to me. Therefore, there is going to rise up a many-membered company of Sons of God in this last hour, and they are no longer going to be as children weeping, groaning, and crying like a bunch of little babies, neither are they going to be fooled by the golf ball bouncings, and the heel clickings of the religious charlatans of our world, who call themselves ministry. Hallelujah!

But they are going to study their contract with their God. They are going to know what their rights and their privileges are under that contract and one by one, they are going to start claiming in faith all things that are provided in their contract.

They are not going to let a carnal fleshy Babylonish church tell them that God won't do this, and God won't do that, and God won't do this over here, and nobody can be perfect. But they are going to study the provisions of their contract and they are going to know how to claim those provisions by standing in the face of a just God, and with the word of faith claiming it. One by one they are going to claim that which is provided in their contract. They are going to claim revelation. They are going to claim anointing. They are going to claim faith. They are going to claim healing. They are going to claim divine health, and then the day is going to come when they are going to be fully aware that power over death itself is provided for them in their contract. And they are going to walk into the presence of the judge over all the earth, of angels, of demons, of death, of life, and they are going to claim victory over death itself. And corruptible is going to put on incorruptible and mortality is going to put on immortality. Then shall be brought to pass that saying, "Oh death where is your sting, Oh grave where is your victory." And the world shall see a manifestation of the Sons of God. The earth shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption. The whole creation, which has groaned and travailed until now, waiting for the manifestation of those Sons of God, shall be set free.

God help us even in this hour, as we hear this message to lift up our hands and renew our covenant with our God even as old Israel did. And deal with Him no longer through tricks and childish weepings and crying, but deal with Him according to our contract. Those of you who read this message right now who have been fighting to get your healing for your body and some sickness that you haven't been able to overcome. Stop your weeping, stop your groaning, stop your moaning, stop running to the charlatans for this trick and that trick, Hallelujah, go into the New Testament. See there in your contract and your covenant with God, where healing is promised to you in your contract. If you only meet the condition of believing in the just integrity of God's nature. Then lift your hands before your God right now, and say, God, no more weepings, no more groanings, no more cryings, Hallelujah! But like Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, my father I simply say that I know that you are a covenant-keeping God. And I have seen that the healing of this sickness is in my contract. Therefore, I receive it right now. I am going to stand in faith in the just integrity of your just nature until it comes to pass for me. In Jesus name, Amen!

Renew your covenant with your God thou child of Israel. Walk in it, Hallelujah, and God, like Israel of old, will bless your corn, your spiritual corn, the Word of God, and He will bless your wine, your spiritual wine, the supernatural life of God that He will pour in you. And He will take sickness and death away from the midst of US. Hallelujah to His precious Name. Amen.