

THE UPWARD CALL

*Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet;
but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead,
**I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God
IN CHRIST JESUS.***

(Philippians 3:13-14 NASB)

#04-1067

The Incorruptible Seed & The Word

July 9, 2010

(10) “Because this is the covenant which I will covenant with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord, giving My Laws into their mind, and I will write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. (11) And they shall no more teach each one their neighbor, and each one his brother, saying, Know the Lord; because all shall know Me, from the least of them to their great ones.” (Hebrews 8:10-11 LITV)

I often refer to these verses throughout my writings because they are vital to our understanding of what the spirit of God has been doing and will do in the hearts and minds of the Lord’s people.

I realize that in reading verse 10, some might say this does not refer to us who believe on Jesus because it refers to the house of Israel. Let me ask: Do you not believe that you are of the house of Israel, whose *spiritual household* we are (Ephesians 2:19; Hebrews 3:6; 1 Peter 2:4; 4:17)? Jacob was given the name Israel not at birth but after he had wrestled all night with the angel of the Lord (Genesis 32:24-32).

A footnote in *The Companion Bible* reads: “Jacob = contender. Used of the natural Jacob and his natural seed. Israel used for spiritual Jacob and his spiritual seed. Israel = God commands, orders or rules. Man attempts it but always, in the end, fails. Out of some forty Hebrew names compounded with “El” or “Jah”, God is always the doer of what the verb means (cp. *Dani-el*, God judges).”

Another way of looking at it is that the name Jacob was based on a natural bloodline given after a natural birth, but the name Israel was based on a spiritual *Godline* given after a spiritual birth. *Isra-el* means God persists or perseveres, which means that God rules or wins in every case, no matter how hard man tries or how persistent he might be. Prior to his wrestling match, Jacob, who was a supplanter and contender, was like an unbroken, wild horse; but when it was over, he was like a broken, tamed horse. In New Covenant language, we could say that his uncrucified (carnal) flesh was crucified (signified by a dislocated thigh socket) and, spiritually speaking, he became one ruled by God.

Let us be clear that the modern-day state of Israel is not the house of Israel. The Jews of the state of Israel are supplanters who have usurped the name Israel. They are apparent (in name only) Jews and, as John calls them, liars and of the synagogue of Satan (Revelation 2:9; 3:9), for they deny the Father and the Son [Messiah Yeshua] (1 John 2:22). The true Jew is one who has a circumcised heart. The true Israel of God is a new creation made up of believers in Jesus who have yielded to the rule of God through His Son and by His Spirit and are waiting for His Son to come from heaven.

(28) For he is not a Jew that is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that outwardly in flesh; (29) but he is a Jew that is one inwardly, and circumcision is of heart, in spirit, not in letter; of whom the praise is not from men, but from God. (Romans 2:28-29 LITV)

(15) For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision has any strength nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. (16) And as many as shall walk by this rule, peace and mercy be on them and on the Israel of God. (Galatians 6:15-16 LITV)

If you have not figured it out yet, the true Christians are the true Jew and the Israel of God. We must stop looking at the ones who call themselves modern-day Jews and Israelites, as if they are the apple of God’s eye and can do no wrong. They are antichrist in spirit, for they reject the truth that the way to the Father is through His Son and, in so doing, deny the Father and the Son.

Now, this leads to the question: How do the laws of God get written on our hearts and put into our minds?

Most would probably answer that it is through reading the Word of God. Surely, this is part of the answer. We should read and study the Word, even memorize portions of it. Some people have committed much of the Bible to memory, but many are not gifted in this way. Besides, as we get older, some of us realize that memorization becomes more difficult and some of what we knew when we were younger has faded away. We shouldn't fear this, for the spirit of God is able to bring it back to memory when needed. We can trust that whatever we have read and committed to the Lord is written on our heart and put into our mind. However, I do not believe that memorization is the answer, for it is far more important to understand the spiritual meaning of God's Word. As Paul wrote, we need to be **taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words** (1 Corinthians 2:13).

I believe that the answer lies with the seed of God that resides within everyone who is born from above.

No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. (1 John 3:9 NASB)

John was not stating that we never sin. Quite the contrary; one who says he has no sin is deceived and without the truth (1 John 1:8-10). It is the seed of God within a believer that does not sin, for the seed is of God who knows no sin. This seed is to grow into a mature, complete man in Christ (Ephesians 4:13; Colossians 1:28) until it is birthed as a manchild through resurrection and transfiguration.

John was not alone in this thought, for Peter wrote of the incorruptible seed.

(22) Having purified your souls in the obedience of the truth through the Spirit to unpretended brotherly love, love one another fervently out of a pure heart, (23) being regenerated, not by corruptible seed, but incorruptible, through the living Word of God, and remaining forever. (24) Because “all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of men as the flower of grass; the grass was dried, and its flower fell out, (25) but the Word of the Lord remains forever.” And this is the Word announced as gospel to you. Isaiah 40:6-8 (1 Peter 1:22-25 LITV)

Notice that Peter joined the incorruptible seed with the living Word of God, not a dead word but a living one that does not fade or die.

Now, this leads to what I believe is the real process by which the laws of God (i.e., His Word) are written on our hearts and put into our minds. It is done through the incorruptible seed. I believe this seed contains the full Word of God, which is the very DNA of the seed. How do I come to such a conclusion? I do because Jesus is **the Word of God** (John 1:1) and **the Word became flesh** (John 1:14), and He is in us who believe. If He is in us, then it follows that the very Word of God is also in us in the seed of God. This seed is the Word of God, and it is destined to grow and mature until it is birthed as the Word of God in spiritual flesh. In immortality, we will be the living Word manifested in flesh and bones (Luke 24:39; 1 Corinthians 15:50), for **beloved, now we are the children of God, and it was not yet revealed what we shall be. But we know that if He is revealed, we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him as He is** (1 John 3:2 LITV). This is our hope!

It is my opinion that this process is completed in the middle of the Feast of Tabernacles. In type, Jesus went up to the Temple in the middle of the 8-day feast to teach those in the Temple (John 7:14). In antitype, Jesus will appear in His Temple, the Body of Christ that is filled with the Holy Spirit, filled up to all the fullness of God (Ephesians 3:19), and He will teach (impart to) His spiritual, immortal Body all that they need to know. Thus, they shall no more teach each one, saying, **“Know the Lord,”** because all shall know Him, from the least to the greatest. Their hearts will be the very embodiment of the Word (laws) of God, and they will know and do the will of God in all things, for God will be all in all.