No 29

#### REPENTANCE FROM DEAD WORKS Heb 6:1-3

(E.K.B. Revised notes 1999)

# 1. **Basic meaning of repentance**

"Repentance". In the Hebrew of the Old Testament it means to practically turn around from sinful ways, to ways of righteousness and obedience to God. In the Greek of the New Testament it means to have a new mind, or change the way you think. ("metanoia" = to have a new mind).

2. Definition: a deep wholehearted change in the mind, ideas, values, attitudes, words, and actions, when a person turns from the ways of self and sin to obedience to the Lord Jesus Christ. It is making Jesus Lord of our life. Ac 26:18.

#### 3. Why repentance is necessary

**A sinner:** (*Mat* 9:13), is living independent from God, pleasing self, walking in self sufficiency, and rebellion against God. He is going his own way and doing his own thing, *Is* 53:6. His mind is blinded by Satan, 2Cor 4:4, Ac 26:18. He is an enemy of God. Rom 5:10, 1 John 5:19, Eph 2: 1-3, Col 1:21, Col 1:13. God says the nature of an unconverted man is "**corrupt**," Eph 4:22 (KJV).

### 4. The crisis of repentance.

In conversion the power of God the Holy Spirit, and the truth of God's Word, come to bear on the mind and thoughts of the sinner, through the preaching of the Word. Ac 2:36-37, 1Cor 1:17, Acts 8:5. The blinding lies of Satan, Jn 8:44, are destroyed, the light of God's Word shines in, and he is released unto repentance, Ac 2: 36-37. He sees his guilt of sin and corruption, Rom 3:10-20, the wrath of God that hangs over his head, Eph 2:3, 5:6, and he quickly turns from the ways of sin to the ways of obedience to God. He hurries to be washed from his sins in Jesus' blood, Eph 1:7, to be delivered from sin's power by the cross, Rom 6:6,11, and to receive the gift of eternal life, Eph 2:4-10.

# 5. The process of repentance.

**Repentance is ongoing\_throughout the Christian life.** "Dead works" are those activities in our lives which do not have their source in God. They are of the "flesh", or self life. *Rom* 8:5,7,8, 1Cor 3: 1-3, Gal 5:19-21, Eph 4: 22-32, Col 3:5-14. At times the Holy Spirit shows us an area of self reliance, independence, self sufficiency, from which we need to repent. E.g. in the Church at Laodicea, Rev 3:17, it was materialism, and God's requirement was/is "repent!" Rev 3:19. Confess, acknowledge, renounce, turn. from sin, and by God's grace, through faith in His promises, receive the indwelling life and power of Christ. Gal 2:20, Heb 9:14, 1Thes 5:23,24, Heb 13: 20,21, Ezk 36:25-27.

6. **Agents of repentance. Preaching the Word**, anointed by the Holy Spirit, leads us, and enables us to repent of sin, and walk in obedience to God. *Ac* 2:36,37, 2Tim 4:2.

#### Additional Scriptural References.

Mat 3:1-3, 4:17, 11:20-24, 12:41, Mk 1:15, 6:12, Lk 13:3,5, Lk 15:7,10,18,19, Ac 3:19, 11:18, 17:30, 20:21, 26:20, Rom 2:4, Ac 9:1-6, 16:30, 2Tim 2:25, 2Peter 3:9, Rev 2:5,16,22, 3:1-3, Ezk 14:6, 18:30, 23, 27, 28, 32, Prov 28:13, Ezk 33:11, Job 42:6, Jer 25:5.

#### **FAITH TOWARDS GOD**

(E.K.B/I.C.B. Revised notes 1999)

1. **Origins of the word "Faith"**: Greek: pistis (noun), pisteuo - believe (verb), pistosfaithful (adj).

#### 2. What is faith?

**Definition** of "faith": it is a certain, positive, inward conviction in your spirit, that God has spoken a word into your heart.

("rhema" = "word" in *Mat 4:4*, *Lk 1:38*, 5:5, *Jn 6:63*, *Eph 5:26*, *Rom 10:8*, *Eph 6:17*)

Now faith is the assurance (the confirmation, the title deeds), of the things we hope for, being the proof of things we do not see and the conviction of their reality - faith perceiving as real fact what is not revealed to the senses, *Heb 11:1(Amp)* **"Faith is NOW!"** When the Holy Spirit quickens a word of faith to a believer, at that moment they become the possessors of what has been spoken, *Heb 11:1.* "Now" is emphatic, *Mk 11:24, James 1:5-6, Heb 11:6, Jn 16:23-24, 1Jn 5:14,15.* 

**Faith is not "hope"**. Hope is something to be received in the future. Hope is the helmet that keeps the mind. *1Thes 5:8*. Faith is "Now" It is given now. *1Jn5:14,15*, *Mk 11:24*. **Faith is the life-line to God, the power-line to God**. Faith plugs us into God as the total source of our supply, *Mat 4:4*, *Rom 1:17*, *Phil 4:19*. By the "exceeding great and precious promises" all our needs are met, *2Pet 1:4*, *Heb 6:12*.

#### 3. Where does faith come from?

**Faith comes** by hearing a word from God, *Rom 10:17*.

**Faith** is God's Word revealed in your heart, by the Holy Spirit.

**Source of faith**: The Holy Spirit quickened Word of God - (Rhema) *Rom 10:17*.

The Holy Spirit: 1Cor 12:9, Gal 5:22, Eph 2:8, Mk 11:22, Rom 12:3.

**Revelation Knowledge** and sense Knowledge - Read *Lk* 8:22-25. Faith is based upon revelation Knowledge, unbelief on sense Knowledge. Jesus' command to cross the lake, *Mat* 8:18, was the revelation knowledge, while the wind and raging water was sense knowledge.

**Faith is in the "heart" or spirit**, so that you "know that you know", and is expressed by confession with the mouth. *Mat* 12:34-35, *Rom* 10:5-13, *Deut* 30:14, *Mk* 11:23, *Ps* 1:1-3, *Mat* 8:8,10, *Heb* 3:1, *Pro* 4:20-22.

### 4. What is the purpose, use, outcome of faith?

**Before God does a work** He gives the **WORD** of the work to His chosen servant, *Heb 11:8*. God will perform the work as His servant believes and confesses and acts on the Word given. *Heb 11:9*.

**God's creative work** is performed by speaking the word of faith. *Mat* 8:8,16, 9:6, 14:29, *Mk* 1:27, 4:39, *Gen* 1:3. As we believe the rhema Word God has given to us, and speak it forth, the Holy Spirit brings it to pass. *Deut* 30:14, *Jer* 1:12.

Faith enables you to please God. *Heb 11:6, Mat 8:10,13, 9:21,22, 15:28.* 

When we act in faith, God is well pleased. Num 13:30, 14:24.

**Faith is an action**/ results in action, *Jam 2:17,26*, *Mat 14:29-30*, *9:21*.

If we believe God's rhema word we will step out and act on it, *Mat 14:29*. **Protection by faith**, *Eph 6:16*. By believing the Word of God, all the fiery lies of the enemy are destroyed, *1Jn 5:4*.

### 5. In order to complete the task faith must be coupled with endurance.

Lk 11:8,18:1-8, Mat 15:21-28, Heb 6:12,15, Rom 4: 18-20. True faith endures through trials and tests until the work is done.

#### 6. What hinders faith?

Anxiety, fear, doubt, reasoning.; four great enemies of faith, *Mat* 6:30, 8:26, 14:31, 16:8. **Unbelief is not "non-belief"** but wrong belief. It is believing the wrong thing. Fear, doubt, anxiety, "reasonings", *Mat* 16:8, are all examples of believing in the wrong thing. *Lk* 8:25. The disciples were believing that the wind and the waves controlled their lives, but Jesus believed His Father's Word. Jesus had commanded them to cross the lake, *Mat* 8:18.

### 7. Do we have enough faith?

God has given us the measure of faith we need, *Rom 12:3*, *Heb 12:2*, *Eph 2:8-10*, 2*Tim 1:6*,7, for our calling in Him.

#### 8. How to exercise the faith we have?

**Focus faith** at the point of need and lay hold of specific promises of God's Word. Faith is not vague and general, but is specific in application. Make specific requests and look for specific answers, *Lk 11:9*, *Ps 103:3*, *1Peter 2:24*. Rather than, "God bless my sister Rose," let the Holy Spirit guide you to pray definitely. e.g. "O God separate Rose from the evil that is around her and give her a real desire for your Word," *2Cor 6:17-18*, *Ps 119:11*.

#### **Faith Keys:**

- a. **God is good.** His desire is towards His children. *Ps* 56:9, *Jn* 10:10(b), *Ezk* 36:9, *Ps* 23:1, *Phil* 4:19, 1Thes 3:3, Jer 29:11.
- b. **God is my total Source of Supply.** *Phil 4:19, Mat 6:33, Ru 2:12, Ps 84:11.*
- c. **Sow by faith** into your area of need by confessing and believing His promises. eg for healing: *Mat* 8:17, 1Pet 2:24, Jam 5:15,16, Ps 103:3, Pro 4:20-22.
- d. **Expect a miracle** of God's provision. Thank Him, Jam 1:5,6, 1Jn 5:14,15, Mk 9:23.
- e. **Do not give up**, *Heb 6:12*.

# 9. **How to grow in faith**: (See 2 Thess 1:3)

- a. Mark the scriptures God quickens to you, 2Pet 1:4
- b. Thank God for them. Repeat them back to the Lord with thanks.
- c. Confess them aloud, boldly, often, *Heb 3:1, 4:14, 10:23*.
- d. Say, "It is written!" and resist the enemy, *Jam 4:7*, *1Pet 5:9*.
- e. Step out in dependence upon what God has given you, *Ps 1:1-3.* "Meditate" (in K.J.V.) means to speak, utter, shout, God's Word. Result prosperity in God, *3Jn 2*.

#### Additional scripture references: (K.J.V.)

Mat 9:2,22,29, 17:20, 21:21,22, Mk 11:12-14,20-24, 9:23, Mk 10:27, 16:17, Lk 1:45, 8:22-25, Lk 1:37-38, Ac 20:21, Ac16:31, 8:37, Rom 1:17, 3:22, 4:3,5,20, 5:1,2, 14:23, 1Cor 2:5, 2Cor 5:7, Gal 3:1-14, Eph 6:16, Phil 3:9, Heb 4:2, 10:22, 1Jn 5:4,5, 2Chr 20:17, Rev 2:10, 1Peter 1:7.

#### BAPTISMS: - BAPTISM IN WATER - Heb 6:1-3

(E.K.B. Revised notes 1999).

### 1. There are three baptisms

"One Baptism" (Eph 4:5) consists of three parts:

- a. baptism into the Body of Christ, (the fellowship of local believers), by the Holy Spirit, when we first believe, *1Cor 12:13*. The same as being born again, *Jn 3:5*.
- b. baptism in water, Ac 2:38.
- c. baptism with the Holy Spirit, Ac 1:5.

# 2. **Baptism in water is a command.**

**Importance of Baptism** *Mat* 28:18-20, *Mk* 16:16, *Ac* 10:48. Peter commanded Cornelius and his household to be baptised. It is essential.

# 3. What is the right time to be water baptised?

As soon as possible after conversion. Ac 2:41 - same day, Ac 22:16 - without delay, Ac 10:48 - same day, Ac 16:33 - at midnight, the same hour, Ac 8:38 - at next waterhole, Acts 8:12,16, 19:5.

### 4. Who should be water baptised?

Disciples of Jesus, *Mat* 28:19, those who gladly receive the Word, *Ac* 2:41, those who believe with all their heart. *Ac* 8:37.

### 5. What is the meaning of water baptism?

We are baptised into Christ's death, and into His resurrection, *Rom* 6:3,4,5, so that we might walk in newness of life. The power of sin in our lives is broken, *Rom* 6:6-11. We put on Christ as our life in baptism, *Gal* 3:27. Baptism is the point at which we are set free from the authority of the Kingdom of darkness, from Satan and this world, and we enter into the Kingdom of Jesus Christ. *Col* 1:13, *Gal* 2:20, *Romans* 6:22, 14, *Gal* 6:14. In baptism we are identified with Christ in His death, burial, resurrection.

- 6. **We are to be baptised into the Lord Jesus Christ,** *Gal* 3:27, *Rom* 6:3, *Ac* 2:38, 8:16, 10:48, 19:5, and through Him into full fellowship with the whole Godhead, *Mat* 28:19, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- 7. **Who may water baptise others?** Any established believer in Christ who is able to explain the meaning and importance of water baptism. Teach first, then baptise.
- 8. **Prayer and prophecy at water baptisms.** Where possible gather the church at the place of baptism. Praise and worship God together. Share a word of scripture. Encourage the person to be baptised to boldly confess faith in Christ. Stand in the water with them and pray. Expect prophecy. Get some one, to record or write down prophecies. Then baptise them under the water. Invite others present to be baptised.

### 9. What about infant baptism?

Some may have had this done for them by their parents. Being baptised as an adult believer is entering fully into baptism, with conscious personal faith. It is not a second baptism, and it is not despising what well meaning parents may have done.

### 10. **Typology in the Old Testament**

Israel's departure from Egypt via the Red Sea, *Ex 12-15*, is an Old Testament type of Water Baptism, *1Cor 10:1-2*. They were set free from slavery and destruction, their enemies were destroyed, and God drew them to Himself, *Ex 15:13*.

**Additional Scripture References:** Ac 8: 12,16,35-38, 9:17,18, (22:16), 16: 25-34, 19:1-6 1Cor 10: 1-11.

#### BAPTISMS: BAPTISM WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AND FIRE - Heb 6:1-3

(E.K.B. Revised notes 1999)

# 1. Who baptises us with the Holy Spirit?

**Christ** is the One who baptises us with the Holy Spirit, and the Father promised that He would send the Holy Spirit upon all who believe in His Son, Jesus Christ, *Acts 1:4*. **Come to Jesus** to be baptised with the Holy Spirit, *Mat 3:11*, *Mk 1:8*, *Lk 3:16*.

# 2. What is the purpose of the baptism with the Holy Spirit?

To receive the power and enabling of God, so that we may be witnesses unto Him in all the earth, Now, *Ac 1:8*. This is God equipping us for His service, and to extend His Kingdom, *Mat 6:33*.

### 3. What are the conditions for receiving the baptism with the Holy Spirit?

- a. Repent and be converted, *Ac 3:19, Ac 2:38,39*.
- b. Be cleansed in Jesus' blood from all known sins. 1Jn 1:7,9, Pro 28:13, Ps 66:18, Rev 1:5.
- c. Give yourself wholly to God and receive Jesus Christ as Lord in every area of your life, *Rom 10:9*, *Rom 12:1*, *1Cor 6:19,20*.
- d. Receive the promise of the baptism with the Spirit by faith. *Ac 2:39, Lk 11:13, Jn 7:37-39, Jn 4:10,14*.
- e. A thirsty heart for God, *Jn* 7:37-39, *Jn* 4:10,14.

### 4. How can we help others to receive?

Teach the truths of the word about this baptism. 2Tim 1:6,7, Jn 14:26, Lk 11: 9-13, Jn 4:10,14 and so on. Lay hands on them and pray for them to receive, Ac 8:17, 9: 17,18, 19:6. Encourage them to believe, receive and respond to the manifestations of the Holy Spirit. Ac 2:4, 10:46, 19:6, 1Cor 14:1, 1Cor 12:7-11. Encourage them to pray in tongues daily, to witness boldly and keep serving God, Jn 7:37-39, 1Cor 14:5,18,31.

#### 5. What are the Results of this Baptism?

- a. Joy, praise, worship to God. Ac 2:11, 10:46, Eph 5:18,19.
- b. Boldness and effectiveness in witness. Ac 1:8, 4:13, 4:31, 2Tim 1:7, Ac 2:17.
- c. Effectiveness and power in preaching, 2 Cor 3:6, Lk 4:18, Ac 6:5,10.
- d. Ability to understand God's Word, 1Jn 2:27, Jn 16:13.
- e. We receive the Gifts of the Spirit, *1Cor 12:8-10*. These are the channels for the flow of God's power to do the works of Jesus, *Jn 14:12,13,14,15*.
- f. Power in prayer, Jude 20, Ac 4:23-31, Eph 6:18,19.
- g. The fruit of the Spirit, *Rom 5:5*, *Gal 5:22,23*, Christ's character.
- h. Victory over sin, *Rom 8:13*, 8:2, 6:14,22.

- i. Increase of tests, trials, and spiritual warfare. *Eph 6: 10-12, Ac 4:1-4, Jam 1:2,3, Ac 6: 8-13, 1Pet 4:12,13*. In all these we have already been made victorious, *1Cor 15:57, 2Cor 2:14*.
- j. Ability to use our seven motivational gifts to edify the Church, *Rom 12:3-8*.
- 6. What is the baptism with fire? *Mat 3:11*.

Some say it is inward purifying, *Jer 23:29, 20:9,* (and or) test and trials, *1 Pet 4: 12,* (and or) mighty anointing to preach the gospel, *Ps 104:4.* On fire for God! Amen.

**Additional Scripture References:** *Jn 1:33, Lk 24:49, Jn 16:7,12-15, Ac 2:1-4,17,18, Ac 8: 5-8,14-18, Mic 3:8.* 

#### LAYING ON OF HANDS (Heb 6:1-3)

(EKB revised notes 2000)

#### **Purposes:**

- 1. **To impart the blessing of God**, *Mk* 10:13-16, *Mat* 19:13-15. When people are in need and discouraged or desiring the blessing of God, we may lay hands on them and pray for the blessing of God to flow in, and release and uplift them, *Gen* 48:9-19.
- 2. **For healing**. Physical healing, healing of hurts, and inward wounds. *Lk* 4:40,41, *Lk* 13:13, *Mk* 7:32,33, 8:23-25, *Mat* 8:3, *Ac* 5:12, *Ac* 4:30, 9:17, 14:3, *Ac* 28:8,9, 19:11, *Mk* 16:18.
- 3. **Baptism with the Holy Spirit**, *Ac* 8:17, 9:17, 19:6, and subsequent infillings.
- 4. **To "ordain" or set apart ministries** which God has given into His Church. *Ac* 13:1-3, 1Tim 4:14, Ac 6:1-6, 1Tim 5:22 (read the whole context of elder appointment in 1Tim). In these passages are mentioned "apostles," or ministers of the Lord sent out, deacons, and elders, Num 27:15-23.
- 5. **To impart spiritual gifts,** *Deut 34:9, Ac 19:6, 1Tim 4:14, 2Tim 1:6.*

#### **CAUTION:**

- 1. Do not be hasty, to lay hands on somebody, but wait on the leading of the Lord and the witness of the Holy Spirit. If in doubt, wait. You can always pray with the spirit and generally for a person without laying on hands. Do not lay hands on a person who is in rebellion against God. Be wise, *1Tim 5:22*.
- 2. Do not allow people to lay hands on you if you are uncertain about it. If it has been done and you feel it was not right in God, then receive forgiveness and cleansing, and reject it in Jesus' Name. The Lord bless you richly.

Additional Scripture References: Lk 5:13, Mk 6:5, Mk 1:41.

#### RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD (Heb 6: 1-3)

(Refer to chart as well)

(EKB revised notes 1999)

#### 1. What does "resurrection" mean?

"Resurrection" means the raising up of our present bodies. The provision of a new body would not be "resurrection".

Read *Phil 3:20-21*. "For our citizenship is in heaven, from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: who shall change our "lowly" (RSV) body, that it may be fashioned like unto His glorious body, according to the working whereby **He is able** even to subdue all things unto Himself".

Read Lk 24:37-43, 1Cor 15:42-44,52-54.

#### 2. What happened when Jesus died?

At the point of Jesus death. (Read the "Apostles' Creed" in No 83)

- a. He commended His Spirit to the Father, *Lk* 23:46.
- b. His soul descended into Hell (Hades the place of departed "spirits" waiting judgment). *Ac* 2:27,31, *Ps* 16:10, *Eph* 4:9, 1Pet 3:19, 4:6, Mat 12:40, (Read *Jonah*), Rev 1:18. Prior to Calvary, the condition or place of departed souls is described by Jesus in *Lk* 16:19-31. (The Hades of peace (Abraham's bosom), and the Hades of torment.)
- c. Jesus' body was placed in the tomb, *Mat* 27:59-60.

### 3. The point of Jesus' resurrection

**Three days and three nights later** Jesus burst forth from the grave holding Keys of death and hell having conquered the whole Kingdom of darkness. *Mat* 28:1-10, 12:40, *Rev* 1:18, *Heb* 2:14, *Col* 2:15, *Eph* 4:8,9, *Eph* 1:17-23. (Learn this last reference by heart and use it as a prayer of praise and thanksgiving.)

At the same time as Jesus arose triumphant, a whole company of Old Testament saints were also **resurrected bodily** with Him, *Mat* 27:51-53, and were seen of many, as they appeared as Jesus did, to many in Jerusalem. (Extra study *Lev* 23:5-14. "Passover" – The Lamb killed and eaten, Unleavened bread, and the "first fruits" of harvest. *1Cor* 15:20). Altogether there are ten different appearances of the resurrected Jesus recorded in the gospels and in *1Cor* 15.

#### 4. The importance of Jesus' resurrection

### Jesus' Resurrection declares:

- a. Our preaching worthwhile, 1Cor 15:14.
- b. Our faith is profitable, 1Cor 15:17.
- c. Our sins are forgiven, 1Cor 15:17.
- d. We do have eternal life, 1Cor 15:18.
- e. Jesus as God's Son, Rom 1:4.
- f. Death and Hell have been conquered by the Lord, *Rev 1:18*
- g. That God takes sin seriously and that the day of judgment is approaching rapidly, *Ac* 17:31,32.

#### 5. The Resurrection Body of Jesus.

**Jesus' Resurrection Body** was the same body that died on the Cross. Read *Lk* 24:36--43, *Jn* 20:27-29, but now it was, and is, "incorruptible", "glorious", "powerful", a "spiritual body", "immortal," *1Cor* 15:42,43,44,53. A body of the eternal, unseen realm where God dwells, 2 *Cor* 4:18. Read also 2*Cor* 13:4.

#### 6. Belief in the resurrection of Jesus is essential.

**Salvation depends upon** our belief that Jesus arose bodily from the dead. *1Cor 15:17-18, Rom 10:9*. If Christ be not raised then our preaching is useless, we are not forgiven, it is not possible to have faith, and all who have died are eternally perished, *1Cor 15:14-18*. (Counterfeit religion - rationalistic, or occult, teach a "spiritual" or spirit "resurrection" only).

# 7. We have been raised spiritually with Christ.

We are now identified with Christ in His resurrection, and so able to walk in newness of life, *Rom 6:1-11, Col 3: 1-3.* 

# 8. The apostles preached the resurrection of Jesus.

**The Resurrection of Christ** was the basis of apostolic preaching, *Ac* 2:24,31,32, 3:26, 4:10, *Ac* 5:30-33.

#### 9. Who will be raised from the dead?

**All men** will be raised in either the resurrection of life, or the resurrection of damnation, *Jn* 5:25-29. *Lk* 14:14.

#### 10. The believer's resurrection.

**All saints, believers,** will be raised at the "resurrection of the just", on the "last day". Lk 14:14, 1Cor 15:23, Jn 11:24, Jn 6:39-44, 1Thess 4:13-18, 1Cor 15:52-58. This is the "first resurrection," Rev 20:4-6. (See the chart).

#### 11. The unbeliever's resurrection.

**The unrighteous** will be raised in another resurrection at the end of the one thousand year reign of Christ. *Rev* 20:11-15, *Jn* 5:29. This is the resurrection of damnation. (See the chart).

12. **When a believer dies** during the church age his soul and spirit go straight to be with the Lord, 2Cor 5:8, Phil 1:23.

In the "resurrection of the just" the saints will be raised "incorruptible", "glorious", "in power", "immortal", and so there will be no evidence of sickness, disease, deformity.

#### 13. **Jesus' resurrection foretold.**

It is important to remember that Jesus foretold His coming resurrection during His earthly ministry. A number of times Jesus prophesied that He would rise from the dead three days after He was crucified, *Mat 16:21*, *Mat 17:23*, *Mk 10:33 etc*.

**Additional Scripture References:** *Lk* 24:1-31, 1Cor 15:1-26,35-38, Lk 9:22, Ac 2:36, 3:15, Ac 4:33, 1:3, Mat 16:21-26, Jn 6:39-44, 1Cor 6:13-15, 2Cor 4:14.

#### ETERNAL JUDGMENT (Heb 6:1-3)

(E.K.B. Revised notes 1999)

- 1. **Meaning of "Eternal Judgment":** determines the eternal destiny of those judged.
- 2. **What is "Judgment?"** It means to call to account, to try as a judge, to exercise judgment upon.
- 3. **Why is Judgment necessary? Where there is a law** there has to be a judgment, a calling to account, or else the law is only good advice.
- 4. What is the law we are subject to?

**The Law of Christ.** Christians are under the New Covenant in Jesus' Blood, *Lk* 22:20, and the Law of Christ, *1Cor* 9:21 (*NASB*, *NIV*), *Gal* 6:2. The Law of Christ is the Law we will be judged by. *Jn* 13:34,35, 14:15, 15:10,12,14,17, 1Jn 3:23, 4:21, *Mat* 22: 36-40. God is love, His nature is love, *1Jn* 4:8,16, and His law is that his created beings act in love toward Him, and toward one another. Sin is breaking God's law of love to God and man. *1Jn* 3:4. (*See KJV*). *Gal* 5:14 says that **all the law** is fulfilled in "You shall love your neighbour as yourself", *Lev* 19:18. God's law at all times, expressed in various ways, is His universal law of love. God's law expresses His nature. He always acts in love, *Jn* 3:16.

# 5. Where will we be judged?

**The judgment seat of Christ,** *Rom 14:10-12, 2Cor 5:10.* Every Christian will stand before this judgment seat and be judged. We will not be judged for sins forgiven and cleansed away by the blood of Jesus, because these have already been judged in Christ on the Cross, *1 Pet 3:18.* This judgment will be concerning our obedient service to His will for our lives and the matter of "rewards," *1Cor 3:8-15. 2Tim 4: 1,6-8, Rev 11:18.* 

- 6. **Judgment, in general terms**, will be according to light and privilege, *Rom 2:12*, according to divine all-Knowledge, *Rom 2:5-6*, according to the Word of God, the truth, *Rom 2:2*, according to divine impartiality, *Rom 2:11*.
- 7. **How will those be judged who have never heard the gospel? Judgment of people,** nations, civilisations, that have come and gone and have never heard of Jesus' or read the Bible, or heard a preacher. Read *Rom 1:18-21*. Their judgment will be according to the revelation of God through **creation,** *Rom 1:20,21*, through **conscience,** *Rom 2:14-16*, and the way they have lived up to this revelation. *Rom 1:21* says the response that God requires is to glorify Him with thankful hearts.
- 8. **The universal law of conscience in all people, everywhere.**Rom 2:14-16 is amazingly universal among all men and cultures. Try and get a copy of "Mere Christianity" by C.S.Lewis and read the first few chapters. Also "Eternity in their Hearts" by Don Richardson which shows that all cultures were originally monotheistic, believing in **one** good, true God, before they became polytheistic (many "gods").

### 9. When will believers be judged?

This will take place immediately following the resurrection of the just, at the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, at the end of the Church age. (See the chart). 2Tim 4:1,8, 1Cor 3:13, Mat 25:19, Lk 19:15, Rev 11:18.

### 10. **Results of the judgment of believers.** Read 1Cor 3:8-15, 2Cor 5:10.

Every man shall receive his own reward, v8, according to his own labour, v8, but it has to be labour in line with God's will and the leading of His Spirit,  $Rom\ 8:14,\ 1Cor\ 3:10-12$ , because if we do our own thing, v12, (hay, wood, stubble), we will suffer loss when it is tried by the fire of God, v15, and have no reward. However if we labour in God's will, as He leads by His Spirit, v12, (gold, silver, precious stones) our works will pass through the fire of His inspection, and we will be rewarded, v14. See also  $Mat\ 25:21,23,\ 34,\ Lk\ 19:\ 17,19$ . Note the sad end of those who do nothing for God,  $Mat\ 25:24-30,\ Lk\ 19:20-26$ . The man of  $I\ Cor\ 3:8-15$  who built in wood, hay and stubble had at least attempted to work for God, even if it had been his own efforts, plans and ideas. You should gain from this reading, that seeking God, waiting on Him for the clear, confirmed leading of His Spirit, is necessary before you move out to serve the Lord. He has the plans and the "blue-print" for your life in front of Him,  $Jer\ 29:11$ ,  $Eph\ 2:10$ , and He will tell you what part of His Kingdom He wants you to build.

Ps 27:8,14, Col 4:17, Jn 5: 19,30, 6:38, 12:50.

#### 11. Rewards are described as "crowns"

- a. Soul winners crown, *Phil 4:1,1Thess 2:19*. Crown of joy.
- b. Crown of life, *Rev 2:10, Jam 1:12*, for faithful service despite sufferings.
- c. Crown of glory, 1 Pet 5:1-4, for faithful shepherds who care for the flock.
- d. The incorruptible crown, 1Cor 9:25 for those who persevere to God's glory.
- e. Crown of righteousness, *2Tim 4:7*,8 for finishing the course, and looking for His coming.

### 12. When will the judgment of unbelievers occur?

**Judgment of unbelievers** will occur after the resurrection of the unrighteous at the end of the millenium. See the chart. *Rev* 20:11-15, *Jude* 15, *Jn* 5:29, *Mat* 12:36, 11:22, 2Peter 2:9, Rom 2:5, Mk 9:43-48. "Hell" in verses 43, 45, 47, is Greek "Gehenna" the "lake of fire," *Mat* 25:41.

**Additional Scripture References:** Ac 17:30,31, Ac 10:42, Heb 9:27, Jn 5:22,27, Jn 12:48, Ac 24:25, Mat 12:41,42, 10:15, 11:24, 1Pet 4:5, 1:17, 2Pet 2:9, 3:7, 2Thes 1: 7-10, Heb 12:23, Mat 13:36-42, Mat 25:31-46, Lk 19:11-27, Mat 25:14-30, 1Cor 4:4,5, 1Jn 4:17.

