

Sunday May 20th 2018
The Word of God
A Survey of the Bible – Part 7C
'His Special People'

1). Ge 1:26 ¶ *Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.*

We have seen from the very beginning of scripture that God's purpose for creating Man is regal, to rule the earth with Christ in the place of Satan and his fallen angels.

a). And during our study we have seen how this purpose has been played out through one man, Abraham, and then through his descendants, Isaac and Jacob - the nation of Israel. And as we have viewed this recorded history, even from the beginning in Genesis, we have been aware that God continually directs us to a specific time that remains yet future when this purpose will be fulfilled – Heb 4:1 ¶ *Therefore, since a promise remains of entering His rest, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it. 2 For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard it. 3 For we who have believed do enter that rest, as He has said: "So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest,'" although the works were finished from the foundation of the world. 4 For He has spoken in a certain place of the seventh day in this way: "And God rested on the seventh day from all His works"; 5 and again in this place: "They shall not enter My rest." 6 Since therefore it remains that some must enter it, and those to whom it was first preached did not enter because of disobedience, 7 again He designates a certain day, saying in David, "Today," after such a long time, as it has been said: "Today, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts." 8 For if Joshua had given them rest, then He would not afterward have spoken of another day. 9 There remains therefore a rest for the people of God.*

b). And incredibly, we continue to see how the recording of these actual events has provided for us not only the detail of Jewish history, but also through this history prophetic word pictures using types to reveal how God has worked and will work in the future with His people in relation to the fulfillment of His purpose as set out in Genesis 1:26-27.

c). And not only that, but through these same historical events He has formed word pictures, using types, to teach us great spiritual truth concerning the part we are offered in the fulfillment of God's creative purpose, alongside Israel, to be joint heirs together with Christ in the 7th Day.

d). For example, we have seen in previous weeks how the first generation of Israel to come out of Egypt rejected the land they were brought out of Egypt to inherit, formed a type, a prophetic word picture, of Israel's rejection of the Kingdom of the Heavens and deliverance from Gentile persecution at the Lord's first advent.

e). And the first generation subsequently wandering and dying in the wilderness following their act of rejection, except for Joshua and Caleb, formed the type for Israel's experience since the Lord's crucifixion witnessed in every Jewish cemetery throughout the Gentile world.

f). Then the second generation entering the land under Joshua provided a type of repentant, restored and healed Israel yet future entering the land under Christ at the head of the nations at the end of the Tribulation.

g). Historical events then, involving real people, providing prophetic insight into events that are still unfolding within God's 7 Day calendar – And with respect to Christians, these same events have provided the types, the word pictures, by which we can clearly see the mystery of God revealed, giving us the full assurance of hope until the end.

h). With respect to this hope we have seen the Bride [of Christ] taken from the body in Genesis Chapter 2, the Bride taken from the family in Genesis Chapter 24 and the Bride taken from the Gentiles through Asenath, Zipporah and Ruth. All working together to provide different facets to our understanding of the how, the why and the where of the Bride who will rule with Christ as consort queen in the Millennial Kingdom. And then, in addition to these particular word pictures concerning the Bride and Israel yet future we can then see the whole of the matter presented again, from a different perspective, but bringing us to the same conclusion - Jos 14:9 *"So Moses swore on that day, saying, 'Surely the land where your foot has trodden shall be your inheritance and your children's forever, because you have wholly followed the LORD my God.' "And now, behold, the LORD has kept me alive, as He said, these*

forty-five years, ever since the LORD spoke this word to Moses while Israel wandered in the wilderness; and now, here I am this day, eighty-five years old. 11 "As yet I am as strong this day as on the day that Moses sent me; just as my strength was then, so now is my strength for war, both for going out and for coming in. 12 "Now therefore, give me this mountain of which the LORD spoke in that day; for you heard in that day how the Anakim were there, and that the cities were great and fortified. It may be that the LORD will be with me, and I shall be able to drive them out as the LORD said." 13 And Joshua blessed him, and gave Hebron to Caleb the son of Jephunneh as an inheritance. 14 Hebron therefore became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite to this day, because he wholly followed the LORD God of Israel. 15 And the name of Hebron formerly was Kirjath Arba (Arba was the greatest man among the Anakim). Then the land had rest from war.

The scriptures show both Joshua and Caleb receiving their inheritance in the land that God had covenanted to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and through Caleb's name we see something remarkable – his name literally means 'a dog' – an epithet used by the Jewish people for Gentiles throughout their history – Mt 15:26 *But He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs."* 27 *And she said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table."* [Talking to a Canaanite woman]

i). And in this remarkable picture from Joshua Chapter 14 we see 'a dog' [picturing Gentiles] Caleb, taking the 'mountain' [picturing a kingdom] which he had been promised – a 'mountain' and a 'city' that had belonged to Arba – 'the greatest man' among the Anakim, the giants.

j). And so, together, Joshua – whose name means salvation, pictures Israel and Caleb – meaning a dog, pictures Christians from this dispensation, receiving their inheritance as God has promised throughout His Word – Israel in that day receiving the land and Christians the heavenly realm of the Kingdom. And when these 2 things were in place in the type, notice what the scripture prophetically says about the future - "Then the land had rest from war".

k). Now, if we return to the account of Saul and David that we had begun to look at last time we will find this whole picture of rulership with respect to the earth laid out again from yet another perspective, taking us on this occasion from a time before the restoration of the earth in Genesis Chapter 1

through to the Millennial Kingdom – a timeframe seen through the typology, the word pictures, formed by the 2 protagonists – Saul and David.

2). Saul, we will remember was the first king of Israel, appointed within the context of stiff necked rebellion on the part of Israel's elders –
1Sa 8:19 Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, "No, but we will have a king over us, 20 that we also may be like all the nations, and that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles." 21 And Samuel heard all the words of the people, and he repeated them in the hearing of the LORD. 22 So the LORD said to Samuel, "Heed their voice, and make them a king." And Samuel said to the men of Israel, "Every man go to his city."

The elders of Israel rejecting Samuel, their God-appointed Judge in favor of a king, 'like all the nations', amounted to a rejection of God Himself.

a). And it is not long after this that Saul, through fear of the people, rebelled against the command of the Lord, having the kingdom torn from him as the consequence – *1Sa 15: 24 ¶ Then Saul said to Samuel, "I have sinned, for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD and your words, because I feared the people and obeyed their voice. 25 "Now therefore, please pardon my sin, and return with me, that I may worship the LORD." 26 But Samuel said to Saul, "I will not return with you, for you have rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD has rejected you from being king over Israel." 27 And as Samuel turned around to go away, Saul seized the edge of his robe, and it tore. 28 So Samuel said to him, "The LORD has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today, and has given it to a neighbor of yours, who is better than you.*

Now as we look at the type presented through the account of Saul we need to look at the broad details that provide a parallel with another 'first king'.

b). Perhaps we might remember this from a previous study –
Eze 28:15 You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, till iniquity was found in you.....17Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; You corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor;

These verses are of course speaking of the one we know as Satan, the god of this age. And we can note the description of his 'beauty' and 'splendor', how he appeared 'perfect' until iniquity was found in him.

c). Now if we compare this with the description we are given of Saul we might see a similarity – 1 Sam 9:2 *And he had a choice and handsome son whose name was Saul. There was not a more handsome person than he among the children of Israel. From his shoulders upward he was taller than any of the people.*

1Sa 15:30 *Then he said, "I have sinned; yet honor me now, please, before the elders of my people and before Israel, and return with me, that I may worship the LORD your God."*

And we know that Satan's iniquity was revealed through rebellion – Isa 14:13 *For you have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation; On the farthest sides of the north; 14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.'*

And it is rebellion on Saul's part that was the cause of his downfall – in fact Saul's choice to do what was right in his own eyes in effect sought to exalt his 'throne' above the throne of God, as did Satan, believing that he knew better than God.

d). And as with Satan, so with Saul – both had their kingdom taken from them because of rebellion, but neither were immediately removed from their position of rulership - 1 Sam 16:1 *Now the Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go; I am sending you to Jesse the Bethlehemite. For I have provided Myself a king among his sons.".....12 So he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, with bright eyes, and good-looking. And the Lord said, "Arise, anoint him; for this is the one!" 13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel arose and went to Ramah.*

At that moment in time, as Samuel anointed David as king over Israel, there were then 2 anointed kings over God's people – one rejected, Saul, yet still ruling, and the other, David, accepted, but waiting until the day when God would remove Saul as king and place David on the throne in his stead.

e). And here, through the picture given of Israel's 2 anointed kings, is presented to us the situation which exists with respect to rulership of the earth even to this day.

f). Satan, the original ruler of the earth, has been rejected because of his rebellion before the restoration of the earth began and the Christ, God in the person of Son, has been anointed ruler in Satan's place. But, as with David, the Christ is waiting for the time when God will remove the crown from Satan's head and place it on His own head in Satan's stead.

g). This is where we are today, and this is how matters will continue to exist.....until. And in the meantime, it would be good for us to come to the realization of that which Nebuchadnezzar came to understand –

Dan 4: 25 *They shall drive you from men, your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field, and they shall make you eat grass like oxen. They shall wet you with the dew of heaven, and seven times shall pass over you, till you know **that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses.***

h). Within this overall type then, Saul pictures Satan and David is a type, a picture of Christ.

i). And if we remember the descriptions we have looked at of Satan and Saul we will see a marked contrast in the choosing of David - 1Sa 16:6 ¶ *So it was, when they came, that he looked at Eliab and said, "Surely the LORD'S anointed is before Him." 7 But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have refused him. For the LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."*

What we see here with respect to David, foreshadows Isaiah's description of the Lord - Isa 53:2 *For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, And as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, There is no beauty that we should desire Him.*

And here would be the very reason the scriptures admonish us - 2Co 5:7 *For we walk by faith, not by sight.*

3). Ps 2:6 *"Yet I have set My King On My holy hill of Zion."*

David writes prophetically here about the One whom he typifies, and what he wrote confirms that which we read in Daniel Chapter 4 – It is God who will set His King on His holy hill of Zion – in God's timing in accordance with all that He has set out in the scriptures. Not a moment early nor a moment late.

a). And it is God's sovereign control over the fulfillment of His purpose that we can see exemplified in David's attitude towards Saul - 1Sa 26:8 *Then Abishai said to David, "God has delivered your enemy into your hand this day. Now therefore, please, let me strike him at once with the spear, right to the earth; and I will not have to strike him a second time!"* 9 *And David said to Abishai, "Do not destroy him; for who can stretch out his hand against the LORD'S anointed, and be guiltless?"* 10 *David said furthermore, "As the LORD lives, the LORD shall strike him, or his day shall come to die, or he shall go out to battle and perish.* 11 *"The LORD forbid that I should stretch out my hand against the LORD'S anointed.*

On one level, here was a test for David, to test his faithful obedience and trust in the Lord. Saul was 'delivered' into David's hand and all David had to do was give the word and Saul would have been instantly removed allowing David to take the throne. But David would not transgress the commandment of the Lord with respect to the Lord's anointed, even though God had rejected Saul, and would rely upon God to place the crown upon his head in His timing.

b). Then on another level we can see a foreshadowing of the Lord's response to Satan at His first advent - Heb 2:9 ***But we see Jesus, who was made a little [for a little while] lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.***

And for David, his patient endurance and faithfulness would not only bring him the crown worn by Saul - 2Sa 1:10 *"So I stood over him and killed him, because I was sure that he could not live after he had fallen. And I took the crown that was on his head and the bracelet that was on his arm, and have brought them here to my lord."*

But, it also brought him the promise that it would be from his lineage that the Christ would come - 2Sa 7:12 *"When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.* 13 *"He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.* 14 *"I will be his Father, and he shall be My son. If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the blows of the sons of men.* 15 *"But My mercy shall not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I removed from before you* 16 *"And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be*

established forever." 17 According to all these words and according to all this vision, so Nathan spoke to David. 18 ¶ Then King David went in and sat before the LORD; and he said: "Who am I, O Lord GOD? And what is my house, that You have brought me this far? 19 "And yet this was a small thing in Your sight, O Lord GOD; and You have also spoken of Your servant's house for a great while to come. Is this the manner of man, O Lord GOD? 20 "Now what more can David say to You? For You, Lord GOD, know Your servant. 21 "For Your word's sake, and according to Your own heart, You have done all these great things, to make Your servant know them.

Mt 1:1 ¶ The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham:

c). Now if we jump back a little in the account of David and Saul we will find this - 1Sa 22:1 ¶ *David therefore departed from there and escaped to the cave of Adullam. And when his brothers and all his father's house heard it, they went down there to him. 2 And everyone who was in distress, everyone who was in debt, and everyone who was discontented gathered to him. So he became captain over them. And there were about four hundred men with him.*

David's escape to the cave of Adullam, pictures Christ's ascension into the heavens following His resurrection. Separated from His promised rule waiting for God's purpose to be accomplished.

d). And part of God's purpose, which is presently being accomplished, we have already seen this morning, the grafting in of eternally saved Gentiles to be part of the one new man in Christ - Eph 3:6 *that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel,*

And this we see pictured in *everyone who was in distress, everyone who was in debt, and everyone who was discontented gathered to him.* And for all of us who have chosen to forsake Saul's/Satan's kingdom, gathering ourselves to Christ, He has become Captain over us - Heb 2:10 ¶ *For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.*

And we wait, we patiently endure, remaining faithfully obedient with the full assurance of our hope pictured in the overthrow of Saul and the coronation of

David - that the Day will come, and is close at hand, when the 'Son of David' will be placed as King on God's holy hill of Zion and His Bride, taken from His body, from His family, from the Gentiles will reign as consort queen with Him from the Heavenly Jerusalem, just as the scripture says.

e). And His restored 'brother', brought to repentance through near extinction, will rule with Him from the earthly Jerusalem - Eze 37:25 *"Then they shall dwell in the land that I have given to Jacob My servant, where your fathers dwelt; and they shall dwell there, they, their children, and their children's children, forever; and My servant David shall be their prince forever.*

f). And there is still more that the Lord has placed within the overall type of Saul and David that we can learn from for ourselves – but, that will have to wait until next time – if the Lord is willing.