THE TRUE GOSPEL 100 SCRIPTURES ABOUT THE KINGDOM OF GOD

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4 3 . The kingdom is like a harvest

Mar 4:26 And he said, So is the **KINGDOM OF GOD**, as if a man should cast seed into the ground;

Mar 4:27 And should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how.

Mar 4:28 For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear.

Mar 4:29 But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come.

Note: Jesus looked upon the multitudes of people as a great harvest of souls. In Luke 10:1-12 Jesus sent seventy men with instructions as laborers into the harvest to preach the Kingdom of God.

* Mat 9:36 But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.

Mat 9:37 Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly [is] plenteous, but the labourers [are] few;

Mat 9:38 Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.

* Luk 10:1 After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come.

Luk 10:2 Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly [is] great, but the labourers [are] few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest.

Of the three annual Feasts or Holy Days of God, two of these portray two great harvests of souls. The Feast of Pentecost corresponds to the first harvest of the year and is called the Feast of Firstfruits. The Feast of Tabernacles takes place in the fall of the year and is called the Feast of Ingathering.

* Exd 23:14 Three times thou shalt keep a feast unto me in the year.

Exd 23:15 Thou shalt keep the feast of unleavened bread: (thou shalt eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded thee, in the time appointed of the month Abib; for in it thou camest out from Egypt: and none shall appear before me empty:)

Exd 23:16 And the feast of harvest, the firstfruits of thy labours, which thou hast sown in the field: and the feast of ingathering, [which is] in the end of the year, when thou hast gathered in thy labours out of the field.

The year's harvest began with the first sheaf cut and waved as an offering to God. Nothing of the harvest could be eaten until this offering was made. This was done on the day after the Sabbath (Sunday) during the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

* Lev 23:10 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest:

Lev 23:11 And he shall wave the sheaf before the Lord, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the Sabbath the priest shall wave it.

Lev 23:14 And ye shall eat neither bread, nor parched corn, nor green ears, until the selfsame day that ye have brought an offering unto your God: [it shall be] a statute for ever throughout your generations in all your dwellings.

This one sheaf of the harvest represented Jesus Christ. He is called the 'firstfruits' of those who are risen from the dead. Just as the sheaf was waved by the priest to be accepted by God, the resurrected Jesus ascended into Heaven to be accepted by God the Father as our sacrifice on the same Sunday as the sheaf was waved during the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

* 1Cor 15:20 But now is Christ risen from the dead, [and] become the firstfruits of them that slept.

* Jhn 20:17 Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and [to] my God, and your God.

After the wave sheaf was offered on the Sunday during the days of Unleavened Bread, fifty days were then counted. On the fiftieth day called the Feast of Pentecost, Feast of Firstfruits or Feast of Weeks, two loaves of bread were made from the harvest and waved before the Lord.

* Lev 23:15 And ye shall count unto you from the morrow after the Sabbath, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven sabbaths shall be complete:

Lev 23:16 Even unto the morrow after the seventh Sabbath shall ye number fifty days; and ye shall offer a new meat offering unto the Lord.

Lev 23:17 Ye shall bring out of your habitations two wave loaves of two tenth deals: they shall be of fine flour; they shall be baken with leaven; [they are] the firstfruits unto the Lord.

As we recall from Note 42, as Christians eat the flesh of Christ in the annual Passover, they then become the one bread that they have all partaken in eating.

* 1Cor 10:16 The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?

1Cor 10:17 For we [being] many are one bread, [and] one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread.

So we believe that the two loaves of bread made for the Feast of Firstfruits represent all people whom God has called to be in the first resurrection from the Old Testament and the New. * Rom 8:23 And not only [they], but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even

we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, [to wit], the redemption of our body.

* Jam 1:18 Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

Jesus, the first sheaf of the harvest, was raised from the dead to be followed by all those who shall be raised at his second coming.

* 1Cor 15:22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. 1Cor 15:23 But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

According to Rev 14:4, the specific number of people whom God selects to be his firstfruits will be 144,000.

* Rev 14:4 These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, [being] the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb.

The resurrection that takes place at his coming is called the First Resurrection. The second resurrection takes place at the end of the thousand-year reign of Jesus. Thus, the second resurrection corresponds to the great harvest of Ingathering at the year's end, the Feast of Tabernacles when a great multitude which no one can number will be raised to eternal life.

* Rev 20:5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This [is] the first resurrection.

Rev 20:6 Blessed and holy [is] he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

* Lev 23:39 Also in the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when ye have gathered in the fruit of the land, ye shall keep a feast unto the Lord seven days: on the first day [shall be] a Sabbath, and on the eighth day [shall be] a Sabbath.

* Rev 7:9 After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;

We must remember that the harvest not only portrays the two great resurrections to eternal life, but also the discarding of those found unworthy to receive eternal life as we recall from Note # 19 in the parable of the wheat and the tares.

* Mat 13:30 Let both (wheat and tares) grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

Mat 13:38 The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked [one];

Mat 13:39 The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels.

Mat 13:40 As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world.

This harvest of wheat and tares is described in the book of Revelation at the second coming of Christ.

1. The Return of Christ takes place at the Seventh trumpet.

* Rev 11:15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become [the kingdoms] of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

2. The wheat is gathered into the Lord's barn in the first resurrection. 144,000 are seen here standing with Christ on Mt Zion.

* Rev 14:1 And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty [and] four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads.

* Rev 14:4 These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, [being] the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb.

3. Three angels then go forth with messages - the first with the everlasting Gospel * Rev 14:6 And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people,

4. The second announcing the fall of Babylon

* Rev 14:8 And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.

5. The third with a warning to those who worship the Beast and his image and receive his mark * Rev 14:9 And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive [his] mark in his forehead, or in his hand,

Rev 14:10 The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:

4. The harvest of the earth takes place which means that the wrath of God is poured out on the tares who have worshipped the Beast and his image.

* Rev 14:14 And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud [one] sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle.

Rev 14:15 And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe.

Rev 14:16 And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped.

Rev 14:17 And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle.

Rev 14:18 And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire; and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe.

Rev 14:19 And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast [it] into the great winepress of the wrath of God.

Rev 14:20 And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand [and] six hundred furlongs.

In the final harvest of the second resurrection, the incorrigible wicked accounted unworthy of eternal life will be resurrected to face the lake of fire wherein they will be burned up. From this second death there will be no resurrection.

* Rev 20:14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. Rev 20:15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

* Rev 21:8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

The lake of fire will go on to consume the entire physical universe. Then, all mankind will either be harvested into the Kingdom of God as eternal spirit beings or be burned up.

* 2Pe 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

2Pe 3:11 [Seeing] then [that] all these things shall be dissolved, what manner [of persons] ought ye to be in [all] holy conversation and godliness,

2Pe 3:12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

2Pe 3:13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.