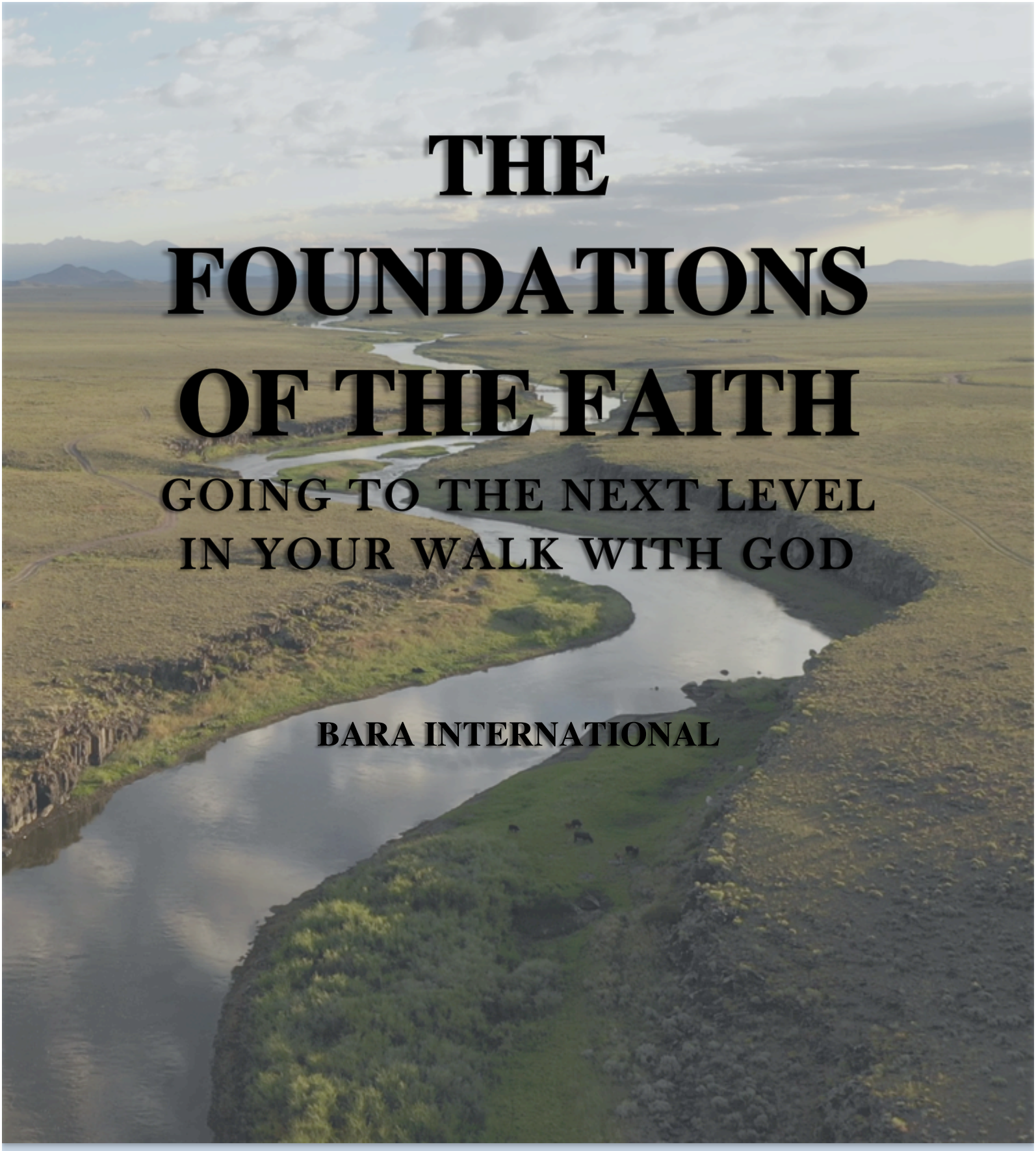


THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE FAITH

GOING TO THE NEXT LEVEL IN YOUR WALK WITH GOD

BARA INTERNATIONAL

JOSEPH T. BISHARA

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

Version 1.4.7

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

Table of Contents:

Acknowledgements and Dedications ---------- 04

Introduction ---------- 08

The First Foundation
Repentance from dead works ----------15

The Second Foundation
Faith Towards God ---------- 23

The Third Foundation
The Doctrine of Baptisms ---------- 31

- Baptism of **Water** ---------- 31
- Baptism of **The Holy Spirit** ---------- 43
- Baptism of **Fire** ---------- 47

The Fourth Foundation
The Laying on of hands ---------- 55

The Fifth Foundation
The Resurrection of the Dead ---------- 66

- **Part A.** The Resurrection of the Dead ---------- 66
- **End Times Bible Prophecy Timeline** ---------- 84
- **Part B.** Victory Through The Great Tribulation ---------- 85

The Sixth Foundation
Eternal Judgment ---------- 100

Closing Encouragement ---------- 107

Appendix A:
Bible Translations - Which One Do I Choose??? ---------- 109

Appendix B:
Elohim or Trinity? ---------- 109

Appendix C:
The Gift(s) Of Tongues ---------- 110

Sources ---------- 124

Contact ---------- 126

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

Acknowledgements and Dedications:

I want to first dedicate this training manual to the Holy Spirit for all of His divine guidance and revelations through out my life and especially over the last 20+ years of ministry. Many such revelations and experiences given from Him, specifically those having to do with doctrinal purity have been implemented into this work. I recognize that it is only by the grace of God that we can accomplish anything for Him. May He receive all the Glory form this work!

"7 For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?" **(1 Corinthians 4:7 KJV)**

I believe in giving credit to who credit is do, as well as, giving honor to whom honor is do. I want to honor the life and legacy of the beloved Man of God, Neville Johnson (1940-2019), a true father of the Faith. It was first through the teachings of this beloved minister, that I came across the concept of the Scriptural order of the Foundations of the Faith listed in Hebrews 6:1-2. Over the years of ministry, both my wife Christina and I have received so many questions from Believers regarding Christian living and doctrine. It was after going through the teachings of Rev. Neville Johnson from His publication entitled "The 1st Principles" that I understood that many of the things that the Body of Christ is missing can be addressed by and summed up to a lack of being grounded and rooted in proper Biblical foundations. I have made reference to and have quoted him throughout this writing.

I would also like to show my great appreciation to my wonderful wife Christina, who not only helped me with the editing, but she also daily encouraged me to complete this work, reminding me of the spiritual hunger and great need that the Believers have for this kind of teaching. Without her, it many not have been accomplished until during the Millennial Reign. ☺

I must also thank all our dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ who have eagerly requested my teaching notes on these lessons, even while the work was still in progress and in draft form. You have also played a huge role in the completion of this work. May the Lord greatly reward you!

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

The main purpose of writing this training manual was so that it will be used as a resource tool to help disciple Believers to Jesus Christ. I have taken my teaching notes and have transcribed them into a Bible Study format to be used by individuals, small groups and fellowships both large and small alike.

That being said, I would like to also dedicate this work to you, the reader, to both the young and mature in the Faith. Whether you are a new Believer or a fellow Minister. I believe that what you will learn from these teachings will be a blessing to both your life and all those who you influence around you, for the glory of God. May you receive and walking in all the things that the Lord has available for you according to His Word. May you accomplish the will of God for your life. It is my prayer that everything that you learn from this training manual will not only be a blessing to your Christian walk, but that you will also be able to take what you have learned and help train and equip others unto spiritual maturity along the way!

The Lord Jesus bless and keep you,

Joseph T. Bishara

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

TO CONTACT OR SUPPORT:

If you have been blessed by this free publication, we would love to hear from you! Please contact us at:

BARAinternational.org/contact/

You are also welcome to write to us at:

Mailing Address:

Joseph & Christina Bishara
101 Rainbow Dr. #13294
Livingston, TX 77399

SUPPORT:

If you would like to support us personally you can do so through the mailing address above or digitally through CashApp or Zelle by scanning the QR code above, linking to the support page on our website at:
www.BARAinternational.org/support/

Our Lord Jesus said, "Freely ye have received, freely give."
Discipleship and the Gospel message must be FREE, we never charge to minister.

"For we are not as many, which make merchandise of the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God in the sight of God speak we in Christ."
(2 Corinthians 2:17 1599 Geneva Bible)

We are not a tax-exempt corporation.

"They say unto him, Caesar's. Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's." **(Matt. 22:21 KJV)**

This free publication is subject to copyright.

Printing or copying for Bible study usage is permitted so long as it is printed in its entirety. Unless otherwise identified, Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version.

© Copyright 2024-2026 Joseph T. Bishara All Rights Reserved.

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved.

THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE FAITH
GOING TO THE NEXT LEVEL IN YOUR WALK WITH GOD!

Introduction:

What we've seen over our years of doing ministry is that the majority of Christians and even many Church leaders are unaware of and ungrounded in the Biblical teachings of the foundations of the Christian faith! I believe, that this is why so many Christians are falling into false teachings, and thus falling away from the faith in this hour! We must be properly grounded in each of the foundations of the Faith in order to go on unto maturity, being firmly rooted and grounded in Christ.

AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CHRISTIAN JOURNEY WE MUST BUILD ON A PROPER FOUNDATION!

HOW WE BUILD OUR FAITH MATTERS – WHAT FOUNDATIONS ARE WE BUILDING ON?

1 Corinthians 3:12-13 KJV

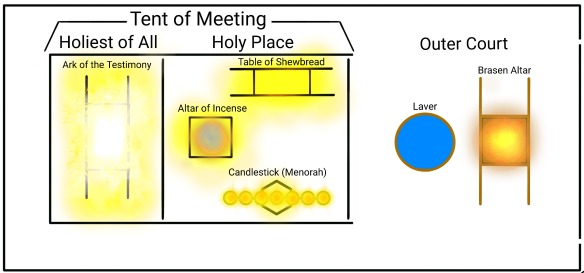
Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

THE CLOSER WE DESIRE TO WALK WITH GOD THE MORE PURITY AND SANCTIFICATION IS REQUIRED. GOLD SPEAKS OF PURITY!

In the Old Testament Tabernacle there was:

- **The Outer Court**
- **The Holy Place**
- **The Holiest of All**

The Tabernacle Layout



BARAInternational.org/Immanuel-ministry/

© Copyright 2024 Malik I. Bishara

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

1) **The Outer Court** had items that were made of wood and brass; the **Altar** and the **Laver**.) The outer court represents the beginning of our Christian journey, through **repentance from sins/dead works and putting our faith in Jesus Christ as the sacrificial atonement for our sins** followed by **water baptism**.

Entering beyond the veil into **The Tent of Meeting** all the items were made of Gold. In order to continue deeper in our walk with God, more and more purity and sanctification is required.

2) In **The Holy Place**, the **candlestick/**(Menorah), the **altar of incense** and the **table** for the shewbread were all made of gold!

3) And then we come to **The Holiest of All**, beyond the second veil: containing **The Golden Censer** and **The Ark of The Covenant**, - the manifest presence of God!

"The high priest could not first enter into the Holiest of All, without first going through each required step in the Tabernacle." ([1]Johnson, 2010)

THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE FAITH
GOING TO THE NEXT LEVEL IN OUR WALK WITH GOD!

In **Hebrews 6:1-3** we see the six Foundations Of The Faith:

"[1]Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of **repentance from dead works**, and of **faith toward God**, [2]Of **the doctrine of baptisms**, and of **laying on of hands**, and of **resurrection of the dead**, and of **eternal judgment**. [3]And this will we do, if God permit."
(**Hebrews 6:1-3 KJV**)

- **Repentance from dead works**
- **Faith towards God**
- **The doctrine of baptisms**
- **Laying on of hands**
- **The resurrection of the dead**
- **Eternal judgment**

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

So we have six foundational stones and The Lord Jesus as the Head Corner Stone, making seven total. ([1]Johnson, 2010)

"Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, **a sure foundation**: he that believeth shall not make haste." (**Isaiah 28:16 KJV**)

Also, In Acts Chapter 4, at the preaching of Peter we see that the Lord Jesus is described as the Head Corner Stone!

Everything in our Christian doctrine and experience must be based on the truth found in the Word of God and not on our opinions or experiences. Just as in Bible times when they would build a house, everything would be measured according to the head corner stone. In the same way, **how we build our spiritual lives must line up with the Head Corner Stone – The Lord Jesus Christ!**

"[18] For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. [19] Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; [20] And are **built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone**; [21] In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: [22] In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit." (**Ephesians 2:18-22 KJV**)

It's important for us to have an experiential revelation of each foundation **in order to progress deeper** in our Christian walk and relationship with God.

Our relationship with God is not about, and cannot be based on intellectual knowledge or reasoning! Just knowing theological information, without actually living it out, is just head knowledge. There has to be a revelational understanding that Jesus is the Christ!

Peter's revelation of Jesus as the Christ:

"[13] When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am? [14] And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. [15] **He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?** [16] And Simon Peter answered and said, **Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.** [17] And Jesus answered and said unto him,

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: **for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven." (Matthew 16:13-17 KJV)**

We must have a revelation, a personal experience of knowing the reality of who Jesus is! When someone is converted to Christianity only based on intellectual reasoning and historical information, they are not yet able to go through **the Door, (Christ)**. In order to come into a true relationship with God, **faith** is what's required, not intellectual reasoning.

In **John chapter three,** we see that Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews reasoned that Jesus was truly a Rabbi who came from God, but **the Lord expressed to Nicodemus that he was not yet born again. His theology and intellectual reasoning could not save him, as he was still lacking faith.**

In verse 9-12 we read, "[9] Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be? [10] Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things? [11] Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness. [12] If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things? **(John 3:9-12 KJV)**

EACH ONE OF THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE FAITH MUST BE PROPERLY LAID IN OUR LIVES, WITH SOUND DOCTRINE, IN ORDER TO CONTINUE ON TO THE NEXT LEVEL.

"For precept must be upon precept…" **(Isaiah 28:10a KJV)**

"Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which **built his house upon a rock**:" **(Mathew 7:24 KJV)**

Our spiritual house (our lives) must be built on the solid foundation of the Rock (Christ)!

" For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ."
(1 Corinthians 3:11 KJV)

"The six foundations are fundamental truths of the doctrine of Christ."
([1]Johnson, 2010)

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

"Therefore leaving the principles of **the doctrine of Christ**, let us go on to perfection." **(Hebrews 6:1 KJV)**

The teachings of Jesus are the foundations that we are to build upon.

One of the biggest problems that we have seen with many Believers, both young and old, is that they have *cracks in their foundation*, not able to truly progress forward into their Christian walk. **Many have grown stagnant and just settled in on their salvation experience, unable to move forward into maturity.**

Denominational doctrines that are not grounded in the truth of God's Word, will limit Believers from walking in all that God has available for them. If you don't believe or are unaware that something is available, then how can you have faith to receive it?

AS SOON AS YOU COME TO THE REALIZATION THAT SOMETHING IS NOT ONLY AVAILABLE, BUT ALSO POSSIBLE FOR YOU, THEN IT IS FAR EASIER TO HAVE FAITH TO RECEIVE IT AND WALK IN IT.

Discipleship is part of pastoral care. The one doing the discipling, must be as a wise building inspector. They must inspect every area of the building to make sure that it is not only built according to the building code (THE WORD), but that it is also structurally sound (HAVING SOUND DOCTRINE).

It's far easier to disciple new Believers with no previous church experience or incorrect doctrinal beliefs. **False doctrine, when received and taken hold of as a "truth," takes root and can become a stronghold in the heart and mind. When uprooting false doctrine, it is the truth of the Word of God along with the working of the Holy Spirit that will set someone free!** "[32] And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." **(John 8:32 KJV)** This is also why it is so important to renew our minds by the Word of God (see **Romans 12:1-2 KJV**)

Often before building the correct foundation, the old must first be removed to make way for the new!

Sometimes, what was spiritually built must be demolished and the foundation jackhammered and removed by the TRUTH. **Oftentimes it is just certain sections of the foundation that need to be corrected and renewed**. Gaps of misunderstandings, or improper beliefs need Scriptural teaching of God's light to shine on them, to bring the

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

Believer into the revelation of the Truth. This can be a process and extremely challenging for the person going through it, as they need to come to the realization, that what was previously believed was not based in the reality of Scripture. **It takes humility** to change and progress forward.

LAY THE FOUNDATION BEFORE GOING TO THE NEXT LEVEL:

Often, what we see in many Churches is they will take new believers and try to start building them on the first floor, when they don't even have the foundation laid yet! For example, many believers are struggling to walk in true freedom in regards to the old nature, that should have been dealt with at water baptism. Because of this foundational gap or doctrine not being properly laid in their lives, they live in a continued cycle of sinful addictions, not knowing how to break free, or come to the knowledge of the Truth. Yet, they want the exciting and deeper things of the Holy Spirit, while still struggling with addictions in old nature, that should have been dealt with back at the beginning of their Christian Journey.

It's extremely important to teach new Believers the foundations of the Faith in order for them to progress forward into maturity.

Too frequently, Believers are still drinking milk and while thinking that they're mature full grown spiritual adults! In Spirit filled Churches, there's so much of an emphasis on the gifts of the Spirit, just like the Church at Corinth. They are graced with a prophetic dream or learn how to prophesy, and all of a sudden they think or are looked at as though they're spiritually mature! All the while, they don't even understand the first foundation of **Repentance From Dead Works.** They are carnal and still on milk. (See **1 Cor. 3:2-3**) While the gifts are all wonderful and necessary, they do not equate to spiritual maturity.

BEING ABLE TO OPERATE IN THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS **NOT** A SIGN OF SPIRITUAL MATURITY OR GOOD CHARACTER, THEY ARE GIFTS AND GIFTS ARE FREELY GIVEN.

ALSO, WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND THAT, INTELLECT AND THEOLOGICAL HEAD KNOWLEDGE ARE **NOT** SIGNS OF SPIRITUAL MATURITY!

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved.

TRUE SPIRITUAL MATURITY IS BASED ON - HOW CLOSE YOU ARE TO THE LORD JESUS AND HOW MUCH OF YOUR LIFE HAS BEEN SURRENDERED AND TRANSFORMED TO THE IMAGE OF CHRIST?

ARE YOU PRODUCING THE FRUIT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN YOUR LIFE AND ABLE TO RAISE UP OTHERS TO DO THE SAME?

THAT'S TRUE MATURITY.

Again the six foundations are: (see **Heb. 6:1-2 KJV**)

- **Repentance from dead works**
- **Faith towards God**
- **The doctrine of baptisms**
- **Laying on of hands**
- **The resurrection of the dead**
- **Eternal judgment**

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

THE FIRST FOUNDATION
REPENTANCE FROM DEAD WORKS:

"[1]Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of **repentance from dead works**, and of **faith toward God**, [2]Of **the doctrine of baptisms**, and of **laying on of hands**, and of **resurrection of the dead**, and of **eternal judgment**." (**Hebrews 6:1-2 KJV**)

Question: What is a dead work?
Answer: A dead work is a work that leads to death. Anything done outside of the direction and will of the Holy Spirit is a dead work and is to be considered as error and sin!

"[1]What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? [2]God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?" (**Romans 6:1-2 KJV**)

We come to Christ through repentance and believing the Gospel!

"[14]Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, **preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God**, [15]And saying, the time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: **repent ye**, and **believe the gospel.**" (**Mark 1:14-15 KJV**)

"[8]But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; [9]**That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.** [10]For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." (**Romans 10:8-10 KJV**)

"[38]Then Peter said unto them, **Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.** [39]For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the LORD our God shall call. [40]And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward*(forward/perverse)* generation." (**Acts 2:38-40 KJV**)

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

"[7]But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. [8]If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. **If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us." (**1 John 1:7-10 KJV**)

What is true repentance?

REPENTANCE IS CHANGING THE WAY YOU BELIEVE, THINK, AND BEHAVE! Repentance is coming into the revelation of the Truth, according to the Word of God and obediently yielding to it!

Our actions prove what we believe, and what comes out of our mouths and all of our conduct shows what's in our heart!

To repent is not just a quick, "I'm sorry, please forgive me."… though that is important, it's more than just apologizing. Repentance is coming to the realization that the way you were living and acting was wrong, having remorse and changing.

TO TRULY REPENT IS TO TURN AWAY FROM SIN!

DON'T GET DECEIVED BY THE FALSE GRACE MESSAGE:
There has been a surfacing new **false** doctrine that teaches that the sins of your past, **present**, even **future** are all forgiven because Jesus already paid the price. Ministers who preach that false message are greatly deceived and are leading others along with them into a life of sin and separation from God. They even go as far to say that there is no need for repentance anymore. **They are preaching a contrary gospel, a gospel that opposes the true Gospel of Jesus Christ!** The Apostle Paul would have called it "another gospel." The false grace message will be responsible for leading many, many professing Christians to hell. It's another spin on the Calvinist false grace message, which abuses the grace of God and gives a license to live in sin. **The only sins that can be forgiven are the ones that you have already committed and repented of!**

There must be remorse for past sins along with genuine repentance!

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

"[25] Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of **sins that are past,** through the forbearance of God;" **(Romans 3:25 KJV)**

"[9] But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was **purged from his old sins**." **(2 Peter 1:9 KJV)**

If a professing Christian is presently living in sin then they are abusing the grace of God and have denied the faith by their lifestyle, they are fallen away!

We can see this clearly in Hebrews 10:26-31.

"[26] **For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins**, [27] **But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation**, which shall devour the adversaries. [28] He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: [29] Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, **wherewith he was sanctified**, an unholy thing, **and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?** [30] For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people. [31] It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." **(Hebrews 10:26-31 KJV)**

We need to understand that, yes, on the Cross the Lord Jesus Christ was **the sacrificial atonement** for the sins of the entire world, including all of us in the future. There will be no other sacrifice made for humanity, **and without repentance of sins and believing on the Lord Jesus, then the person is still guilty and is still in their sins.** The provision has already been made to receive forgiveness of sins, by the grace of God, through the Blood of Jesus, to all who will **repent** and **believe** on Him!

But to say that when you came to Christ all of your past, **present and future sins are forgiven would be an absolute lie!** As I said earlier, it's **another gospel**, a false gospel, that goes completely against the Gospel of Jesus Christ! Any pastor who teaches that false doctrine is not only **deceived**, but is also deceiving those who hear him! **The Word of God clearly warns us about these false teachers, who will arise in these last days** and teach such heresy! We are to **flee from them**! If you go to their churches, **flee from them** and find a health Biblical fellowship. If you listen to their messages online, **flee**

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved.

from them or you will become like them and fall away into heresy!

"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that **in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; 2 Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron**;" **(1 Tim 4:1-2 KJV)**

"1 But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be **false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies**, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. 2 **And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.** 3 **And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you:** whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not. 4 For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;" **(2 Peter 2:1-4 KJV)**

THE WORD OF GOD IS VERY CLEAR ABOUT THE FRUITS OF SIN:

- Sin **separates** us from God. (See *Isaiah 59:2)
- Sin brings about **bondage**. (See *2 Peter 2:18-22)
- The wages/reward of sin is **death**. (See *Romans 6:23)

"**If we confess our sins**, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." **(1 John 1:9 KJV)**

When we **truly** confess/acknowledge our past sins, have remorse and turn away from them, God will cleans us from all unrighteousness. **This means, He will cleanse us from the unrighteous character and behavior, so that we can live a righteous and holy life!** When we are living righteously, we will conduct ourselves with Godly character: believing, behaving and thinking "rightly".

SALVATION IS ONLY FOR THOSE WHO WALK IN **OBEDIENCE** TO CHRIST!

- **"**And being made perfect, **he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;" (Hebrews 5:9 KJV)**
- **"**And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given **to them that obey him**." **(Acts 5:32 KJV)**

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

THE GRACE OF GOD **EMPOWERS** US TO LIVE A **HOLY LIFE**!

- "[13] Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the **grace** that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; [14] **As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: [15] But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation *(conduct/behavior)*;** [16] Because it is written, **Be ye holy; for I am holy**. [17] And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear:" **(1 Peter 1:13-17 KJV)**

THE GRACE OF GOD **TEACHES** US TO TURN AWAY FROM UNGODLY BEHAVIOR, AND THAT WE SHOULD LIVE A RIGHTEOUS AND HOLY LIFE!

- "[11] For the **grace** of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, [12] **Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;" (Titus 2:11-12 KJV)**

- "[18] For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error. [19] **While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage." (2 Peter 2:18-19 KJV)**

THE SANCTIFICATION PROCESS OF CONVICTION OF SIN AND REPENTANCE NEEDS TO BE A CONTINUED WAY OF LIFE FOR THE BELIEVER!

Repentance is not a one-time event! If we sin and make a mistake, we need to repent and make it right. The Holy Spirit will convict us of sins that need to be repented of and He will empower us to live a life that is holy and pleasing to God!

As mentioned earlier, true repentance, is changing the way you believe, think, and behave, it's an action!

Repent is Strong's #G3340 metanoeo {met-an-o-eh'-o}; to **think differently** or afterwards, i.e reconsider (morally, feel compunction).

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

RENEWING YOUR MIND:

Repentance also has to do with a transformation, a renewing of your mind. A big part of repentance is to change the way you think. **The reality is, the way you believe affects the way you think, and the way you think affects the way you behave.**

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. [2] And be not conformed to this world: but **be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind**, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." (**Romans. 12:1-2 KJV**)

THERE MUST BE REPENTANCE AND FAITH IN HIM:

During the time of the arrest and crucifixion of Jesus, there were several men that went into eternity, two criminals and one traitor. There were two criminals on crosses beside Jesus, one on His left and one on His right. While one criminal mocked Jesus, the other feared God and realized that he deserved to be crucified for his deeds. Having remorse for his sins, he then put his faith in Jesus Christ, asking the Lord to remember him when He enters into His Kingdom! The man changed the way he thought (he had a repentance). The Lord said to Him, "today thou shall be with me in Paradise." One criminal went to hell when he died, while the other to Paradise (Heaven) (see Luke 23).

There was one of the twelve disciples of Jesus, who also went into eternity that day, Judas Iscariot, the traitor. After he realized that Jesus was condemned to death, Judas regretted that he had betrayed the Lord, but not enough to have a true repentance. Judas murdered himself by committing suicide and stepped into eternity, he went to hell. (see Matt. 27, John 17:12, Acts 1:16-20, Rev. 21:8)

YOU HAVE TO CONTINUE IN THE FAITH IN ORDER TO BE SAVED!

ONCE SAVED - IS NOT ALWAYS SAVED - You do have free will. You can choose to live your life for the Lord, or you can choose to walk away!

"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, **who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." (Romans 8:1 KJV)**

This verse clearly means that if you walk in the flesh and not the Spirit, then there is

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

condemnation for you!

Modern Bible translations omit the second part of the sentence, misdirecting people to believe a false hyper-grace doctrine! I have heard people even say, "Brother, there's no condemnation to those who are in Christ." Believing that they can live worldly while still calling themselves a Christian, abusing the grace of God.

Several additional examples proving that you can absolutely lose your salvation:

(Please look up and read the following verses in the **KJV** for accuracy)

- *Matthew 6:14-15 KJV (Those with unforgiveness, receive no forgiveness)
- *Romans 11:18-23 KJV (Broken off because of unbelief)
- *Hebrews 3:12-14 KJV (Brethren, departing from the living God)
- *Hebrews 6:4-6 KJV (Falling away)
- *Hebrews 10:26-31 KJV (Abusing the grace of God)
- *Hebrews 12:14-15 KJV (Falling away from the grace of God)
- *Revelation 22:19 KJV (Name removed out of the Book of Life)

Don't be deceived by the false doctrine of "eternal security".
THERE IS NO ETERNAL SECURITY – UNTIL JUDGMENT DAY!

SEALED/MARKED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

"[13] In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were **sealed** *(G4973)* with that holy Spirit of promise" **(Ephesians 1:13 KJV)**

We need to understand that the word "**sealed**" in Eph. 1:13 does NOT mean that your salvation is permanent, as what some ministers incorrectly misinterpret, leading others into a false teaching of "once saved always saved." I want to point out the Strong's Greek definition of what "sealed" actually means, in the context of the above verse. First let's take a look at Revelation 5:1, as it is a perfect example, showing both of the two specific Greek words used for "sealed":

"And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, **sealed** *(G2696)* with seven **seals** *(G4973)*." **(Revelation 5:1)**

STRONG'S DEFINITION:

- **Sealed** : G2696 Katasphragizo from G2596 and 4972: to **seal closely**,

  In contrast to:

- **Seals**: G4973 Sphragis: **a signet, to stamp with a signet or private mark** (Same word used in Ephesians 1:13, Revelation 9:4)

There are two specific Greek words used here for "**sealed**" in **Revelation 5:1**

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

The scroll is "**sealed**" closed with seven "**seals**"/signet private marks. Just as when a king would use his signet ring to stamp or mark something, by taking melted wax and then stamping it with the signet ring. The seven seals on the scroll in Revelation 5:1 are the signet ring stamps, that only the Lamb, King Jesus is worthy to open. **The exact same Greek word is used in Ephesians 1:13 describing how you were "sealed" (marked by the signet seal of the Holy Spirit when you believed the Gospel). That is to say, we were marked by the Holy Spirit when we became Born-again.**

When someone is Born-again they receive the seal/ mark of the Holy Spirit in their forehead. This is not a physical mark like what satan will do with the mark of the beast. The seal/mark of the Holy Spirit it is a spiritual mark. We can see this clearly in Ezekiel 9:4 and in Revelation 9:4 Where the servants of God are marked/sealed(G4973) **by Holy Spirit in their foreheads.**

When coming to salvation, repentance needs to also be accompanied by forgiveness.

THERE ARE SEVERAL THINGS THAT THE LORD SHOWED ME THAT CAN KEEP A WALL UP BETWEEN SOMEONE AND GOD, KEEPING THEM FROM RECEIVING FORGIVENESS AND TRULY BEING BORN AGAIN:

- Not truly repenting and having remorse from sins (see Isaiah 59:2)
- Bitterness and Unforgiveness (See *Matthew 6:14-15, Hebrews 12:14-17)
- Unbelief that Jesus Christ is the only Way (see John 14:6)

"[46] And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: [47] **And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem." (Luke 24:46-47 KJV)**

Repentance from dead works is the first foundation, the first step in coming towards God.

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

THE SECOND FOUNDATION
FAITH TOWARDS GOD:

"[1]Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of **repentance from dead works**, and of **faith toward God**, [2]Of **the doctrine of baptisms**, and of **laying on of hands**, and of **resurrection of the dead**, and of **eternal judgment**." **(Hebrews 6:1-2 KJV)**

You can only take people as far as they are willing to go, and you can only walk in what you are able to believe for!

The only way to salvation is through the Lord Jesus Christ! You cannot have Jesus and still believe in multiple ways to Heaven! Jesus, the Messiah was not only speaking to the Jewish people, but to all people, when He said, "… I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." **(John 14:6 KJV)**

He was letting them know that their good works, their blood sacrifices, their following of the Law could no longer save them! He announced to them that He is the only way to salvation, there is no other way, but through Him (Jesus Christ)!

"[12] Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." **(Acts 4:12 KJV)**

Several years ago, we were out on a ministry trip out east here in the US. In one of the Churches, an influential man who was involved in their leadership was telling me about a video that he was so excited about. He said that it was about a young Jewish boy, in Israel, who was testifying about a supernatural experience he had in Heaven. It sounded really great! So, the man texted the video to me and I told him that I would be glad to check it out!

Before I clicked on the link to watch it, the Holy Spirit prompted me that when I watch it, if the boy does not testify about Jesus being the way to Heaven then I will know that it is a false encounter. As I watched it, the boy was sharing all about how he went to Heaven and continued describing the beauty of all he had saw and experienced. He then went on to say that we would have salvation and make it to Heaven by obeying the Torah, doing Mikvah and by good works! (He never once mentioned salvation through Jesus the Messiah!) The boy even went on to say that the Messiah is already here walking amongst

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved.

us and when the people realize that it is him, they will be surprised. (He was clearly describing the anti-Christ.) As soon as I finished the video, I quickly called the man up who shared the video link with me. I had told him that I had finished watching the video. He was so excited and said, "wasn't it amazing!" I replied, "now, when you watched it, did you watch the whole thing?" He said, " I watched it like seven times!" I said, but did you realize that the boy said, that salvation comes from obeying the Torah, doing Mikvah and by good works! This is going back to the law and away from Christ! The boy never once mentioned salvation through Jesus the Messiah! The man adamantly said to me, "You mean to tell me that the Jews will go to hell if they don't believe in Jesus!" I said, "Jesus Himself said it, when he was speaking to the Jewish people" and I quoted to him John 14:6 "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." **(John 14:6 KJV)**

Surprisingly, this church leader was deceived and did not believe that the Lord Jesus is the only way to the Father! I believe that the boy in the video clearly did have some sort of an encounter, but it wasn't from the Holy Spirit! His vision was from a devil, as he was clearly describing another gospel with a false message of salvation! His encounter was deceptive and brings those who believe it a false hope for Heaven apart from Christ Jesus!

"[6] I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: [7] Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. [8] But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed." **(Galatians 1:6-8 KJV)**

There is only one way to Heaven and it is through the Lord Jesus Christ, there is no other way!

TO HAVE FAITH, IS TO BELIEVE:

FAITH TOWARDS GOD IS TO BE A CONTINUED WAY OF LIVING AND BELIEVING. FAITH IS A KEY TO EVERYTHING IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE!

*We know that according to **Hebrews 11:6** that "...without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must **believe** that **he is**, and that **he is** a rewarder of them that **diligently seek him**."

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

Now in order to walk **in faith towards God** you must **believe**!

UNBELIEVERS CANNOT PLEASE GOD – because they don't have faith in Him!

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." **(Hebrews 11:1 KJV)**

FAITH IS A CONFIDENT KNOWING (**Faith** is Strong's G#4102 pis'-tis); **Persuasion, assurance, belief, believe.**

We are to continually grow in and strengthen our faith.

"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." **(Romans 10:17 KJV)**

Faith has to do with our belief. What or who do we put our faith in?

"[14] And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: [15] That whosoever **believeth** in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

[16] For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever **believeth** in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. [17] For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

[18] He that **believeth** on him is not condemned: but he that **believeth** not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. [19] And this is the condemnation, **that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.**" **(John 3:14-19 KJV)**

Let's focus in on John 3:16 – most people are familiar with this verse but don't actually understand it.

"[16]For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever **believeth** in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." **(John 3:16 KJV)**

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved.

That word "**believeth**" when you look it up in the Greek is Strong's G#4100 Pisteuo: **to have faith (in, upon a person or thing), to entrust (especially ones spiritual well-being to Christ): commit unto.**

It means not just to believe, but to also be persuaded of; to place confidence in, trust in and be committed unto Christ. If you truly have faith and **believe** in the Lord Jesus, then you will be **fully committed to Him**, you will live your life for Him and not for yourself anymore!

TO BELIEVE REQUIRES ACTION!
If you truly believe on Christ; you will commit and live your life for Him!

SO THEN, A TRUE CONFESSION OF FAITH MEANS WE ARE COMPLETELY COMMITTING AND DEVOTING OUR LIVES TO THE LORDSHIP OF JESUS CHRIST AND HIS WILL.

LORDSHIP / SURRENDER:

NO MAN CAN SERVE TWO MASTERS! (See Matthew 6:24)

There is a lot of talk now days, from well meaning preachers, about accepting Jesus Christ as your Savior! The problem is, many are neglecting to tell the people that unless Jesus is the **Lord** of their life, then there is no salvation for them!

HE MUST FIRST BE YOUR **LORD** IN ORDER TO BE YOUR SAVIOR!

When Jesus is your Lord, it means that He is now your master, the supreme ruler and authority of your life! He must now be the one in charge, the one directing your life, not you anymore! To be a Christian is to have a surrendered life for Jesus. It is to live your life for Him now, for His will and glory, not your own!

"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." **(Galatians 2:20 KJV)**

IF HE IS TRULY YOUR LORD THEN YOU WILL **OBEY** HIM!
SALVATION IS ONLY FOR THOSE WHO WALK IN **OBEDIENCE** TO CHRIST!

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

- "And being made perfect, **he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;" (Hebrews 5:9 KJV)**

- "And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given **to them that obey him**." (**Acts 5:32 KJV**)

- "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to **obey**, his servants ye are to whom ye **obey**; whether of sin unto death, or of **obedience** unto righteousness?" **(Romans 6:16 KJV)**

HE MUST FIRST BE YOUR **LORD** IN ORDER TO BE YOUR SAVIOR!

"And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" (**Luke 6:46 KJV**)

"[17] Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. [18] A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. [19] Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. **[20] Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them. [21] Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. [22] Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? [23] And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." (Matthew 7:17-23 KJV)**

THE WORD OF GOD:

Our minds need to be renewed by the Word of God and strongholds of unbelief and false doctrine need to be broken off and removed, in order to walk in a greater realm of faith!

EVERYTHING IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE REQUIRES **FAITH AND DEPENDENCE ON GOD!**

"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." **Romans 10:17 KJV**

That word for hearing is an action and it means to actively listen and obey!

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

PART OF HAVING FAITH TOWARDS GOD IS BEING GROUNDED IN THE REALIZATION AND BELIEF THAT **GOD'S WORD IS ALWAYS TRUE**, WHETHER WE UNDERSTAND IT OR NOT!

(For English speaking people, I would strongly encourage you to read the King James Version of the Holy Bible, as it is the most accurate to the original manuscripts, which were written in Hebrew and Greek.) For more information please see Appendix A, or visit the link below to listen to our teaching entitled:
BIBLE TRANSLATIONS - WHICH ONE DO I CHOOSE???
https://www.brighteon.com/67cd042b-93e5-4aa5-9132-fe0b5722fb9a

Christians must believe that the Holy Bible, in its original form, is the inspired Word of God, written by The Lord's prophets and apostles of old. It is the infallible, irrefutable Word of God.

(Regardless of what many scholars believe, though several were not of the original twelve apostles such as Mark, James and Jude. I still classify them as apostles, as they wrote Scripture, through the divine revelation of the Holy Spirit, having apostolic authority to do so. The Holy Scriptures were written through the hands of God's prophets and apostles.)

GOD'S WORD IS TRUE:

- **Psalm 119:160 KJV**
  "**Thy word is true** from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever."

- **John 17:17 KJV**
  "Sanctify them through thy truth: **thy word is truth**."

GOD'S WORD IS INFALLIBLE:
(incapable of making mistakes or being wrong)

- **2 Timothy 3:16-17 KJV**
  "[16] **All scripture** is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: [17] That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

- **Psalm 12:6 KJV**
  "**The words of the LORD are pure words**: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times."

GOD'S WORD IS IRREFUTABLE:
(It cannot be disproven. His Word is always true!)

- **1 Peter 1:25 KJV**
  "But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you."

- **Romans 3:3-4 KJV**
  "[3] For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect? [4] God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged."

GOD'S WORD IS SPIRIT AND LIFE:

- **John 6:63 KJV**
  "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: **the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life."**

- **Psalm 119:105 KJV**
  "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

OUR NEW IDENTITY IN CHRIST:

When we have had a genuine **repentance from dead works** and have **faith towards God**, we become Born-again, taking on a new identity in Christ!

WE ARE NO LONGER SINNERS, BUT SAINTS!

When you become a Born-again Christian you are no longer to call yourself a sinner.

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved.

We are **not** "sinners saved by grace," as many now say. Sinners live in sin. We were sinners before we had come to Christ. But as Christians we are to turn away from all sin! (See Romans 6:1-2, 18) As soon as someone has had a genuine **repentance from dead works** and put their **faith towards God** in Christ Jesus, then they are Born-again. They have become a **new creature, with a new nature and authority in His Name**! As Christians, no longer are we to identify ourselves as sinners, but as saints!

"[19] Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;" **(Ephesians 2:19 KJV)**

"[17] Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." **(2 Corinthians 5:17 KJV)**

When we are in Christ, we become brand new and will need the grace of God to empower us through the indwelling and filling of Holy Spirit to live a righteous and holy life! (We will cover more on this in the following sections.)

IN SUMMARY:

- You must first believe that Jesus is the only way to Heaven!
- Jesus must be your Lord/Master in order to be your Savior!
- You have to continue in the Faith in order to be saved!
- You must walk in obedience according to His Word!
- You must believe that the Holy Bible is the inspired Word of God!
- Repentance of sins and faith towards God is not a one-time event; it must be a continued way of life!

For Additional content on Faith Towards God you can click the link below:

Before continuing on to the next section, PLEASE READ Appendix B: **Elohim or Trinity?** https://barainternational.org/2023/06/09/elohim-or-trinity/

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

THE THIRD FOUNDATION
THE DOCTRINE OF BAPTISMS:

"[1]Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of **repentance from dead works**, and of **faith toward God**, [2]Of **the doctrine of baptisms**, and of **laying on of hands**, and of **resurrection of the dead**, and of **eternal judgment**." (**Hebrews 6:1-2 KJV**)

There are three baptisms that the Believer needs to experience in order to go deeper into the Kingdom:

- Baptism of **Water**,
- Baptism of **The Holy Spirit**
- Baptism of **Fire**

Each baptism will bring a greater level of sanctification in the life of the Believer!

WATER BAPTISM:

WE SHOULD NOT DELAY A WATER BAPTISM FOR A NEW BELIEVER. As soon as they truly repent and put their faith in Jesus Christ, they receive the gift of the Holy Spirit and are Born-again, then they should be water baptized.

IMMEDIATELY BAPTIZED WITHOUT DELAY:

In the Book of Acts, we read when the Apostle Paul and Silas were imprisoned for the Faith and as they sang praises to God, something supernatural happened. "[25] And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them. [26] And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed. [27] And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled. [28] But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here. [29] Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas, [30] And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? [31] And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

thy house. [32] And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. [33] **And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway.** [34] And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house."
(**Acts 16:25-34 KJV**)

As soon as the jailer and his household were Born-again, they were immediately baptized the same hour of the night! Let's look at another great example in the Book of Acts of an immediate water baptism without delay, when Philip baptized the Ethiopian eunuch.

"[36] And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; **what doth hinder me to be baptized?** [37] And Philip said, **If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest.** And he answered and said, **I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God**. [38] And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him."
(**Acts 8:36-38 KJV**)

The moment the Ethiopian eunuch believed on the Lord Jesus with all his heart, he was Born-again and that is what qualified him to be water baptized!

(Remember, in the second foundation, FAITH TOWARDS GOD we covered that to ***believe*** *is an action. It means we are completely committing and devoting our lives to the Lordship of Jesus Christ and His will.) (*See **Romans 10:8-10** Believe, confession of faith in Jesus Christ)

BAPTISMS MUST BASED ON GOD'S WORD - NOT FALSE TRADITIONS:

Infant baptisms are not Biblical, babies cannot confess and express belief in Jesus. They are pure and have not yet committed sin. (Though all humans are born with a sin nature since the fall of Adam.)

We have been given FREE WILL; baptism cannot be forced, or imposed on a person/baby. Therefore, baby baptisms are not Biblical! However, we do believe in blessing and dedicating babies/children to the Lord Jesus!

So, if babies should not be water baptized, can little children be?

A child can be water baptized, as soon as they reach an age of accountability and can

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

make a rational decision, usually between 3-5 years old (sometimes older), when they can understand what Jesus did for us. If they can confess with their mouth and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ of their own free will, then they can be water baptized. When Children are Born-again we should not forbid them from coming closer to God. There are so many testimonies of little Children (often overseas) being baptized in the Holy Spirit, moving in the supernatural power of God, for some, even before they get a chance to be water baptized. Children don't need to be well studied in order be baptized, they just need to be Born-again! Godly parents will know the spiritual condition of their children. When they are Born-again and ready, Jesus will put the desire in their heart to be water baptized, don't forbid them! The Gospel is not complicated. "…See, here is water; **what doth hinder me to be baptized?** [37] And Philip said, **If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest.** And he answered and said, **I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God**. **(Acts 8:36b-37 KJV)**

The Catholic and Presbyterian sprinkling is not a baptism! The rituals of water sprinkling or three water submersions (as in the orthodox church) are all man made traditions that are NOT part of Christianity; they are definitely not how we see New Testament Christians being baptized in the Scriptures. If you have been "baptized" by the Catholic or Orthodox Church, or if you were sprinkled in another church, it is a false baptism and will need to be recanted of. You will need to be truly baptized and experience a real Biblical Christian baptism in order to experience true freedom and power over the old nature.

BAPTIZED BY FULL IMMERSION:

(1979 The Jesus Film) I remember years ago when I was watching the 1979 Jesus Film, and they had shown John the Baptist baptize the Lord Jesus straight down under water. Seeing how they did this in the movie, because of my previous tradition, I was offended. I remember thinking, "That's not how we do baptisms!" (The typical church tradition we see now days is to baptize people straight backwards like lying down in a grave. These are the traditions of man). The Holy Spirit than said to me, "go and look up "**baptize**"… I stood corrected, I knew exactly what the word for baptize in the Greek is, "Baptizo":

Baptizo; Strong's #G907 **to be fully immersed, submerged**)

IT DOESN'T MATTER IF WE BAPTIZE BACKWARDS, FORWARDS OR STRAIGHT DOWN, AS LONG AS WE ARE BAPTIZING WITH FULL IMMERSION (fully submerged under water).

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved.

I have found it much more natural to baptize people straight down, especially when baptizing in a river or pool. Or if the water is shallow they can be on their knees and then go forward under the water. It's less difficult, and less of a strain for the person being baptized as well.

CUTTING OFF OF THE OLD SIN NATURE:

Baptism is not just another Christian ritual or simply just an act of obedience. Yes, it's identifying with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection. But we need to understand that it is far more than that!

THERE IS A SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION THAT TAKES PLACE AT WATER BAPTISM!

Baptism is not the point of Salvation, but it is the next step in the sanctification process of the Believer!

SALVATION STARTS WHEN WE REPENT AND PUT OUR FAITH AND BELIEF ON THE LORD JESUS CHRIST. THIS IS WHEN **WE WERE BORN-AGAIN, AND WERE GIVEN A NEW NATURE THROUGH THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**, **BUT THE OLD SIN NATURE STILL HAS TO BE DEALT WITH AND DIE**. IT HAS TO BE BURIED AT WATER BAPTISM SO THAT IT WILL NOT INTERFERE WITH AND AFFECT OUR NEW LIFE IN CHRIST.

AT THE WATER BAPTISM, THERE IS A CUTTING OFF OF THE OLD NATURE!

Until the old nature is removed it's like carrying around a dead body that you are attached to – if you try to run it will slow you down – not only that, it will rot the rest of your body.

AT BAPTISM THERE IS A DELIVERANCE:

There is a deliverance from the old nature, where the bondages, the grips of the enemy and unclean spirits are cut off.

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

(**Missionary Testimony** Papa Newguina / severing of the old ties/connecting)

Quote from Bryan Archer, a New Zealand missionary to Papua New Guinea:
The revival in Mt. Hagan has been going on for over one year. On Saturday we went with the nation Christians to a village called Krem. There was a new church building to be dedicated and a baptismal service to be held. By the time I arrived at the village, the singing and testimonies were underway. Looking around I saw all the Christians sitting on a grassy area in a close group. All around the meeting ground were hundreds of other village people in traditional dress. Everything went well until it came to going down to the river to baptize the believers. Suddenly, bows and arrows, spears, axes and knives appeared and the men barred our way. They threatened to kill us if we tried to baptize their people. Papua New Guineans do not make idle threats! So, we all sat down and began to hear from the village leaders as they gave their reasons... and slowly the truth emerged. The objection to us baptizing was this: the warriors said, "you can have your meetings and build your churches, we don't mind the villages joining the church, but if you baptize them, then they are like dead men to us. They no longer want to join in our spirit dances with us and they don't want to adhere to out traditional practices, or be involved with the fight we have planned later this year." (Running battles with neighboring villages are very common, often resulting in the loss of lives). "You can do what you like except baptizing them. ***We have seen that when you baptize them, this baptism cuts them off from our traditional spirits."***

The new Christians however were adamant that we were to baptize them. This was all I needed. I took authority in Jesus name over the men that opposed us. Everyone rose up and with one accord began walking down towards the line of the warriors. We witnessed a miracle as they let us through and quietly followed us down to the river. So great was the witness of these new Christians, that before the baptism was over, four of the warriors jumped into the river professing Christ as their savior and Lord, wanting to be baptized as well. Two of them were baptized but the other two were dragged forcibly by their relatives out of the water. ([2]Bryan Archer, [1]Johnson 2010,)

So at water baptism we need to understand that there is actually a spiritual severing off of the old life, the sinful nature. Then you are able to live out the new nature, the Nature of Christ in you.

"The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now **save** us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:" (**1 Peter 3:21 KJV**)

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved.

Water baptism is not the point of salvation but according to this verse it absolutely does save, but what does it save us from?

The word for "**save"** in 1 Peter 3:21 is Strong's # G4982 **Sode-zo** and it means; to save, i.e. **to deliver**, protect, heal preserve, to make whole.

WATER BAPTISM SETS US FREE, IT SAVES / DELIVERS US FROM THE OLD NATURE!

So then, there is another form of **deliverance** for the Believer at water baptism! The person being baptized goes down under the water as one person and comes up another, having been set free from the bondages of the old nature and now able to live out the new nature - the new life, through the resurrection power of Christ!

A Born-again Christian only needs to be correctly water baptized one time! Multiple water baptisms are not proper. However, I must also say, that if someone was a Christian and then fell away into a life of sin. When they repent and come back to Christ they should be baptized again, as to cut off the old nature that they went back to. (Often when believers fall away it is because they were not discipled properly and were not grounded in the foundations of the Faith.)

"[3] Know ye not, that so many of us as were **baptized into Jesus Christ** were baptized into his death? [4] **Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death**: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, **even so we also should walk in newness of life**. [5] For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his **resurrection**: [6] Knowing this, that **our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin." (Romans 6:3-6 KJV)**

After water baptism you have the ability to walk in authority over the old nature. Sin no longer has dominion over you! **It's far easier to say yes to obeying God and no to sin.**

Water baptism also deals with sin issues – addictions and sinful habits. UNTIL THE BELIEVER IS WATER BAPTIZED THEY WILL CONTINUE IN A CYCLE OF REPETITIVE STRUGGLES WITH SINS AND ADDICTIONS. They may be able to willfully resist sin for a matter of days, weeks or even months at a time, but **until the old nature is cut off and buried at water baptism, there is a continued struggle to moving forward in true freedom, with the ability to live out the new nature**!

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

IF YOU DIDN'T REALIZE THIS WHEN YOU WERE WATER BAPTIZED, YOU CAN TAKE HOLD OF THIS REVELATION NOW AND WALK IN IT.

Remember, at the water baptism there is a deliverance from the old nature, where the bondages, the grips of the enemy and unclean spirits are cut off. THE BELIEVER NOW HAS THE ABILITY TO WALK IN FREEDOM IN A GREATER WAY!

After water baptism, we have found it very powerful and effective to pray and minister deliverance over the one who was just baptized, driving out every evil spirit that no longer has the right to occupy territory in their life. It is very important that they get delivered, so that they can now be filled with the Holy Spirit! He will not fill an area that is already occupied by the enemy.

"[24]When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest: and when he findeth none, he saith, I will return unto mine house whence I came out." **Luke 11:24 KJV**

Once the unclean spirit is cast out and then later tries to return to the person, it must not find them vacant, as unoccupied territory. When they get delivered, it is very important to help them now get filled with the Holy Spirit. (We will cover more on this in the next section). As they are occupied and filled with the Holy Spirit, the enemy cannot reside there!

With that in mind, any area of our live that has not been surrendered over to the Holy Spirit, the enemy can occupy that territory. Jesus must be the Lord of our lives in every area! Give the Lord everything and gain everything that He has available for you!

The new Believer will still need to have their mind transformed and **renewed by the Word of God**, this is part of the repentance and sanctification process, changing the way we think, act, and behave. Believers must develop Godly character in their lives and this is a process. We are to surrender to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Learning to walk in obedience and observing all things that He has commanded us in His Word!

"[20] Teaching them to **observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you**: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen." (**Matt. 28:20 KJV**)

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

THE BAPTISM OF JESUS - HE IS OUR HIGH PRIEST:

I remember years ago as I was studying about the baptism of Jesus, I found out that when the Jews would anoint the high priest, they would anoint them on the top of the head with oil, pouring it on them in a letter from the Hebrew alphabet that was in **the shape of a dove**!

"[16] And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw **the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:** [17] And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." (**Matthew 3:16-17**)

AT THE BAPTISM, THE LORD JESUS WAS ANOINTED AS THE HIGH PRIEST!

When we are water baptized, we are raised to life with Christ and can go to the next level in our walk with Him, with the ability to now have victory over the old nature! We need to understand that The Lord is our High Priest and we can go boldly to Him!

"[14] Seeing then that **we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God**, let us hold fast our profession. [15] For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. **[16] Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." (Hebrews 4:14-16)**

THE NAME:

"[18] And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. [19] Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, **baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:" (Mathew 28:18-19 KJV)**

We should not be like the pagans, who say an incantation, saying some special words based on man's tradition…

Nowhere in Scripture, do we see any example of the person doing the baptism saying to the one being baptized, " I now baptize you, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost." - That saying is a man made tradition, and a complete misunderstanding of what Jesus commanded us to do in Matthew 28:19. Now, if someone was baptized with those words it does not discredit their baptism.

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

Think about it this way, for the Name of The Father; are we to say His Name? And if so, which name should we say, "Yahweh," or "Elohim?" Man's common traditional way does not make any sense and is not seen as an example anywhere in Scripture when a Believer was baptized.

IT'S NOT ABOUT THE WORDS; **IT'S ABOUT THE AUTHORITY BEHIND IT! Whose "name," whose authority are you baptizing in?**

In the New Testament, the Greek word for **"NAME"** is:

Strong's #G3686 **On'om-ah** and it means the: **Authority and Character**.

IT'S IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND THAT WHEN WE BAPTIZE BELIEVERS, WE ARE **NOT** BAPTIZING THEM INTO A CHURCH OR INTO A DENOMINATION. WE ARE TO BAPTIZE THEM **INTO JESUS CHRIST** AND THE ONE DOING THE BAPTISM, MUST BE DOING IT IN THE "**NAME**"; THE **AUTHORITY AND CHARACTER** OF THE FATHER, THE SON AND THE HOLY SPIRIT.

*WE ARE **NOT** BAPTIZING BELIEVERS WITH OUR OWN AUTHORITY AND CHARACTER/OUR NAME! **WE ARE TO BAPTIZE WITH HIS "NAME," WITH HIS AUTHORITY AND CHARACTER!**

In other words, the Christian doing the Baptizing needs to be doing it and operating in the (Name), the authority and character of God! And that is what qualifies someone to baptize other Believers. They do not have to be a pastor or minister; they simply need to be a Child of God who is operating in and under His authority and character, His Name!

"And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, **do all in the name of the Lord Jesus**, giving thanks to God and the Father by him." (**Colossians 3:17 KJV**)

DO ALL IN THE **NAME**, THE AUTHORITY AND CHARACTER OF THE LORD JESUS!

WE ARE TO BAPTIZE BELIEVERS **INTO JESUS CHRIST**:

"[3] Know ye not, that so many of us as were **baptized into Jesus Christ** were baptized into his death? [4] Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved.

Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." (**Romans 6:3-4 KJV**)

It's very important to clearly let believers know that they are being baptized **into Jesus Christ.**

"[18] And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All **power** is given unto me in heaven and in earth. [19] **Go ye therefore**,…" (**Mathew 28:18-19a KJV**)

Power: according to the Strong's Concordance is #G1849: **Exousia**, ex-oo-see'-ah: **authority, jurisdiction, liberty, power, right, strength.**

All the **power** is given unto Jesus and because we who are in Christ, have been marked with the King's signet seal, the seal of the Holy Spirit. *(See page 21; sealed/marked)*. He commands us, "Go ye therefore." We have now been given divine privilege to exercise His power by extension of His authority that has been granted to us to operate in!

WHEN WE BAPTIZE BELIEVERS, THE LORD JESUS IS THERE WITH US AND HE GETS ALL THE GLORY FOR THE BAPTISMS!

"[4] When therefore the Lord knew how the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John, [2] (Though Jesus himself baptized not, but his disciples,)" (**John 4:1-2 KJV**)

PROCEEDING FURTHER INTO THE KINGDOM OF GOD:
SEE → ENTER:

" [3] Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot **SEE** the kingdom of God. [4] Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? [5] Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot **ENTER** into the kingdom of God. [6] That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. [7] Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again." (**John 3:3-7 KJV**)

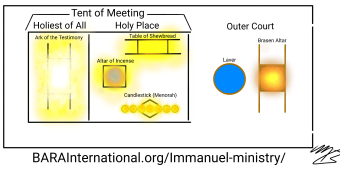
THERE IS A BIG DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BEING ABLE TO "**SEE** THE KINGDOM OF GOD" AND BEING ABLE TO "**ENTER** INTO THE KINGDOM OF GOD"… ([1]Johnson 2010)

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

The Lord Jesus said to the thief on the cross, "today thou shal

"[42] And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou co
[43] And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt
paradise." (**Luke 23:42-43 KJV**)

The Tabernacle Layout



BARAInternational.org/Immanuel-ministry/

Notice, Jesus did not tell him, "you will be with me in My Kingdom," He told him, "you will be with me in **paradise**."

The thief on the cross, made it into Heaven. He had a true repentance and belief on Jesus. He had a "death bed confession," so to speak.

He did indeed believe in Jesus with all his heart! However, he made it into the lowest location in Heaven, that being Paradise.

He experienced being born again, but was not **born of water (Water Baptized)** nor of **the Spirit (Baptized in The Holy Spirit)**. So from Paradise he would be able to **SEE** the Kingdom of God but not be able to **ENTER** into the Kingdom of God.

The Holy Bible mentions at least three locations in Heaven:

- First, **Paradise** (see Luke 23:43, 2 Cor. 12:4, Rev 2:7)
- Second, **the Kingdom of Heaven** (see Gen.1:8, Matt. 16:19)
- Third, **the Kingdom of God.** (see Mark 1:14-15, Mark 9:1)

In the same way, the temple is like a picture of Heaven:

- Outer Court - **PARADISE**
- The Holy Place - **THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN**
- The Holiest of All - **THE KINGDOM OF GOD**

© Copyright 2024 Malik I. Bishara

When we are in Christ, our body is now the temple of the Holy Ghost.
(See 1 Cor. 6:19)

The Old Testament Tabernacle is also a picture of who we are:

- Outer Court – **Body** (Blood, Organs, Bones, Five Senses)
- The Holy Place - **Soul** (Mind, Will, Emotions)
- The Holiest of All - **Spirit** (Conscience, Intuition, Fellowship)

IN ORDER FOR US, AS CHRISTIANS, TO PROGRESS DEEPER INTO THE KINGDOM, WE MUST BE BORN AGAIN, FOLLOWED BY BEING BORN OF WATER AND OF SPIRIT. (See John 3:5)

AS WE GO CLOSER TO GOD, MORE SANCTIFICATION IS REQUIRED OF US. WE MUST PROGRESS FROM BEING AN "OUTER COURT" CHRISTIAN, TO MOVING CLOSER TO THE LORD INTO THE HOLY PLACE, AND FINALLY MOVING INTO THE "HOLIEST OF ALL," THE MANIFEST PRESENCE OF GOD!

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND FIRE:

"[11] I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance. but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: **he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:**" **(Matthew 3:11 KJV)**

The Lord Jesus is the one who will baptize the Believers with the **Baptism of the Holy Ghost** and with **fire**!

It's important to understand that the baptism of fire is not talking about hell fire. The Baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire was poured out on the Church on the day of Pentecost as seen in Acts chapter 2. (We will cover this in a moment.)

POWER FROM ON HIGH:

"[46] And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: [47] And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. [48] And ye are witnesses of these things. [49] And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but **tarry** ye in the city of Jerusalem, **until ye be endued with power from on high.**" **(Luke 24:46-49 KJV)**

He commanded them to **wait** in their city, Jerusalem **until they received the power from on High.**

"[8] But **ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you:** and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." **(*Acts 1:8* KJV)**

IN ORDER TO BE AN EFFECTIVE WITNESS FOR CHRIST, WE NEED **THE INFILLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT!**

When we are filled/Baptized with the Holy Spirit then we will be able to operate effectively with authority in His miraculous power!

Notice that He said they would first be **witnesses** in their hometown, Jerusalem and then go further out from there. But before witnessing, they needed to **wait until** they **receive the power of the Holy Ghost!**

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

A WITNESS:

The word for **witness** used in this verse is Strong's # 3144 Mar'toos and it is defined as a **witness**, **martyr**, record.

A witness for Christ is not only one who testifies and preaches the Gospel. **A witness is also a martyr, one who lays down their life for Jesus.** As Believers, we are all to take up our cross, daily laying our lives down for the Lord. A Christian martyr lays down their live for Jesus out of love for Him. They are willing to share the Gospel even at the cost of their own lives, that souls would hear the truth and be saved. Don't confuse a Christian martyr with terrorist martyrs of Islam, which are actually murderers. We are to lay down our lives to save others out of love; the martyrs of Islam commit suicide in order to kill others that they hate. There's a big difference.

"[24] Then said Jesus unto his disciples, **If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.** [25] For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and **whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.** [26] For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" (**Matthew 16:24-26 KJV**)

When you became a Christian, you signed up to be a martyr/witness for the Lord, now you are to live completely for Him, for His will, and not for yourself.

THE DAY OF PENTECOST:

It was about two thousands years ago, exactly fifty days after the ascension of Christ, during Pentecost, when the Church first received the baptism of the Holy Ghost and Fire!

Pentecost means fifty. After the resurrection, the Lord Jesus was seen of his disciples for forty days. It was at the feast of Pentecost, exactly ten days after the ascension of Christ making it a total of fifty days from the resurrection that the Holy Ghost came on them!

"[3] To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them **forty days**, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God: [4] And, being assembled together with them**, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father,** which, saith he, ye have heard of me. [5] For John truly baptized with water; but **ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.**" **(Acts 1:3-5 KJV)**

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

It was exactly ten days later from the ascension of Christ, at Pentecost, we read here in Acts 2 how He baptized them in the Holy Ghost and fire:

"[1] And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. [2] And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. [3] And there appeared unto them **cloven tongues like as of fire**, and it sat upon each of them. [4] And **they were all filled with the Holy Ghost**, and **began to speak with other tongues**, as the Spirit gave them utterance." **(Acts 2:1-4 KJV)**

They were baptized with the Holy Ghost and Baptized by fire at the same time! Notice that immediately they all began to speak with other tongues!

"[38] He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said**, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.** [39] **(But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)" (John 7:38-39 KJV)**

When we are Born-again, the Holy Spirit will come and dwell in our inner most being, (in our spirit.) But we still need to be baptized in the Holy Spirit, so that He would flow into every area of our being!

This is not only available, but it is also the absolute will and desire of God for every Christian to be baptized in the Holy Spirit and to be able to speak in tongues!

The Lord Jesus tells us that speaking in tongues is a sign that will follow His Believers!

"**And these signs shall follow them that believe**; In my name shall they cast out devils; **they shall speak with new tongues**;" **(Mark 16:17 (KJV)**

All through out the Book of the Acts of the Apostles we see that as soon as the Believers were baptized in the Holy Spirit they spoke in tongues!

The following passages are great examples that show speaking in tongues as an evidence of being baptized in the Holy Spirit:

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

[4] **And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues,** as the Spirit gave them utterance." (**Acts 2: 4 (KJV)**

"[44]While Peter yet spake these words, **the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.** [45]And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also **was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.** [46]**For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God.** Then answered Peter, [47]Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have **received the Holy Ghost** as well as we? [48]And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days." (**Acts 10:44-48 KJV**)

[6] **And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied." (Acts 19: 6 KJV)**

In all three of the above Scriptures, each time the Believers received the baptism in the Holy Spirit there was a very clear physical manifestation of the Holy Spirit that they witnessed, showing that indeed, God's power had come upon them! **The evidence that the Holy Spirit filled them was that they spoke in new tongues!**

If you're reading this study and have not yet received this gift, I urge you to continue in faith and earnestly desire everything that God has available for you! Just as you received salvation, in Christ, by believing in your heart and through confession with your mouth, (see Romans 10:8-10) it's by faith that we receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues! Many times throughout the Book of Acts we see examples of Believers who had just came to Christ, being immediately water baptized into Jesus and received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit through the laying on of hands, all in the same hour! It was always very evident that they received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, as they immediately began to speak in new tongues as the Holy Spirit came on them and filled them! **You can pray by yourself or if you can, I would recommend having a Spirit filled Believer lay hands on you and ask the Lord Jesus to baptize and fill you with the Holy Spirit!**

Before continuing on to the next section, PLEASE READ Appendix C: **The Gift(s) Of Tongues** Or click here to download a PDF https://barainternational.org/2020/02/05/the-gifts-of-tongues/

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

THE BAPTISM OF FIRE:

FOR THE EARLY CHURCH, THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND FIRE WAS ONE EXPERIENCE…IT HAPPENED AT THE SAME TIME!

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. [2] And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. [3] **And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.** [4] **And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues,** as the Spirit gave them utterance." (**Acts 2:1-4 (KJV)**

The fire is for purging, refining/ purifying as gold. The Baptism of Fire brings a greater level of sanctification and holiness in the life of the Believer.

"[4] When the Lord shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and shall have purged the blood of Jerusalem from the midst thereof by the spirit of judgment, and by **the spirit of burning**." (**Isaiah 4:4 KJV**)

In Daniel 3:14-28 we see how Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were resolute in their faith! They refused to bow down and worship any other god, regardless of the threat or penalty from King Nebuchadnezzar. In verses 21-28 we read:

"[21] Then these men were bound in their coats, their hosen, and their hats, and their other garments, and were cast into the midst of the **burning fiery furnace**. [22] Therefore because the king's commandment was urgent, and the furnace exceeding hot, the flames of the fire slew those men that took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. [23] **And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.** [24] Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astonished, and rose up in haste, and spake, and said unto his counsellors, Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? They answered and said unto the king, True, O king. [25] He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God. [26] Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the mouth of the burning fiery furnace, and spake, and said, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, ye servants of the most high God, come forth, and come hither. **Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, came forth of the midst of the fire.** [27] And the princes, governors, and captains, and the king's counsellors, being gathered together, saw

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

these men, upon whose bodies the fire had no power, nor was an hair of their head singed, neither were their coats changed, nor the smell of fire had passed on them. [28] Then Nebuchadnezzar spake, and said, Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who hath sent his angel, and **delivered his servants that trusted in him**, and have changed the king's word, and **yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God." (Daniel 3:21-28 KJV)**

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were submerged in the fire! Only **their bondages were burned off** and the Lord walked with them in the fire. Rather then compromising their faith in God and obeying the king, they obeyed the commandment of the King of kings and Lord of lords!

They obeyed the commandments of the Lord and He openly manifested Himself to them in person!

"[21] He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will **manifest** myself to him." **(John 14:21 KJV)**

In March 2023, as I was preparing a sermon about the Baptism of Fire, I had titled it:

"The Seraphims are Coming Get Ready!"

After I wrote that title, I looked down at my notes and in the spirit it said,

"THE SERAPHIMS ARE ~~COMING~~ HERE – ~~GET~~ BE READY!"

The word "Coming" was crossed out and the word "HERE" was now written in red, and "Get" was crossed out and "BE" was now written in red.

"THE SERAPHIMS ARE HERE – BE READY!"

The Holy Spirit was showing me that the Seraphims are already here and we need to be ready for what God is about to do!

We're about to step into the time that we've been waiting for!

Exciting and intense times – dangerous, yet powerful times for those of us in Christ who want and will have faith for all that God has available for us!

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

Who and what are the Seraphims?

According to Strong's #H8314 Saraph (saw-rawf') comes from (#H8313); **burning**, i.e. (figuratively) **poisonous** (serpent); **fiery** (**serpent**), seraph. KJV usage: fiery serpent, fiery.

The Seraphims are a class of God's Holy Angels. They are known as the burning ones, as seraphim means fiery serpent! We read about them and their description in Isaiah 6:1-8.

"[1] In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the LORD sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple. [2] Above it stood the **seraphims**: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly. [3] And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory. [4] And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke. [5] Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts. [6] Then flew one of the **seraphims** unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar: [7] And he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged. [8] Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me." **(Isaiah 6:1-8 KJV)**

Isaiah 6:1-8

- 6:3 – Holy, Holy, Holy – the whole world is full of His glory.
- 6:5 – (The Fear of the Lord) Woe is me…
- 6:6-7 – The fire will cleanse/purge.
- 6:8 – Whom shall I send, … Here am I; send me. (Then the sending forth!)

THE FIRE WILL PURGE/CLEANS AND BRING HOLINESS!
The people of God must be holy**!**

"[14] Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:" **(Hebrews 12:14 KJV)**

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

THIS NEXT MOVE OF GOD WILL BRING ABOUT A HOLY PEOPLE!

There will be spiritual fires from the true remnant Church that will soon ignite and burn into a wild fire! The fire will bring a cleansing to the Body of Christ and will purge the Body of Christ from worldliness, from vanity and from carnality.

You must determine and say in your heart, "I REFUSE TO SIT BACK AND JUST WATCH IT HAPPEN! – I WILL BE A PART OF WHAT GOD IS DOING!"

Distractions of double-mindedness, not being focused, unbelief, walking in pride and selfish ambitions are some of the things that will keep believers from **qualifying** and being able to participate. There will be some Christians who will not participate because of unbelief- they may end up going home early - that will actually be God's mercy on them.

The Hosts of Heaven will help us!

GOD IS PREPARING THE REMNANT – WE WILL BECOME ON FIRE, WE WILL BE BURNING ONES, FLAMES OF FIRE FOR THE LORD!

BELIEVERS WILL RECEIVE THE BAPTISM OF FIRE (ON A LARGE SCALE); WHICH WILL ENABLE US TO GO THROUGH THE FIRE – THE GREAT TRIBULATION – AND NOT GET BURNED! THE COMING GREAT TRIBULATION WILL BE OUR FINAL TEST – THEN WE WILL SEE AND BE WITH THE LORD, BECAUSE WE WILL BECOME A HOLY PEOPLE!

BAPTIZED BY FIRE:

It was on Aug. 01, 2015 when I received the Baptism of Fire. Months before this, I was recalling years back when I received the baptism of the Holy Spirit when I was about eighteen years old. It was then, that I started walking in the gifts and manifested power of the Holy Spirit moving in my life and in ministry.

In 2014, the Lord was doing a mighty work in our lives and drawing my wife and I more closer to Him then ever before! We had seen many miracles in our ministry; the sick healed, the dead raised, but it was then, during an extended fast that the Lord "woke us up."

I was thinking about in the Book of Acts in Chapter 2, where they were baptized in the Holy Spirit and Fire at the same time… but I couldn't recall an experience of receiving

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

the Baptism of Fire yet. So, I set out to pray and fast until I received it. There was such a deep desire and yearning for this in my life! I remember praying and fasting for more of the Lord and crying out to Him for the Baptism of Fire. Several months later it happened! It was on August 01, 2015 I was attending a meeting and the Minister called all those who are in ministry to the front before the presence of the Lord and a Baptism of Fire was released on all of us. I was completely submerged by the Liquid Fire of God - my entire being (spirit, soul and body) was Baptized by Fire! It was so hot, yet wonderful! Liquid fire came upon my entire being; this was such a powerful encounter that took place in my life! Since that point when I am going about my day or in prayer, I can literally feel a fire well up from within me.

YOU BECOME A FLAME OF FIRE!

"[7] And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, **and his ministers a flame of fire." (Hebrews 1:7 KJV)**

In **Revelation 11:5** speaking of the two witnesses/prophets (who I believe will lead two companies of believers) – The Word of God tells us that if anyone tries to harm them, fire will come out of their mouths and devours their enemies! For those of us who are alive and remain, we will get to be apart of this in the near future!

"**And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies:** and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed." **(Revelation 11:5 KJV)**

Why will fire come out of our mouths? Because the fire will be in us! The fire will be all around us! You will be a flame of fire –baptized, fully submerged by the Holy Fire of the Holy Ghost.

END TIME ARMY OF GOD:

"[3] **A fire** devoureth before them; and behind them **a flame burneth**: the land is as the garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and nothing shall escape them. [4] The appearance of them is as the appearance of horses; and as horsemen, so shall they run. [5] Like the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains shall they leap, like the noise of **a flame of fire** that devoureth the stubble, as a strong people set in battle array." **(Joel 2:3-5 KJV)**

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved.

WITH THE FIRE, COMES THE GLORY:

The end-time Church will be marked by the supernatural power of God on a level that we have yet to see! In order to qualify and be apart of the end-time remnant army of God, we have to go to the next level in our walk with Him! We need the fire of the Holy Spirit!

With the fire, comes the glory of God and a greater level of the fear of the Lord!

"[5] And the LORD will create upon every dwelling place of mount Zion, and upon her assemblies, **a cloud** and smoke by day, and the shining of a **flaming fire** by night: for upon all the **glory** shall be a defence." **(Isaiah 4:5 KJV)**

As the glory cloud and fire of God comes on His people, there will be a greater manifestation of His power and presence –with that comes a greater responsibility to walk in obedience in the fear of the Lord.

In the past, there may have been an extended grace period to give additional time for repentance. In the coming days, as the glory comes on the Church, there will be instant consequences. When you sow, you will reap, but it will be quick without delay. This is for both reaping blessings and punishments.

"[17] For the time is come that **judgment must begin at the house of God**: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?"
(1 Peter 4:17 KJV)

ANANIAS AND SAPPHIRA – JUDGMENT – THE FEAR OF THE LORD:

"[1] But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession, [2] And kept back part of the price, his wife also being privy to it, and brought a certain part, and laid it at the apostles' feet. [3] But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to **lie to the Holy Ghost**, and to keep back part of the price of the land? [4] Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? **thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God. [5] And Ananias hearing these words fell down, and gave up the ghost: and great fear came on all them that heard these things.** [6] And the young men arose, wound him up, and carried him out, and buried him. [7] And it was about the space of three hours after, when his wife, not knowing what was done, came in. [8] And Peter answered unto her, Tell me whether ye sold the land for so much? And she said, Yea, for so much. [9] Then Peter said unto her, How is it that ye have agreed together to tempt the Spirit of the Lord?

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

behold, the feet of them which have buried thy husband are at the door, and shall carry thee out. [10] **Then fell she down straightway at his feet, and yielded up the ghost: and the young men came in, and found her dead, and, carrying her forth, buried her by her husband.** [11] **And great fear came upon all the church, and upon as many as heard these things."** **(Acts 5:1-11 KJV)**

This man Ananias and his wife Sapphira, told one lie and instantaneously dropped dead! There's no room for compromise in that kind of an atmosphere of the presence and glory of God, one lie cost them their lives! They didn't even have to give an offering; in fact, it would have been better if they didn't give anything at all because their hearts weren't right! They lied and wanted the Church to think that they gave all of the land money in order to look good to the people and to the apostles. When they gave, they weren't giving to God or even for the glory of God. When we give to the work of the Lord, it's not for what we can get! We are to give because we love God and want the Gospel to go forth!

GOING FROM GLORY TO GLORY:

We need to learn to allow the life of Christ to manifest more through us!

How do we walk in the greater realm of the Glory of God? - Live a more sanctified life, a life that is set apart completely for God! You want more – then be even more set-apart!

[1] Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the LORD, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even **the messenger of the covenant**, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts. [2] But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? **for he is like a refiner's fire**, and like fullers' soap: [3] And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness." **(Malachi 3:1-3 KJV)**

The Baptism of Fire in the life of the Believer will bring a deeper level of purging and cleansing. It will also bring a greater protection and guidance as a wall of fire, just as the Lord did for Israel in the time of Moses. The fire will also bring about a great transformation to walk in the spirit realm without the physical limitations that would naturally hold us back.

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

IN ORDER TO SURVIVE AND PREACH THE GOSPEL EFFECTIVELY IN THE TIMES AHEAD WE WILL NEED TO EXPERIENCE ALL THREE BAPTISMS: (BAPTISM OF WATER, BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND FIRE)

WE NEED TO **CONTINUALLY** BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT, AND THAT COMES FROM CONTINUALLY WALKING IN OBEDIENCE AND INTIMACY WITH HIM!

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

THE FOURTH FOUNDATION
THE LAYING ON OF HANDS:

"[1]Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of **repentance from dead works**, and of **faith toward God**, [2]Of **the doctrine of baptisms**, and of **laying on of hands**, and of **resurrection of the dead**, and of **eternal judgment**." (**Hebrews 6:1-2 KJV**)

WE CAN EMANATE (RELEASE) THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT THROUGH OUR HANDS!

IN THE WORD OF GOD WE SEE THE LAYING ON OF HANDS:

- TO COMMISSION
- TO IMPART (GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT)
- TO HEAL THE SICK
- TO RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT

THE LAYING ON OF HANDS - TO COMMISSION:
This is for sending Believers out to do the work of the Lord.

"[13] Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. [2] As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. [3] And when they had **fasted and prayed**, and **laid their hands on them**, they sent them away. [4] So they, **being sent forth** by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus." (**Acts 13:1-4 KJV**)

The Church at Antioch commissioned Barnabas and Saul, sending them out to do the work of the Lord. Notice how this was all done as they ministered to the Lord (waiting on God) and fasted. Then they heard His will, as the Word of the Holy Ghost came. They diligently sought the Lord, and the Church received instruction from the Holy Ghost on who was to be sent out. **To be sent out and commissioned is something that must only be done by the instruction of the Holy Spirit. A Bible College education or charismatic personality is not what qualifies someone to do the Lord's work. You must be spiritually qualified and called by God.**

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved.

It is God who calls His people to be set apart for the ministry that they are to walk in. Commissioning is not a ceremonial ritual, though there can be a ceremony it is not necessary. To be commissioned is to be released and set apart for the work of ministry that God has called you into. Any commissioning needs to be done under the instruction of the Holy Ghost and can be done through the Church leadership, such as elders as well as those who are apart of the five-fold ministry (apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors or teachers - See Ephesians 4:11). The instance in Acts 13:1-4, where Barnabas and Saul were set apart and sent out as apostles was done by prophets and teachers. God called Barnabas and Saul and they were released by the Church of Antioch into their apostolic callings.

Church leaders must be cautious when laying hands and allowing others to lay hands. When someone is being commissioned and sent out to do ministry, they are doing it as an extension of that Church Body. In other words, they are a representative of that Church and whatever they teach and all their conduct will also be credited to the ones who commissioned them. When they lay their hands on them and commission them, they are joining together/partnering with them in what they do. This is why it is so important to make sure that they have been tested and observed, showing the good fruits of a genuine mature Christian before sending them out or appointing them to do the ministry. If they are appointed and are not ready, they could actually be very destructive to the Gospel message, as well as, to themselves and to others who hear them. This is why they must not only walk in Godly Character, but they must also be one who is spiritually mature and is sound in doctrine. If they teach and spread false doctrine, the one who commissioned them will also be a partaker of their sins! You need to know what they believe and how they conduct themselves!

"Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure." (**1 Timothy 5:22 KJV**)

This Scripture is a clear warning. The Apostle Paul warning Timothy – be careful who you join with, who you send out, who you commission and give approval of. There is a spiritual transfer and connection that happens with the laying on of hands.

BE CAREFUL WHOM YOU ALLOW TO LAY HANDS ON YOU:
The context of the above verse is for commissioning, and also for prayer. There is a principle here that we should also apply by not allowing just anyone to suddenly lay

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

hands upon us either. This is a concept that Christians also need to understand and take seriously.

There can be a spiritual transfer through the hands (good or evil). Many Christians are afflicted and suffer from neglecting to obey the commands in Scripture. Allow me to give you a few examples:

EXPERIENCED COLD PAIN FROM CHARISMATIC WITCHCRAFT :
Years ago around when I was in my twenties I remember after a church meeting, an older man in the church that I didn't really know came up to me and wanted to speak into my life as if he was prophesying. He started talking and put his hand on my back – instantly a cold intense pain came into my back right where he had placed his hand. I knew this was witchcraft and I quickly stepped back away from him to maintain my personal space. Surprisingly, in a very rude and controlling manner, he stepped forward and put his hand on my back a second time as if he was giving me some important counsel from God. Immediately the cold intense pain came back. I let him know that what he was sharing was completely inaccurate and was not from God and told him to remove his hand. He did and that ended that. I related the event to the pastor and he also agreed that the man was operating in witchcraft. Apparently, that was not the first time he had dealt with him and decided kick him out of the church.

People do things like this all the time in churches, where they very rudely lay hands on people they don't even know without permission. Remember, if someone is disrespectful enough to violate your space; don't feel that you are being rude by telling them to please remove their hand or just telling them no thank you!

If you are the one ministering to someone, always make it a custom to request permission before laying hands on them for prayer.

I want to also point out that the head is a very spiritually sensitive location. It's not necessary for you to place your hand on people's foreheads. It's better if you just stick to the shoulder and refrain from laying hands on the head, unless if you are part of the five-fold ministry.

A WITCH LAID HANDS ON HIM:
Through the laying on of hands we can emanate power – and so can witches! Years ago I ran a homeless ministry of evangelism. We would prayer-walk the downtown area and minister the Gospel to the homeless in the community. There was a day where I was

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

ministering to a man who was the town drunkard, his name was Dalphino. As I was talking with him, suddenly three women came up and greeted him by name, then one of them touched him and instantly he collapsed onto the ground. As this happened, the Holy Spirit told me that they are witches and that they have an assignment against Dalphino's life. The three quickly acted as if they had compassion on him and wanted to help him. So they tried to wake him up. Then I clearly saw the pentagram necklace that they wore confirming what the Holy Spirit had told me (and of course they also wore the Converse brand pentagram shoes to go along with it). One of them went and got pizza from another ministry in the park that would feed the homeless, she handed it to me for Dalphino to try to get him to eat. I took the plate of pizza from her hand and very loudly, I boldly prayed over the food something in this manner, "In Jesus Mighty Name, I bless this food and I thank you for it Lord and I plead the Blood of Jesus over us now and I rebuke the spirit of witchcraft and every curse and evil from coming against Dalphino's life. In the Name of Jesus, I brake every satanic assignment from coming against him." – As I was praying the three witches started scream and fleeing from the scene, one was saying she needs her Tarot cards and another her cape, it was almost comical watching them frantically scatter. Dalphino then sat up and was okay, able to gratefully eat his pizza. Later on he did come to Christ and was Born-Again!

One touch from these unsuspected evil women took this man to the ground. The touch from these witches released demonic power against their victim, but they couldn't handle the power of the Blood of Jesus, The One who sets the captives free!

LAYING ON OF HANDS IN CHURCH MEETINGS:

Many Churches don't realize the damage that they do in their open meetings when they have everyone hold hands to pray together. Or when they have "free for all's" in Churches where everyone is instructed to go and lay hands on one another individually, or in groups. Do you know everyone who is there at the meeting? If it's an open meeting, where outsiders and guests are welcome, then there may very well be unbelievers present or even servants of satan there on assignment against that Church. We need to be very vigilant to obey the Scriptures and understand the doctrine of the laying on of hands and how we are to conduct ourselves!

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

THE LAYING ON OF HANDS - TO IMPART BLESSINGS, GIFTS:

"Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery *(Church leadership)*." **(1 Timothy 4:14)**

The apostle Paul was reminding and encouraging Timothy to continue in the gift that was imparted to him through the laying on of hands. He reminds him again in the second letter to Timothy.

"[6] Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands." **(2 Timothy 1:6 KJV)**

Timothy was called and commissioned to do the Lord's work. Paul and other Church leaders laid their hands on him, not only to commission him for this work, but also imparting spiritual blessings into him. There was a specific gift that was imparted by the laying on of hands that strengthened Timothy in his God given calling.

Before someone is commissioned they need to be qualified. There is a testing period that everyone must go through before being qualified to do the Lord's work. Giftings and abilities are not what spiritually qualify someone, as I mentioned earlier, Bible college doesn't qualify someone either. A large part of the preparation period is learning to grow in faith by knowing the voice of the Lord and growing in Godly character. **The level of your life has been conformed to Christ, will determine your level of spiritual maturity.** We must enter into a certain level of spiritual maturity in order to be spiritually qualified for His work.

"[4] Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. [5] And beside this, giving all diligence, **add to your faith virtue**; and to virtue **knowledge**; [6] And to knowledge **temperance** *(self-control);* and to temperance **patience**; and to patience **godliness**; [7] And to godliness **brotherly kindness**; and to brotherly kindness **charity** (*selfless, sacrificial love*). [8] For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. [9] But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. [10] **Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure:** for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: [11] For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved.

into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." **(2 Peter 1:4-11 KJV)**

"MY SHEEP KNOW MY VOICE":
Each one of us needs to know the will of God for our own lives and the things that we are to accomplish and walk in for His glory. To know His will comes by prayer and obedience to Him and His Word. When we obey Him in the little things, He can trust us with more. This is why it is extremely important for us to continue in the spiritual disciplines of reading and studying God's Word, waiting on God, prayer, fasting, worship, and continuing in fellowship with other Godly Believers.

"42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers." **(Acts 2:42 KJV)**

In order to know and obey the will of God for our lives, we must hear Him. How can you obey instructions that you don't even know? This is why we need to be in His Word daily! Also, learning to wait on God and seek His face is crucial to our growth and day-to-day Christian living. When we **pray and wait on God**, we will **hear His instructions** and need to **be quick to obey** and **do His will**.

In Hebrew, the word for "hear" is an action; it has to do with actively listening and walking in obedience. The things that we are instructed in from God's Word needs to be obeyed. What the Holy Spirit communicates to us, needs to be obeyed! What our Godly leadership teaches us, needs to be obeyed. **We must be willing to submit ourselves to Godly leadership who can speak into our lives.**

"17 Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you." **(Hebrews 13:17 KJV)**

Don't just receive every voice, or teaching as truth though. Anything that we hear, or that is revealed to us in prayer, dreams, visions, prophesies, encounters, teachings and so forth – **must all line up with the Word of God**.

This is why a mature and wise believer will **discern** and even **test** the message communicated to them, to make sure it is from God. (See **1 John 4:1-3**)

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

The More you grow closer to God, the more you will recognize His voice and learn to discern between the true and the false. As well as being able to discern between what is true, from that which is almost true. The counterfeit will always take on attributes from the genuine. But when you examine it close enough, **those who are mature can recognize and discern between both good and evil.** (See **Hebrews 5:12-14**)

GOD WILL NEVER CONTRADICT HIS WRITTEN WORD! The more you know His written Word and His voice, the more strength and confidence you will have in your discernment.

We need to position ourselves to hear God. God is speaking – are we listening?

"[27] My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:" **(John 10:27 KJV)**

We are to be lead by the Holy Spirit in all things.

EMANATING GOD'S POWER:
Power can emanate through the laying on of hands and we can impart blessings of God to others, if we know how to operate in this way by faith. You can even practice this daily as you meet and greet people that you interact with. When you shake their hands, when you hug friends and family you can release and impart blessings of God's peace, joy, revelation of Jesus Christ and so forth.

The Lord Jesus blessed the Children "[16] And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them." **(Mark 10:16 KJV)**

THE LAYING ON OF HANDS - TO HEAL THE SICK:

(Several passages showing healing through the laying on of hands - physical contact.)

"They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; **they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover." (Mark 16:18 KJV)**

"[22] And he cometh to Bethsaida; and they bring a blind man unto him, and besought him to touch him. [23] And he took the blind man by the hand, and led him out of the town; and when he had spit on his eyes, and **put his hands upon him**, he asked him if he saw ought. [24] And he looked up, and said, I see men as trees, walking. [25] After that **he put his hands again upon his eyes**, and made him look up: and he was restored, and saw every man clearly." (**Mark 8:22-25 KJV**)

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

"[14] And when Jesus was come into Peter's house, he saw his wife's mother laid, and sick of a fever. [15] **And he touched her hand**, and the fever left her: and she arose, and ministered unto them." (**Matthew 8:14-15 KJV**)

One of the signs of a Believer, is that the power of God is to be able to flow through us. We are all to be able to lay our hands on the sick and they recover. **Faith** is the key to everything in the Christian life. **If we don't have faith to believe, then we won't receive.**

BY HIS STRIPS WE ARE HEALED!
It is because of the sufferings of Jesus Christ, that we can now be healed by the authority in His Name.

When the hands and feet are apprehended the one bound becomes physically powerless. The extensions of the body cannot move. I believe that this is one of the reasons satan thought he had a victory over The Lord Jesus when He was crucified on the cross with His hands and feet nailed down. Of course it backfired on the enemy when the Lord rose from the dead!

"[26] And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you. [27] Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing." **(John 20:26-27 KJV)**

The nail piercings, are the marks of Christ that He bears in His body for us. Now we, as the Body of Christ are to operate in His miraculous power and one of the ways we are to do that is through the laying on of hands to heal the sick!

"But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed." **(Isaiah 53:5 KJV)**

HEALING REQUIRES FAITH:
The Lord Jesus was whipped at that whipping post for our healing. He shed His blood and went to the cross and died for our salvation. He went to that whipping post and was crucified on the cross on the same day. We are able to have faith to repent of our sins and believe on Jesus Christ for forgiveness and salvation. In the same way, we need to have faith to believe and receive physical healing!

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

"When it comes to healing, the main thing is FAITH – the element of FAITH must be there!" – (Reinhard Bonnke)

Healing the sick must be done in **His Name** – in the **authority and character** of Jesus Christ! When we operate in faith and His authority and character, we will see more and more miraculous results in our lives and in the lives of those we minister to!

THE HEALING POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS TO FLOW THROUGH US.
In my Christian walk and ministry, we have seen countless miracles of the Lord manifesting His healing power. One of the testimonies that comes to mind is when I had gotten word that a friend of mine, from my youth, was in the hospital sick with kidney failure. Apparently, he had already been in the hospital for several weeks. When I arrived to his hospital room, he looked terrible! He looked like a completely different person; extremely frail and sickly, his skin was jaundice and he didn't have much strength. I ministered to him and shared testimonies of not only healings that I have seen for others, but even in my own life, how God had fully healed me from organ failure. His faith was strengthened and I leaned over his hospital bed and prayed for him. The power of the Holy Ghost filled the room and as I extended and laid my hands over him I knew and felt the healing power that was released through my hand and I declared to him that the healing power of the Lord came upon him. Almost right after we finished praying, a nurse came into the room with news that he was accepted to receive a kidney transplant, but they have to move fast. When I heard this news, I remember thinking, he doesn't need a transplant, he's healed. I knew that the Lord had already touched him. Within the hour he was transported to another city with a larger hospital for a kidney transplant, but when the doctors rescanned him, to their surprise, he had perfectly healthy kidneys! He was shortly released after further monitoring and had a full recovery! Praise the Lord!

As the Body of Christ we are an extension of Jesus' hands, His power and presence is to flow through us. The more you surrender your life and subdue your flesh, the more His glory and power can flow through you extending out to others.

God can heal in many ways, and the laying on of hands is one of those ways.

I am reminded of a testimony of Smith Wigglesworth. There was a time when the police tried to restrict him from laying hands on people to minister healing in his meetings. Rather then let that prohibit him, he simply stretched out his hands and prayed over the

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

crowd, touching no one and the Lord moved powerfully healing the sick, from those who were diseased, to those who were crippled.

While we are to see healings through the laying on of hands, we need to understand that it is not the only way. In the spirit, we are not limited by location or proximity. By faith we can minister healing to people in other cities or countries without even being there in person. The power of God is not stopped by physical limitations. We are to operate by faith, in the spirit realm.

SPIRITUAL TRANSFER – EVEN TAKES PLACE THROUGH OBJECTS.

"[11] And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul: [12] So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them." **(Acts 19:11-12 KJV)**

THE LAYING ON OF HANDS - TO RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT:

"[14] Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: [15] Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost: [16] (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.) [17] **Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.**" **(Acts 8:14-17 KJV)**

"[17] And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and **putting his hands on him** said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest **receive thy sight**, and be **filled with the Holy Ghost.** [18] And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized." (**Acts 9:17-18 KJV**)

He was healed and filled with the Holy Ghost through the laying on of hands!

"[5] When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. [6] And **when Paul had laid his hands upon them**, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied." (**Acts 19:5-6 KJV**)

Paul laid his hands upon them and the Holy Ghost came on them! From the Scriptures

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

that we just read, we can see that one of the ways that Believers can receive the Baptism of the Holy Ghost is through the laying on of hands.

We can emanate and release the power of the Holy Spirit through our hands!

LIFTING UP HOLY HANDS TOWARDS GOD:

Another release of the Spirit that flows through our hands, is in the lifting of them in worship, praise and in prayer to the Lord Jesus!

"[8] I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting." (**1 Timothy 2:8 KJV**)

"[2] Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and bless the LORD." (**Psalm 134:2 KJV**)

One of the ways we can connect with God in the spirit realm is when we lift up our holy hands unto the Lord!

Key points to remember from this foundation:

- We can be commissioned by the laying on of hands.
- We can receive and impart spiritual gifts by the laying on of hands.
- We can lay our hands on the sick and they shall recover.
- Through the laying on of hands we can impart the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.
- We can lift up our Holy hands in prayer, praise and worship!

The laying on of hands is such an important foundation in the operation of our faith. We must remember to be wise and obedient to the Word in how we lay hands, as well as being careful when allowing others to lay hands on us.

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

THE FIFTH FOUNDATION
THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD (Part A)**:**

"[1]Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of **repentance from dead works**, and of **faith toward God**, [2]Of **the doctrine of baptisms**, and of **laying on of hands**, and of **resurrection of the dead**, and of **eternal judgment**." (**Hebrews 6:1-2 KJV**)

In this foundation, we will not only cover the reality of the resurrection of the dead, but also the prophetic Biblical timeline of key events leading up to The First Resurrection, as well as, what will happen following it. **The First Resurrection** is most commonly known as the rapture or catching away of the Church. This is an event that everyone in Christ should be very excited about, as well as, continually being made ready for all the things that will take place before that day approaches.

THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD:

"[18] Then come unto him the Sadducees, which say there is no resurrection; and they asked him, saying, [19] Master, Moses wrote unto us, If a man's brother die, and leave his wife behind him, and leave no children, that his brother should take his wife, and raise up seed unto his brother. [20] Now there were seven brethren: and the first took a wife, and dying left no seed. [21] And the second took her, and died, neither left he any seed: and the third likewise. [22] And the seven had her, and left no seed: last of all the woman died also. [23] In the resurrection therefore, when they shall rise, whose wife shall she be of them? for the seven had her to wife. [24] And Jesus answering said unto them, Do ye not therefore err, because ye know not the scriptures, neither the power of God? [25] For when they shall rise from the dead, they neither marry, nor are given in marriage; but are as the angels which are in heaven. [26] And as touching the dead, that they rise: have ye not read in the book of Moses, how in the bush God spake unto him, saying, **I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? [27] He is not the God of the dead, but the God of the living**: ye therefore do greatly err." (**Mark 12:18-27 KJV**)

The Sadducees…were *sad, you see*… because they didn't have the hope or faith for the resurrection of the dead. The Sadducees were a sect of Jews that did not believe in the resurrection from the dead. They lacked faith and they lacked understanding of the Holy Scriptures. The Lord responded to them, correcting their great doctrinal error.

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD IS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH. The Apostle Paul lays this out clearly in 1 Corinthians chapter 15.

"[13] **But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen**: [14] And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. [15] Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. [16] **For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised:** [17] **And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins." (1 Corinthians 15:13-17 KJV)**

It is because the Lord Jesus was raised up from the dead, in a new resurrected body, that we will also be raised up from the dead in a new resurrected body as well!

"[18] And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, **the firstborn from the dead**; that in all things he might have the preeminence." (**Colossians 1:18 KJV**)

"[11] But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also **quicken** your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you." (**Romans 8:11 KJV**)

(The word "**quicken**" is a powerful old English word that means: to make alive or bring to life!)

"[25] Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:" (**John 11:25 KJV**)

JESUS IS THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE – BECAUSE HE WAS RAISED FROM THE DEAD AND BECAUSE HE DWELLS IN US – HE HAS EMPOWERED US TO ALSO RAISE THE DEAD!

THE BOY CAME BACK TO LIFE:
Years ago, I was at Costco shopping and at the time didn't know why, but I felt prompted to browse through the towel aisle, while on the phone with my wife Christina. After a few minutes at the end of the aisle, I saw a young boy probably around seven or so years old pushing the shopping cart and then suddenly pass out, hitting his head on the hard concrete floor. His mother was there with him and was him trying to wake him. I assumed it was a seizure and that the boy would come to after a few seconds or so, but he didn't. I was still on the phone and was watching multiple people just walk by. Some

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

shoppers saw what had happened and were looking, but then just continued on. Time continued and it seemed like several minutes had gone by and the mother still couldn't get him to wake up. She was then frantically shaking him and now yelling for help. (People continued waking by.) I told my wife on the phone, "I've got to go, the boy still isn't getting up." I remember praying, "Lord don't let this boy just die in front of me." As I walked up closer to see, the boy was not moving at all and as the mother was shaking him there was nothing. There was no breath in him. Not knowing what I was going to do, I quickly walked up and put my left hand on his chest (as I did, in the spirit, I saw an evil spirit sitting on the boy) I loudly said, IN JESUS NAME!! And instantly the boy sprang up back to life! I didn't pray any special prayer; I simply used the authority given to me as a Child of God. It wasn't until the very second that I said, "IN JESUS NAME" that the boy sprang back up to life. Praise the Lord!

Afterwards, I asked the Holy Spirit what happened and why that evil spirit was sitting on the boy. He showed me that it came through an open gateway from video games that the boy played. (We need to be careful what we allow our children to do, by making sure that all we do and allow in to our lives and home is bringing glory to God.)

Throughout my life, the opportunity has also presented itself for me to lay hands over several dead animals and see them also come back to life, all through the authority in the Name of Jesus! This should be normal for us all who are in Christ!

A missionary to Mexico, Brother David Hogan and his team have seen hundreds upon hundreds of people raised from the dead through his ministry. In fact, it has become so normal for them to see the dead raised back to life that it has been known that people have walked for miles to bring their dead babies or family members and see them come back to life through the power of Jesus Christ!

There have been so many documented testimonies of Christians all over the world who have seen the dead raised back to life, as well as those who have shared their own testimonial account of what they experienced while they were dead and then came back to life!

WE ARE GOING TO NEED TO WALK IN RESURRECTION POWER, ESPECIALLY IN THE DAYS AHEAD.

When we read about the heros of the Faith in Hebrews chapter 11, we can see that these Believers in the first century Church walked in the resurrection power!

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

"[35] Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:" **(Hebrews 11:35** KJV)

THE DEAD IN CHRIST WILL RISE AGAIN:

Because we believe in the resurrection, Christians should not do cremations for their dead. Cremation is actually a pagan ceremonial practice that has nothing to do with Christianity. The Biblical examples we see for the dead, were to place the dead bodies in a tomb, a cave or to be buried in the ground. There is such an emphasis all throughout the Scriptures on how the dead bodies were to be treated, and where they were to be buried. There's an important reason, not only for health and sanitation reasons, but also because we have faith that there will be a resurrection of our earthly bodies.

"[22] By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones." **(Hebrews 11:22 KJV)**

The location of where Joseph's bones were buried was so important to him, that he wanted to make sure that the children of Israel took them with them when they went into the promise land (Jerusalem). Why was this, what did he see or know about in the future? When he prophesied about the departing of the Children of Israel from Egypt to the Promise Land what else did he see? It was so significant that he gave them a command to take up his bones with them to be buried in Jerusalem! I believe he also saw and wanted to be apart of what had happened after the resurrection of Jesus, when the graves were opened and the bodies of many saints rose back to life! ([1]Johnson 2010)

Let's look at what happened after the crucifixion of the Lord:

"[50] Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. [51] And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; [52] And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, [53] And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many." **(Matthew 27:50-53 KJV)**

Who were these saints that arose up out of their graves after the resurrection of Christ? The Bible doesn't tell us specifically, but we know that it says that there were many of them!

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved.

THE FIRST RESURRECTION IS THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH:

There is a coming resurrection day!

"[28] Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, [29] And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto **the resurrection of life**; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation." (**John 5:28-29 KJV**)

We're going to now cover a prophetic Biblical time-line of what will happen leading up to The First Resurrection. The First Resurrection is most commonly known as the Rapture or catching away of the Church. As I mentioned earlier, this will be an event that everyone in Christ should be very excited about and continually be made ready for all the things that will take place before that day approaches.

As always, we're going to cover a lot of Scriptures, so that you can clearly see that what you're being taught here is in the Word and not just opinion or interpretation. We are to confirm Scripture with Scripture, not our opinions or experiences! A student of the Word needs to know how to cross-reference and that's what we're about to do.

When we properly search out the Scriptures it is so clear that The First Resurrection and the Rapture of the Church **is the exact same event**!

As we read the following passages I want to point out several key words:

- Cloud, Trump/Trumpet,

He comes in the **clouds**:

"[9] And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a **cloud** received him out of their sight. [10] And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; [11] Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, **shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven**." (**Acts 1:9-11 KJV**)

The Angels told them, the same way He was taken up in the **clouds** is the same way He is coming back - in the clouds!

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

"[7] Behold, he cometh with **clouds**; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen." **(Revelation 1:7 KJV)**

"[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. [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. [16] And he that sat on the **cloud** thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped." **(Revelation 14:14-16 KJV)**

"[50] Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. [51] Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, [52] In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last **trump**: for the **trumpet** shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed." **(1 Corinthians 15:50-52 KJV)**

This passage in 1 Corinthians 15:52 is often taught as the **Rapture** of the Church, and it is! However, we also need to realize that it is the same event as **the First Resurrection**! "We will be changed" with a new resurrected, glorified body!

Let's also take a look at 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 for additional clarity.

"[13] But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. [14] For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. [15] For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. [16] For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the **trump** of God**: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: [17] Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air**: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. [18] Wherefore comfort one another with these words. **(1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 KJV)**

The Lord Jesus will descend from Heaven, the trumpet sounds, the dead in Christ rise first, then the Believers who are still alive will be caught up together with them in the

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved.

clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Notice how "The Rapture" and The First Resurrection of the dead, is the same event!

In order to go to Heaven, we have to be apart of The First Resurrection. Let's now look at **Revelation 20:6.**

"[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." (**Revelation 20:6 KJV**)

You must be part of The First Resurrection, if not, then the Bible says that **the second death** will have power over you! What is the second death? It's clearly defined in verse 14. "[14] And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death." (**Revelation 20:14 KJV**)

The second death is the eternal death of the person's soul in the Lake of Fire for all eternity! They die the natural death and then they die the eternal death; the second death. There is no such thing as a second chance after someone gets "left behind," like the popular false doctrinal teaching of the pre-tribulation rapture in the Left Behind book and movie series. **According to Revelation 20:6, if you are not part of the First Resurrection, then the second death will have power over you!** You must be part of The First Resurrection, in order to make it to Heaven - the resurrection of eternal life!

ORDER OF EVENTS LEADING UP TO THE FIRST RESURRECTION:

In **Matt 24**, **Mark 13**, and in **Luke 21**; the disciples asked the Lord Jesus, what will be the sign of His coming and of the end of the world? In all three of these Gospels the Lord Jesus gave a chronological order of events that will take place prior to His return!

Before we read through Matthew Chapter 24:1-31, lets go through a brief summary of the order of events that will take place:

First is the **beginning of sorrows,** (24:4-8), followed by **increased persecution of the Church**. (24:9-13) Then **the anti-Christ will be revealed and he will sit in the temple proclaiming himself to be as God** (24:15). **Then** there will be **great tribulation** (24:21-28). **False Christs will arise** and deceive many (24:5, 11, 23-26). **Immediately after the tribulations** there will be signs in the sun, moon and stars (24:29). **Then, the Lord Jesus**

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

coming in the clouds (24:30) and the angel will blow the **trumpet** and **the elect in Christ will be gathered up** from the four winds **for The First Resurrection/The Rapture.** (24:31)

Matthew 24:1-31 KJV

"[1]And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple.

[2] And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.

[3] And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, **the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?**

[4] And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you.

[5] For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

[6] And **ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars**: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

[7] For **nation shall rise against nation**, and **kingdom against kingdom**: and there shall be **famines**, and **pestilences**, and **earthquakes, in divers places**. (Note: famines, pestilences, earthquakes are all plural. Also the word pestilences (diseases) has been omitted from many false modern Bible translations. The Covid-19 agenda, being a precursor of these diseases and a push for the rising up of the anti-Christ system.)

[8] **All these are the beginning of sorrows.**

[9] **Then** shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.

[10] And **then** shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. (Note: many will also be offended at the Faith, probably because so many pastors falsely taught them that they would be raptured ahead of time and would not have to go through the Great Tribulation period.)

[11] And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.

[12] And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.

[13] **But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.**

[14] And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

[15] **When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)** (See Dan. 9:27, 12:11)

[16] **Then** let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:

[17] Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house:

[18] Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes.

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

[19] And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days!

[20] But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day: (Note: It will be very difficult to travel in the winter, and on the Sabbath day, the day of rest, everything is closed in Israel.)

[21] For **then shall be great tribulation**, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

[22] And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened. (Note: During the Great Tribulation, the elect are still on the earth and have not yet been raptured up for The First Resurrection.)

[23] **Then** if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not.

[24] For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

[25] **Behold, I have told you before.**

[26] Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, he is in the secret chambers; believe it not.

[27] For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

[28] For wheresoever the carcase is, there will the eagles be gathered together. (Note: Do not believe them when they say He is here. When the Lord returns, He will slay the wicked and the eagles/birds will eat their dead bodies. See Rev. 19:17-18)

29 **Immediately after the tribulation** of those days shall **the sun be darkened**, and **the moon shall not give her light**, and **the stars shall fall from heaven**, and **the powers of the heavens shall be shaken**: (See Luke 21:25, Rev. 6:12, 2 Peter 3:10-12)

30 And **then** shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see **the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory**. (see Acts 1:9-11, Rev 14:14-16)

31 And he shall send his angels with a great **sound of a trumpet**, and **they shall gather together his elect** from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other." (See 1 Cor. 15:52, 1 Thess. 4:15-17, Rev. 14:14-16, Rev. 20:6.)

(**Matthew 24:1-31 KJV**)

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

A THIEF IN THE NIGHT:

When the Lord comes, He will come "as a thief in the night."

[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. [11] Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, [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?" **(2 Peter 3:10-12 KJV)**

We need to understand what "the thief in the night" means… **it's actually a Hebrew idiom/ a figure of speech.**

In the temple, the fire on the altar was to be always burning. One of the duties of the temple priests was to take turns keeping watch in the temple.

There are four watches during the day and four watches during the night, each broken up into three-hour time periods:

- 1st watch 06:00-09:00 - AM/PM
- 2nd watch 09:00-12:00 - AM/PM
- 3rd watch 12:00-03:00 - AM/PM
- 4th watch 03:00-06:00 - AM/PM

One of the responsibilities of the temple priests was to make sure that the fire on the altar was continually burning. If the fire was getting low, they would stoke it and add some wood. Now, there were certain times that the high priest would come and check on things. When he would come, it would be **"at a day and an hour"** that they didn't know, He would not tell them exactly when he was coming. He would come, **"as a thief in the night."** If he found the priest on duty sleeping and not keeping watch, he would not only rekindle the fire to keep it burning, but he would take a hot coal and place it on their garment which would catch on fire. This would cause them to quickly wake up and strip off their garments. Then, being naked, they would run through the temple to find another garment to cloth themselves, **"lest they see his shame"**! And this is why the high priest was also known **"as the thief in the night."**

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

"[15] Behold, **I come as a thief**. Blessed is he that **watcheth**, and **keepeth his garments**, lest he walk naked, and **they see his shame**." **(Revelation 16:15 KJV)**

So when the Lord Jesus, our High Priest comes "as a thief in the night" it doesn't mean He will come as some kind of criminal or something. It means that He will come at a day and an hour that you do not expect, so be **watching** and **ready, be sober minded and alert**!

IF WE ARE WATCHING AND ARE SOBERLY WAITING, WE WILL BE READY!

I often hear well-meaning ministers say, "He could come today, or He could come tomorrow. You just have to be ready!" - Actually the truth is, **He will not come today or tomorrow, because there are certain Bible prophecies that must take place before the Church meets the Lord in the air.**

We need to be ready to endure all the difficulties that are coming prior to His return! Sadly, the majority of Churches are not preparing God's people for the coming **persecutions** and **tribulations**, nor for **The Great Tribulation**. They don't believe they will still be here, and sadly that lack of preparation to endure hardship will be the downfall for many as they get shipwrecked from the Faith. There will be many extreme pressures that will cause people to compromise and deny their Faith in Christ.

"**[5] But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you**. [2] For yourselves know perfectly that **the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night**. [3] For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. **[4] But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.** [5] Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. [6] Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but **let us watch and be sober**."
(1 Thessalonians 5:1-6 KJV)

You will not know the exact day or the hour of His coming, but if you are **watching** and being **sober**, then you will know the season and that day will not overtake you as a thief!

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

YOU SHOULD KNOW THE SEASON:

The **Feast of Trumpets**, (Yom Teruah), is also called Yom Hakeseh – **The Hidden Day**. It is the only feast that begins on a new moon. The festival cannot begin until the new crescent moon (the thin crescent of the moon) is seen in Jerusalem. The Feast of Trumpets is The Hidden Day because "no one knows the day or the hour" of when the feast will begin until they see the new moon appear in the night sky. For this feast multiple shofar (rams horn) /trumpet blasts are sounded with a final blast called the "**Last Trump**." Biblically, it is a day announcing the return of the King, the Bridegroom returning in the **clouds** for His Bride (the Church), it is The First Resurrection/ The Rapture.

"[52] In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, **at the last trump**: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."
(1Corinthians 15:52 KJV)

"[16] For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the **trump** of God**: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: [17] Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air**: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."
(1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 KJV)

The Lord said in Matthew 24, "[36] But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only." **(Matthew 24:36 KJV)**

Why will no one know the day or the hour of Christ's coming in the clouds and the gathering together of the Church to meet Him in the air? It is hidden, because **His coming for the Church centers around the Feast of Trumpets**, and in Matthew 24:29 it says that, "**the moon will not give her light**." So, if you will not be able to see the new moon then you will not know "**the day or the hour,**" **but you should know the season** of when to look up in the sky for His coming! It's very clear in the Scriptures that Christ's coming in the clouds to gather the Church will be **immediately after the Great Tribulation**, not before it!

"[29] **Immediately after the tribulation** of those days shall the sun be darkened, and **the moon shall not give her light**, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:" [30] And **then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in**

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man **coming in the clouds** of heaven with power and great glory. [31] And he shall send his angels with a great **sound of a trumpet**, and they shall **gather together his elect** from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other." **(Matthew 24:29-31 KJV)**

And in **2 Thessalonians 2:1-4** it says**:**

"[2] Now we beseech you, brethren, **by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him**, [2] That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. [3] **Let no man deceive you by any means**: for that day shall not come, except there come **a falling away first**, and **that man of sin be revealed**, the son of perdition; [4] Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God."
(2 Thessalonians 2:1-4 KJV)

The Apostle Paul warns the Church, don't let any man deceive you! Before Christ comes and we are gathered together unto Him, you will first see **the falling away from the Faith** (the word in the Greek here means "**apostasy**"/falling away from the faith) and you will also see the anti-Christ sitting in the temple proclaiming to be God.

So, Believers who are still alive will see many fall away from the Faith and will also see the anti-Christ sitting in the temple in Jerusalem. Faithful followers of Christ Jesus will need to endure to the end, all the way through The Great Tribulation.

Before the harvest is reaped, it must be made ready!

These hardships have already been delayed by God's grace, in order to give the nations time to repent for the many abominations.

Many Christians have been taught an unbiblical escapist mentality. The Church will NOT escape the time of difficulty through the "Rapture," as it must first go through the fire in order to be purified and walk in holiness before we meet the Lord in the air.

The rapturing of the Church is not a means for the Church to escape the time of trouble, The Great Tribulation. The rapturing up of the Church is when the harvest is ripe and ready! (See Matt 13:24-30)

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

The Church is not yet ready and will truly go through the time of Great Tribulation, in order to become pure and holy, ripe and made ready for harvest.

The Lord will not come back and thrust in His sickle for unripe fruit! (See Rev. 14:14-15). Nor will He desire to take up a Bride who has not made herself ready for Him (See Rev. 19:7-9).

THE FALSE PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE DOCTRINE WILL CAUSE MANY TO FOLLOW THE FALSE CHRIST/ THE ANTI-CHRIST.

"[21] For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. [22] And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened. [23] Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not. [24] For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. [25] Behold, I have told you before. [26] Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, he is in the secret chambers; believe it not. [27] For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." **(Matt. 24:21-27 KJV)**

Those who have been mislead to believe the pre-tribulation rapture doctrine, will **not be prepared to suffer for Christ**, to be persecuted for Christ, nor to lay down their lives for Christ, should the Lord will it. (See 2 Timothy 3:12). **They will not have made themselves ready to say no to worshiping the image of the beast, to taking the mark or the name of the beast or the number of his name!** (See Rev. 13:14-17 below)

WE ARE NOT APPOINTED UNTO THE WRATH OF GOD:

Many have been taught that Jesus will come and rapture the Church, saving them from the suffering of The Great Tribulation period, when in fact, the Bible does not say this! They say, "**well brother, we're not appointed unto the wrath of God!"** Now that's very true, as the Word says, "For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Thess. 5:9 KJV)

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

However, we need to understand that **THE GREAT TRIBULATION IS NOT THE WRATH OF GOD. THE GREAT TRIBULATION IS THE WRATH OF SATAN COMING AGAINST THE TRUE CHRISTIANS**!

"[12] Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having **great wrath**, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time." **(Revelation 12:12 KJV)**

What happens during the great tribulation? What does the false prophet and the anti-Christ do? Let's read here in Revelation 13:14-17:

"[14] And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. [15] And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, **and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. [16] And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: [17] And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name." (Revelation 13:14-17 KJV)**

The events during the Great Tribulation are marked with **the devil's great wrath** against the true Church. During that time, he will unleashes a globalist campaign to persecute and murder those who do not give him their allegiance. The Great Tribulation is the wrath of satan.

God's wrath does not happen during the Great Tribulation, it **happens after it, (during the Marriage Supper of the Lamb) once the Church is already in Heaven**!

"[19] Thy dead men shall live, together with my dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead. **[20] Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast**. [21] For, behold, the LORD cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain." **(Isaiah 26:19-21 KJV)**

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

The wrath of God is reserved for those who surrender to the anti-Christ and his system, it's for the people who worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark.

"[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,** [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: [11] And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name. [12] Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus. (**Revelation 14:9-12 KJV**)

The wrath of God is clearly seen in Revelation 16 **where the 7 vials of the wrath of God are poured out on the wicked.** (After The Great Tribulation once the Church is caught up in the clouds for the First Resurrection/The Rapture, we will have The Marriage Supper of the Lamb in Heaven. During that time, the 7 vials full of The Wrath of God will be poured out on the wicked. Then the Saints will come back down with the Lord as we see in Revelation 19:11-16 for the **Battle of Armageddon** where the Lord "treads the winepress" bringing the fierceness and **wrath of God** upon the heathen.) (We will also cover a very detailed time-line with Scriptural references at the end of this section.)

The Holy Bible tells us that there will be a great falling away from the faith!

When the anti-Christ takes his reign, bringing a false "peace" from the world's suffering and chaos, how many "Christians" will follow him? How many will compromise their faith in order to buy food?

Many will fall away from following The Lord Jesus Christ, to following him, the anti-Christ. The Church will go through great persecution and tribulations followed by The Great Tribulation before the return of Christ Jesus.

The coming difficulty is by God's grace, in order for many more to turn to Him through the hardships. "…LO, I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, UNTIL THE END OF THE WORLD, AMEN." (**Mathew 28:20 KJV**)

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved.

"[15] Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. [16] For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. [17] And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever." **(1 John 2:15) (KJV)**

Below is a detailed timeline we have created, with Scriptural cross-references for clarity.

END TIMES BIBLE PROPHECY TIMELINE IN ORDER OF EVENTS:

- (3.5 year) **Tribulation - Beginning of Sorrows** – the setting up of the anti-Christ system. (See Matt. 24:4-8, Mark 13:5-8, Luke 21:8-19, Rev. 6:1-6, Rev.11:2)
- (3.5 year) **Great Tribulation** - the anti-Christ comes into power ruling from the temple in Jerusalem. (See Matt. 24:15-28, Mark 13:14-23, Luke 21:20-24, Rev. 6:7-17, Rev. 12:12, Rev 13:5-8)
- The first beast (**anti-Christ** comes out of the sea (the sea of people, See Rev. 17:15, Rev. 13:1) The second beast (**the false prophet**, from the Roman Catholic church) comes out of the earth/(the dry land) (See Rev. 13:11). He will cause the people to worship the anti-Christ, preforming wonders and making fire to come down from heaven on the earth. He deceives and causes the people to make an image of the beast/the anti-Christ and gives the image an evil spirit so that it can speak. He then causes all to worship the image of the beast or be killed and to take the mark of the beast in their hand or forehead, the name of the beast, the number of his name. (See Rev. 13:12-17). The Two Witnesses along with the Saints trouble the anti-Christ with the supernatural power of God! (See Malachi 4:1-6, Rev 11:2-10).
- *After the Great Tribulation is **The First Resurrection (also know as The Rapture or The Catching Away)**. The Lord Jesus comes in the clouds, the dead saints rise up and those that are alive will be caught up with them in the air to meet the Lord in new transfigured resurrected bodies. (See Isaiah 26:19-21, Matt. 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27, Luke 21:27-28, 1 Cor. 15:52, 1 Thess. 4:15-17, 2 Thess. 2:1-4, Rev. 11:12, Rev. 14:14-16)
- **The Marriage Supper of The Lamb –** (Saints are in Heaven for a time) (See Isaiah 26:20-21, Rev. 19:7-9)
- **The Wrath of God** is poured out on the wicked while the Saints are in Heaven for the Marriage Supper of The Lamb.) 7 Angels will pour out 7 vials of God's wrath. (See Rev. 14:9-10, Rev. 16:1-21)
- **The Day of the Lord / The Second Coming of Christ.** The Saints come back down with the

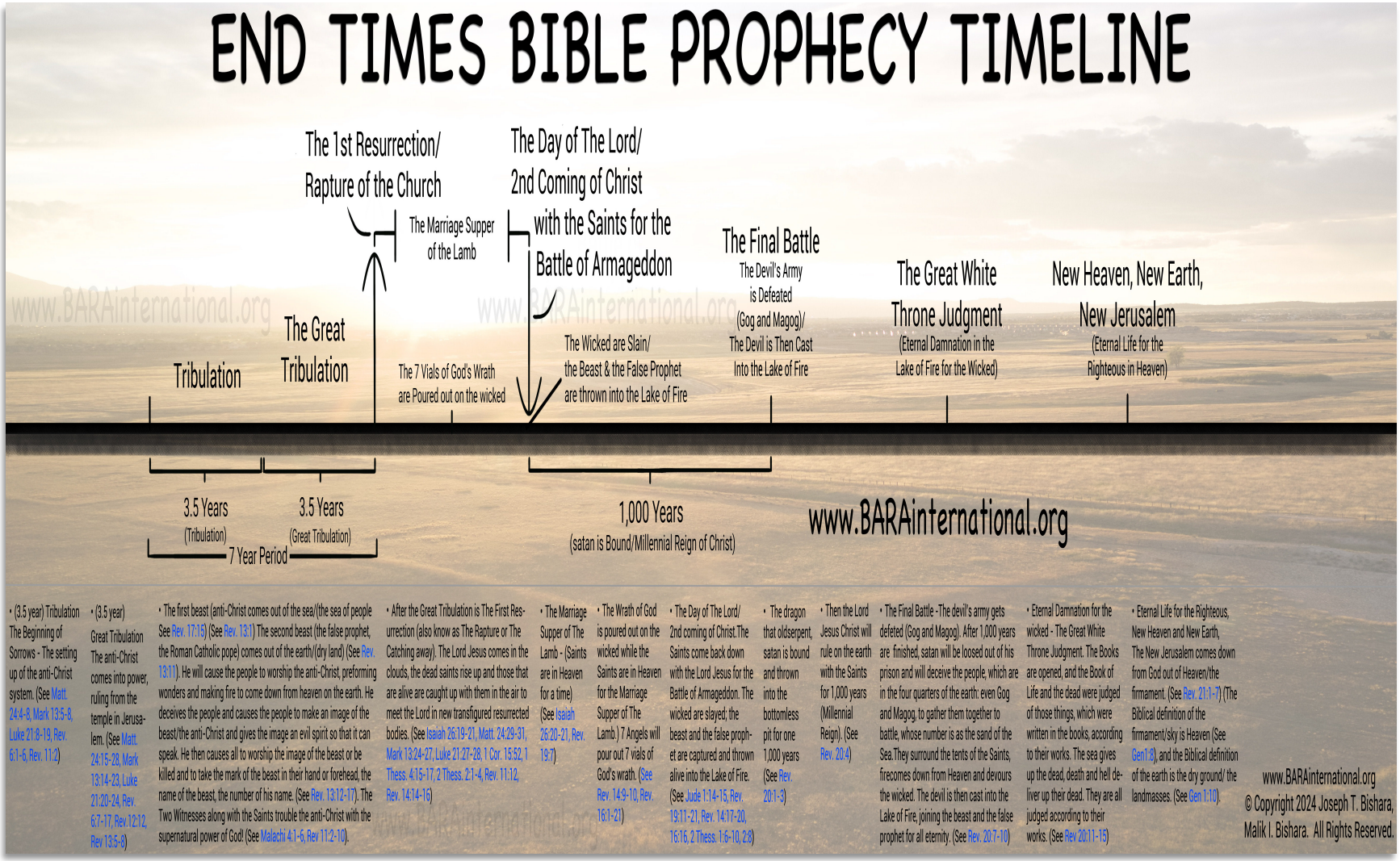
© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

Lord Jesus for the **Battle of Armageddon**. The wicked are slayed; the beast and the false prophet are captured and thrown alive into the lake of Fire. (See Jude 1:14-15, Rev. 19:11-21, Rev. 14:17-20, 16:16, 2 Thess. 1:6-10, 2:8)

- Then the dragon that old serpent, **satan is bound and thrown into the bottomless pit for one 1,000 years** (See Rev. 20:1-3)
- Then Jesus Christ will rule on the earth with the Saints for 1,000 years (**Millennial Reign**). (See Rev. 20:4)
- **The Final Battle – The devil's army is defeated (Gog and Magog)**. After 1,000 years are finished, satan will be loosed out of his prison and will deceive the people, which are in the four quarters of the earth: even **Gog and Magog,** to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the sand of the Sea. They surround the tents of the Saints and fire comes down from Heaven and devours the wicked. **The devil is then cast into the Lake of Fire,** joining the beast and the false prophet for all eternity. (See Rev. 20:7-10) (There are additional Biblical descriptions referencing a "Gog and Magog" war, however this is the final one.)
- **Eternal Damnation for the wicked** - **The Great White Throne Judgment**. The Books are opened, and the Book of Life and the dead were judged of those things, which were written in the books, according to their works. The sea gives up the dead, death and hell deliver up their dead. They are all judged according to their works. (See Rev 20:11-15)
- **Eternal Life for the Righteous – New Heaven and New Earth – The New Jerusalem** comes down from God out of Heaven/the firmament. (See Rev. 21:1-7) (The Biblical definition of the firmament/sky is Heaven (See Gen1:8), and the Biblical definition of the earth is the dry ground/ the landmasses. (See Gen 1:10).

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved.

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org



(Part B.)
VICTORY THROUGH THE GREAT TRIBULATION:

We will trouble the anti-Christ and his system! Christians who have been baptized in the Holy Spirit and Fire should not look at the time of the Great Tribulation as something to fear. We will not be walking about as victims during this time; we will be walking in the supernatural power of God!

During the great tribulation the Church will trouble the anti-Christ and his globalist system! As we previously studied in the last section of the Third Foundation, the Glory of God will be poured out on the Body of Christ in a great measure!

"[1]Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and **the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee**. [2]For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: **but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.** [3]And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising. [4]Lift up thine eyes round about, and see: all they gather themselves together, they come to thee: thy sons shall come from far, and thy daughters shall be nursed at thy side. [5]Then thou shalt see, and flow together, and thine heart shall fear, and be enlarged; because **the abundance of the sea shall be converted unto thee**, the forces of the Gentiles shall come unto thee." **(Isaiah 60:1-5 KJV)**

We will walk in such great miraculous power and strength, as the Glory of God soon comes upon the Church, in a way that we have yet to see! It will be a time when many are saved and come into the Kingdom! "**The abundance of the sea shall be converted unto thee.**" The sea of people/ the multitudes will be converted to Christianity and become born again! (Sea of people/waters: see Rev. 17:15)

"[3]And they that be wise shall **shine as the brightness of the firmament**; and they that turn many to righteousness **as the stars for ever and ever**." (Daniel 12:3 KJV)

The intense persecution and great tribulation against the true Christians will be a response from satan in his "**great wrath**" (Rev. 12:12) because there will be so many souls being saved and he knows that his time will be short.

Satan was already cast out of the third Heaven (God's Heaven) as we read in Isaiah 14. And he is currently the "prince of the power of the air" (see Eph. 2:2). In Revelation 12

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

we see that satan will soon be cast out of (the second) Heaven. "[12] Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having **great wrath**, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time." **(Revelation 12:12)**

THE GREAT TRIBULATION IS NOT SOMETHING FOR THE CHURCH TO BE FEARFUL OF, BUT EXCITED ABOUT – THIS WILL BE OUR GREATEST HOUR, A TIME OF SUPERNATURAL POWER AND GLORY!

FOR THOSE WHO TRULY LOVE THE LORD JESUS, WHO KNOW THEIR GOD:

This will be a time to prevail and prosper, a time for us to do great exploits (See **Daniel 11:32**). In the midst of great suffering throughout the world, for God's people, the true Church, it will be a time to operate in the authority and power of God Almighty.

Remember the words of the Lord, "[10] Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep *(preserve/deliver)* thee from the hour of temptation *(testing, adversity)*, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth." **(Revelation 3:10 KJV)**

Just as He delivered Hananiah (Shadrach), Mishael (Meshach) and Azariah (Abednego) from the fiery furnace (Dan. 3), so will He deliver (preserve) many of those who truly live their lives for the Lord Jesus. There will also be those who have the honored privilege to take a stand for the faith, laying their lives down for the Lord Jesus Christ.

MIRACULOUS PROVISION DURING FAMINE:

In the coming famine, we will receive miraculous provision! We will need the power of the Holy Spirit in order to survive!

"He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty." **(Psalm 91:1 KJV)**

In 1 Kings Chapter 17, we see the provision and power of the Almighty demonstrated to the man of God, Elijah. In a time of drought and famine, by God's command, ravens brought him bread and meat and he drank water from the river!

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

Following that, God fed Elijah through the hands of a poor widow. She had just a handful of grain and a little oil. She was preparing to eat her last meal with her son and then die of starvation. It was because she was willing to trust the Word of the Lord and give even of the little she had, **the grain and oil did not run out**. It continued all the way until the time that the Lord sent rain! (See **1 Kings 17:7-16**)

Just as in the time of Elijah, as he was sustained by God during the drought and famine; being fed bread and meat from the ravens, and then God miraculously multiplied the widow's grain and oil, so will God sustain those who are His and truly put their trust in Him!

I remember several years ago, I woke up from my sleep to the audible Word of the Lord concerning the coming famine. He said,

"FOR IF MY PEOPLE DIE OF STARVATION, YET IT IS BECAUSE THEY DID NOT COME NEAR TO ME."

We can call to Him, we can pray to Him, but we must come near to Him! We must seek Him beyond prayers and petitions. We must seek Him for Him, to be close to Him, to know Him! When we come near to the Lord, in this way, we have an assurance that He will give us our daily bread!

King David said in Psalm 37, "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread." **(Psalms 37:25 KJV)**

We're all going to have to walk with God on a greater level in order to survive in the times that are coming!

We have to live a sanctified life in order to walk in victory through The Great Tribulation. GOD WILL USE INCREASED PERSECUTION AND TRIBULATION TO HELP US GET SANCTIFIED - SO THAT WE WILL COME OUT AS PURE GOLD! It will help us get our focus back on Him, and what He wants.

The Lord said in John 16 – "[33] These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have **tribulation**: but be of good cheer; **I have overcome the world.**" **(John 16:33 KJV)**

You must be set apart! God requires Holiness! We have to be separated from the World.

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved.

COME OUT FROM SPIRITUAL BABYLON – THE BABYLONIAN SYSTEM!
"Come out of her My People…" (Rev. 18:4)

Several ways that we will overcome and walk in victory through The Great Tribulation:

1) **LIVE WITHOUT COMPROMISE:**

WE MUST LIVE A LIFE OF HOLINESS – A CONSECRATED LIFE.

A great example of living a consecrated life is seen in the life of the Prophet Daniel:

"[8] But Daniel **purposed** *(pre-determined)* in his heart that he would not **defile** himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he **requested** *(required)* of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself." **(Daniel 1:8 KJV)**

Daniel pre-determined in his heart that he would not sin against God. He would not defile himself. He would not compromise his faith. Daniel made himself ready. His courage and leadership was also a blessing to his three friends Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah (also known as Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego.) These young men all stood strong in their faith and refused to bow down and worship any other god apart from the one true God.

When they implement the Mark of the beast what will you do? You have to pre-determine in your heart NOW that you will NOT take it NO MATTER WHAT!

In February 2020, they were showing on the news videos of people just falling over dead in China from Covid – and fear gripped the world! I remember, the Spirit of the Lord came on me and I turned to my wife Christina and said, "WATCH THEY ARE GOING TO CREATE A VACCINE AND CAUSE THE WHOLE WORLD TO TAKE IT!"

And that's exactly what they did, all the world governments started to unify under the pandemic –under the promotion of the injection. We have been seeing the formation of the One World Government starting to be formed all through the planned pandemic.

SADLY, MANY BELIEVERS AND CHURCHES FAILED THE TEST AND COMPROMISED.

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

They gave into the spirit of fear! – No different than the world.

- Stand 6 feet apart,
- Wearing a mask,
- Checking temperatures at the door!!!
- Some churches even stopped doing worship!
- Many stopped meeting in person and went to online virtual church

ALL BECAUSE OF FEAR! Fear of sickness, fear of the government/fear of man!

"7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." **(2 Tim 1:7 KJV)**

We need to understand that the covid-19 vax was the step just before the Mark of the Beast… Look what the governments around the world did. Many people couldn't go to work or school without it. In some stores people could not enter without the vax. Travel was restricted. The root reason people took the shot was because of FEAR…

I understand that some may have taken it out of ignorance, but there must be repentance!

Several reasons why we as Christians should not participate in it:

1. **ABORTION** – Aborted baby cells were used in the Covid-19 vaccines; to participate in it supports the murder of babies.
2. **FEAR** – We are never to make decisions out of fear, but rather out of faith. (See 2 Tim 1:7, Rev 21:8)
3. **INGREDIENTS** – DNA altering mRNA, Graphine Oxide, Nano technology (hydrogel), Spike protein, and many other toxic ingredients. (See Gen. 1:26-27, 1Cor. 3:16-17, 6:19)

The vax is not yet the Mark of the beast. However, it is the step just before it!

IN THE COMING DAYS, GOING TO THE HOSPITAL WILL NOT BE AN OPTION FOR THOSE WHO REMAIN IN THE FAITH AND DON'T TAKE THE MARK!

Christians will again have to depend on God as their sustainer! Grow your faith now while you still have time!

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

If you did not pass this test, you can still repent and pray that God will heal and cleanse your blood from all the contamination from the shot. But if you fail the next tests that are coming, there is no repentance for them!

THERE ARE **4 MAJOR TESTS COMING** THAT WE MUST REMAIN FAITHFUL TO GOD IN!

4 MAJOR TESTS COMING:

1. The **worship** of the image of the beast
2. The **mark** of the beast
3. The **name** of the beast
4. The **number** of his name

"[14] And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. [15] And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not **worship** the image of the beast should be killed. [16] And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: [17] And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the **mark**, or the **name** of the beast, or the **number** of his name." **(Revelation 13:14-17 KJV)**

To participate in the beast system by giving over your allegiance, is to deny the Faith, it is to deny Jesus Christ!

[33] But **whosoever shall deny me** before men, him will **I also deny** before my Father which is in heaven. **(Matthew 10:33 KJV)**

There will be no repentance for anyone regardless of who they are, if they fail the coming test! It doesn't matter if they are a Christian, at that time anyone who fails the test and gives their allegiance over to satan, the wrath of God will be on them and they will burn forever in the lake of fire and brimstone **for all of eternity**! The Word of God is very clear, **there will be no repentance available for them**!

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

"[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, [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: [11] **And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever**: and they have no rest day nor night, who **worship** the beast and his **image**, and whosoever receiveth the **mark** of his **name**." **(REVELATION 14:9-11 KJV)**

You must be willing and ready to lay down your life for Jesus!

In Daniel Chapter 3:1-30, King Nebuchadnezzar had a golden image made and he caused all the people to bow down and worship it. Hananiah, Mishael, Azariah (Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego) refused to obey the king's command. As soon as King Nebuchadnezzar heard that they refused to worship his golden image, he had them brought before him. He then gave them one more opportunity and if they refused him, he said he would have them thrown in the burning fiery furnace. We then read in verse 15, as he said, "and who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands?" They were not worried or shaken in their faith about how they were going to respond to him. As they said, "[17] If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. [18] But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that **we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image** which thou hast set up." **(Daniel 3:17-18 KJV)**

Nebuchadnezzar was then full of fury and had the furnace turned up seven times hotter. He had his most mighty men bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and as they threw them into the furnace, they themselves died from the intensity of the heat. Then in verse 23 we read: "[23] And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace. [24] Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astonished, and rose up in haste, and spake, and said unto his counsellors, Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? They answered and said unto the king, True, O king. [25] He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God. **(Daniel 3:23-25 KJV)**

These three young men were so resolute in their faith! So much in fact, that they were willing to die for their faith! Their testimony is an example that we must follow! Notice

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

that the Lord didn't preserve them by keeping them from entering into the fiery furnace. He preserved them by walking with them as they were in it. In the same way, He will walk with us as we go through the Great Tribulation!

"[11] And they overcame him by the **blood of the Lamb**, and **by the word of their testimony**; and **they loved not their lives unto the death**." **(Revelation 12:11 KJV)**

2) **FULL, QUICK OBEDIENCE TO GOD:**

We must walk in full obedience to the Word of God (written and spoken), being quick to obey the voice of the Holy Spirit. As we grow and mature in our walk with Christ, spending time in fellowship daily with the Lord and reading His Word, we will learn to recognize His voice and we must be quick to obey His instructions. He will never contradict His Word. If you don't spend time with Him, how will know what His will is? How will you walk in obedience to His instructions for your life?

Our fellowship with the Lord must be of the highest priority in our lives. Before our family, before our Church fellowship, before even our own lives, He must be loved, honored and obeyed above all!

3) **GODLY CHARACTER**:

You must be found trustworthy!

IN THE TIME OF TRIAL - THE TYPE OF CHRISTIAN YOU ARE WILL BE REVEALED – THE TRUE CHARACTER WILL BE SEEN!

GODLY CHARACTER DOES NOT HAPPEN OVER NIGHT. YOU HAVE TO DEVELOP GODLY CHARACTER IN YOUR LIFE, BY LIVING RIGHTEOUSLY.

Christians who have not developed Godly character, if they come into wealth or power – they can easily become destructive- and fall away into a compromised way of living.

Can you be trusted with the Heavenly things? Can you be trusted with the powers of the age to come? What kind of fruit are you producing? How are you living your life?

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

"[16] **Ye shall know them by their fruits**. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? [17] Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. [18] A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. [19] Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. [20] **Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.** [21] **Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.** [22] Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? [23] And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. **(Matthew 7:16-23 KJV)**

"By their **fruits** ye shall know them."

YOUR WORKS ARE THE FRUIT OF YOUR FAITH - THEY PROVE WHAT YOU BELIEVE.

4) **THE POWER OF GOD – THROUGH SUPERNATURAL HELP AND ABILITY**

IN THESE TIMES WE MUST WALK IN A GREATER REALM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT – WHERE YOU WILL LEARN TO NOT DEPEND ON THE NATURAL WAYS OF DOING THINGS – BUT ON THE SUPERNATURAL POWER OF GOD!

WE WILL TROUBLE THE ENEMY!

"For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. [2] **But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.** [3] **And ye shall tread down the wicked**; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the LORD of hosts. [4] **Remember ye the law of Moses** my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments. [5] **Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:** [6] And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse." **(Malachi 4:1-6 KJV)**

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved.

During the Great Tribulation the two witness/ two prophets of God will come. For several reasons, I believe that it will be the Prophet Moses and the Prophet Elijah. I want to us to notice how both of these prophets were mentioned in the passage that we just read in Malachi. Again, it was both the Prophet Moses and the Prophet Elijah who appeared and talked with the Lord Jesus on the mount in Matthew Chapter 17. Also, in Revelation Chapter 11, the two witnesses will be able to destroy the enemy with fire as the Prophet Elijah did. The Two Witnesses will also bring plagues on the wicked as well; similar to what the Prophet Moses did on the Egyptians.

"[3] **And I will give power** unto my two witnesses, and **they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days**, clothed in sackcloth. [4] These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth. [5] **And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies**: **and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed.** [6] These have **power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy**: and have **power over waters to turn them to blood**, and **to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will." (Revelation 11:3-6 KJV)**

This will all take place during the 3.5 years of The Great Tribulation period. As the two witness are here, they will be leading the remnant Believers who will also be walking in great power along with them. We will trouble the enemy!

Many Believers will be hidden and nourished in the wilderness.

"[14] And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent." **(Revelation 12:14 KJV)**

We will receive Supernatural help from the Earth.

"[16] And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth." **(Revelation 12:16)**

We will receive supernatural strength and help from the hosts of heaven!

"[11] For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. **(Psalm 91:11 KJV)**

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

5) (Above all) **WALK WITH GOD INTIMATELY:**

LIVE A SANCTIFIED LIFE – BE FULLY SET APART UNTO THE LORD!

Outer Court Christianity will not be enough to survive in these times. You must enter deeper into the Holy Place and then into the Most Holy Place.

You must be Born Again and continue → Baptized in Water → Baptized in the Holy Spirit → Baptized in the Fire of the Holy Spirit. The foundations of the Faith must all be carefully laid in our lives with Biblically sound doctrine!

"[32] And such as do wickedly against *(break)* the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: **but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits** *(shall prevail and prosper).*" **(Daniel 11:32 KJV)**

Just walking in supernatural power does not make someone close to God. We need to have a close fellowship with the Lord and spend time with Him daily!

"[20] Wherefore **by their fruits ye shall know them**. [21] Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. [22] **Many will say to me in that day**, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? [23] And then will I profess unto them, **I never knew you**: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." **(Matthew 7:20-23 KJV)**

Works are great and a necessary fruit of our faith, but we need to remember that works, such as; spiritual gifts, power and abilities need to flow out of our time of abiding in the presence of God. As we seek His face and spend time in fellowship with Him, we will know the Lord on a greater level and operate in His character and authority from the overflow of our walk with the Him.

In Matthew 7, Jesus said that there would be many who profess Him as Lord. They will even do many supernatural things in His name; prophesy, cast out devils, many wonderful works, but when it comes down to it, He said He never knew them!

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

Now, when the Lord says that He never knew them, this means that He never intimately knew them. They didn't fellowship closely with Him. A Disciple of Christ should desire to be as close as they can to Him. They should want to go everywhere with Him and even by faith step out and walk on the water, should He bid them to come, just as Peter did.

There are many professing believers who want to walk in the power – without the Source. There are those who want the things of God, without a desire for God. This will also be a dangerous deception in these last days, as lukewarm Christians think that they can have the things of God – even salvation – without truly following and living for God!

To walk close with God will require us to live a sanctified life, a life of surrender, being yielded to Him. Our level of intimacy with God is up to us.

"[8] **Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you**. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded." (**James 4:8 KJV**)

When we draw near to God, His heart will become our heart, His desires will become our desires. As we draw near to Him, He will draw near to us and we will become more and more conformed to Him and His ways.

HOW CLOSE YOU ARE TO THE LORD JESUS IS DETERMINED BY HOW MUCH OF YOUR LIFE HAS BEEN SURRENDERED AND TRANSFORMED TO THE IMAGE OF CHRIST.

6) LIVE A SPIRITUALLY DISCIPLINED LIFE:

You must pray (have oil in your lamp).

In Matthew Chapter 25, there is a parable given of ten virgins (the reference to them being virgins speaks of their purity, they were all Christians), five were wise, five were foolish. - It says, when they were waiting a long time for the bridegroom **all** slumbered and slept, but only the five wise virgins had made themselves ready and had oil in their lamps.

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

In order to abide in Christ we must be continuing in the spiritual disciplines out of love for God – not just duty. We need to develop Godly habits, **rising early to wait on God - seeking His Face to be close to Him, living a spiritually disciplined life of:**

- Prayer
- Fasting
- Reading the Word
- Worship
- Fellowship with true Believers

Some would say oh, "that's just legalism!" It's not legalism; **it's being spiritually disciplined.** Those who don't live spiritually disciplined lives end up backsliding in their faith. **Seek Him while He may be found -NOW.**

Lastly,

7) <u>GREAT FAITH</u>:

No matter what you may face, no matter what you may suffer or experience, no matter what may come against you; YOU MUST STAND STRONG IN THE FAITH AND CONTINUE TO ALWAYS BELIEVE THAT JESUS IS THE ONLY WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE AND YOU MUST NEVER DENY HIM – REMAINING FAITHFUL UNTIL THE END!

Let's look again at the testimony of some of the heros of the Faith and their example to us as those who endured to the end!

"[33] Who **through faith <u>subdued kingdoms</u>, <u>wrought righteousness</u>, <u>obtained promises</u>, <u>stopped the mouths of lions</u>**. [34] **<u>Quenched the violence of fire</u>**, **<u>escaped the edge of the sword</u>, <u>out of weakness were made strong</u>, <u>waxed valiant in fight</u>, <u>turned to flight the armies of the aliens.</u>** [35] **<u>Women received their dead raised to life again</u>**: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection: [36] And others had trial of **cruel mockings** and **scourgings**, yea, moreover of **bonds** and **imprisonment**: [37] They were **stoned**, they were **sawn asunder**, were **tempted**, were **slain with the sword**: they **wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins**; being **destitute**, **afflicted**, **tormented**; [38] (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they **wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the**

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

earth. [39] And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: [40] God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect. **(Hebrews 11:33-40 KJV)**

There was much sacrifice and suffering from the Believers who have gone before us. They maintained a good testimony through faith, enduring to the end! We should look at their example and draw our strength from the Holy Spirit, as He empowered them, surely He will empower us and we will overcome, walk by faith victoriously!

"For all that is born of God, **overcometh this world**: and this is that **victory that hath overcome this world *even* our faith**." **(1 John 5:4 KJV)**

Everything we do in the Christian life requires great faith!

You must have great faith in the truth of the Word of God! Our faith grows and is increased as we read and hear God's Word.

"So then **faith cometh by hearing**, and hearing **by the word of God**." **(Romans 10:17 KJV)** as we studied previously, in the second foundation, In the Hebrew culture the word for **hearing** is to actively **listen** and **obey**. The more we hear and obey God's Word, the more our faith grows and is strengthened! We have to go to Him everyday and receive our "daily Bread."

The more of we are filled up with His Word the harder it is for the enemy to deceive us with the counterfeit. YOU MUST KNOW THE TRUTH OR YOU WILL BE DECEIVED BY THE FALSE! WE HAVE TO HAVE GREAT DISCERNMENT IN THIS HOUR! Those who are not rooted and grounded in God's Word are easy targets for the enemy to cause them to fall into great deception. Do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits. (See 1 John 4:1-3 KJV) Everything must be weighed and tested by the Word of God. The more we know the truth in His Word, the stronger our discernment will be! When all around us seems to be shaking, His Word is what will endure forever!

"[11] AND THEY OVERCAME HIM BY **THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB**, AND BY **THE WORD OF THEIR TESTIMONY**; AND **THEY LOVED NOT THEIR LIVES UNTO THE DEATH**." **(REVELATION 12:11 KJV)**

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

That means in order to have victory and overcome The Great Tribulation: We must be cleansed by the Blood of Jesus. We must maintain a Godly testimony. We must ALL be willing and ready to lay down our lives as martyrs for the Lord.

The coming days will require great courage, endurance and the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit actively working in and through our lives. Stay strong and endure until the end and you will be saved. For those of us who remain on the side of righteousness, the victory is already ours!

"[13] **But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved." (Matthew 24:13 KJV)**

Key points to remember from this section:

From this foundation we learned that the Church will indeed go through The Great Tribulation before The First Resurrection/ The Rapture.

You will overcome and have **victory through The Great Tribulation** by:

- Living a live without compromise:
- Having full, quick obedience to God:
- Having Godly character:
- The power of God – through supernatural help and ability
- Walking with God intimately
- Living a spiritually disciplined life
- Having great faith

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved.

THE SIXTH FOUNDATION
ETERNAL JUDGMENT:

"[1]Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of **repentance from dead works**, and of **faith toward God**, [2]Of **the doctrine of baptisms**, and of **laying on of hands**, and of **resurrection of the dead**, and of **eternal judgment**." **(Hebrews 6:1-2 KJV)**

THERE IS A **LITERAL** ETERNAL DEATH IN THE LAKE OF FIRE, FOR SATAN AND ALL THOSE WHO REJECT AND DISOBEY THE LORD JESUS.

BUT FOR THOSE WHO TRULY LIVE FOR AND OBEY THE LORD JESUS, THERE IS A **LITERAL** ETERNAL LIFE IN HEAVEN.

"[17] For the time is come that **judgment must begin at the house of God**: and if it first begin at us, **what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God**? [18] And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?" **(1 Peter 4:17-18 KJV)**

Judgment starts in the house of God – better to be judged and correct any improper ways now, then to miss it and be eternally judged, when there will be no more time for repentance!

It is the loving mercy of God that He gives people time to repent and change their ways. When they refuse to heed His warnings and the convictions of the Holy Spirit, then He will bring His judgments on them. The motivation of God's judgments are to bring people to repentance and when they still refuse to repent, His wrath will be kindled.

There comes a point where His extension of mercy and grace toward them comes to an end. Be aware of false doctrines being preached and sung in songs about an "unending grace" of God. The Holy Bible does not teach that, in fact it says the exact opposite.

When people reject and despise the grace of God, abusing it, there will be none left for them!

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

"[26] **For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins**, [27] **But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation**, which shall devour the adversaries. [28] He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: [29] Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, **wherewith he was sanctified**, an unholy thing, **and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?** [30] For we know him that hath said, **Vengeance** belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, **The Lord shall judge his people.** [31] **It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God."** **(Hebrews 10:26-31 KJV)**

Notice that this passage says in verse 29 "wherewith he was sanctified." It is describing someone that already was a sanctified, born-again Christian, but then was abusing the grace of God.

There is a coming final Judgment Day!

"[10] For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. [11] Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences." **(2 Corinthians 5:10-11 KJV)**

We will be **judged according to what we have done**! We will be **judged by our deeds – our works**! Our good works cannot save us. We are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. (See Eph. 2:8-9). However, **our works are the fruit of our faith. In other words, our works prove whether we are in the faith or not!** We will be held accountable for how we live our lives. We will be judged by what we have done, "whether it be good or bad."

"[17] Even so faith, if it hath not **works**, is dead, being alone. [18] Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and **I will shew thee my faith by my works.** [19] Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. [20] But wilt thou know, O vain man, **that faith without works is dead**?" **(James 2:17-20 KJV)**

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved.

He Will Separate The Sheep From The Goats:

"[31] When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

[32] And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:

[33] And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

[34] Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

[35] For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:

[36] Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

[37] Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink?

[38] When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?

[39] Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?

[40] And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. (Note: Notice how He is **judging by works**)

[41] Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

[42] For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink:

[43] I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not.

[44] Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee?

[45] Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me. (Note: Notice how He is **judging by works**)

[46] **And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.**"

(Matthew 25:31-46 KJV)

Righteous Justice:

If you had to appear in a court for a crime that you had committed, you would be judged according to your crime, according to what you had done. The worse the deeds of your crime, the worse the penalty would be. You would be judged according to the law. In the New Testament, the Apostle Paul tells us that the law is given for those who are lawless

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

and disobedient. (See 1 Timothy. 1:8-11 KJV). Righteous laws show us how we ought to correctly live. A just judge will not judge you based on your heart or your feelings. He will judge you based on what you have done. He will not determine if your good out weighs your bad. He will judge you for the crimes that you had done (your sins).

We all deserve the penalty for our sins. All of us have sinned against God. We have all broken His law. (See Rom. 3:23) and the penalty for sin is death in the eternal Lake of Fire. The Holy Bible tells us, "[23] For **the wages of sin is death**; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (**Romans 6:23 KJV**) We all deserve the judgment against us. But because of what the Lord Jesus did for us on the cross, taking our sins upon Himself, and offering us eternal life. For all of us who have repented of our sins and put our faith in Jesus Christ, our **past sins** are no longer counted against us. (See **Romans 3:25**) He paid the penalty for us, for our crimes against God. He died and suffered in our place. But those who reject Jesus Christ and refuse to repent, obey and live for Him, have rejected His blood that would cleanse them from their sins.

We need the grace of God in our lives! It is His grace that empowers us to live a righteous and holy life! It empowers us to turn away from dead works, so that we can live a live that is glorifying to Him! Because of God's grace, we can be overcomers!

"[17] He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; **To him that overcometh** will I give to eat of the hidden manna, **and will give him a white stone**, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it." **(Revelation 2:17 KJV)**

For the Greeks, in Bible times, if anyone were on trial they would have to stand before the judgment seat. In this type of tribunal court hearing, if someone was rendered guilty, they were given a black stone. But if they were rendered innocent, they were given a white stone. ([1]Johnson 2010)

We will all appear before the Judgment seat of Christ.

"[10] For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.**" (2 Corinthians 5:10 KJV)**

The Lord Jesus is coming back and He will judge the living and the dead.

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT:

"[11] And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. [12] And I saw **the dead**, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and **the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.** [13] And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and **they were judged every man according to their works.** [14] And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. **This is the second death.** [15] And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." (**Rev 20:11-15 KJV**)

THE SECOND DEATH - THE ETERNAL LAKE OF FIRE:

The Word of God is very clear that **the devil will spend all eternity in the Lake of Fire;** as well as, all the fallen angels, the beast, and the false prophet.

THERE IS NO REPENTANCE OR SALVATION AVAILABLE FOR THEM.
IT WILL BE FOREVER!

"[10] And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, **and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever**." (**Revelation 20:10 KJV**)

According to Revelation 20:5-6 those who are not part of The First Resurrection/The Rapture, will experience the second death, it will have power over them – in the **eternal Lake of Fire**. There are no second chances for those who are "left behind" as many people have falsely been taught to believe.

Along with the devil, the beast and the false prophet in the eternal Lake of Fire for all eternity, will also be all souls of people who die in their sins.

"[15] And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." (**Revelation 20:15 KJV**)

"[7] **He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.** [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**

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death." (Revelation 21:7-8 KJV)

Thousands Upon Thousands of Souls Falling into Hell:

I remember in 2015, I was praying for the lost and I was asking God to have mercy on our nation (USA) as the sins are so great. Knowing that God will judge this nation for the great wickedness, I was asking Him what can be done to alleviate some of the coming judgments. As I was praying, I suddenly saw in a vision, the World and going down like a funnel from the land I saw thousands upon thousands of the souls of people falling down into hell (into "the heart of the earth" See Gen. 1:10, Matt. 12:40). They were all falling like rain. There were so many and as they were falling I could see the terror on their faces and the realization that they are going into eternity! I could see the utter hopelessness on them as they realized that they were on their way to hell with absolutely no hope, no way of ever coming out! I then cried out to God for mercy, mercy! I asked, what could be done? Then I saw the world again and from the top of the firmament (See Gen 1:8) I saw a huge beautiful white Dove soaring. And then it was deposited into my spirit, that in the coming days, when all around us is darkness, the Glory of God will come on His people and that there will be so many souls being won for Christ, coming into the Kingdom!

We must live our lives with an eternal focus, with eternity in mind. Our time in this life is so short, on average about seventy, or eighty years for some. When we compare that to all eternity, as it says in the Book of James, our life is like "a vapor."

"[14] Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? **It is even a vapour**, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away." **(James 4:14 KJV)**

Each day needs to be lived for the Glory of God! Every Believer needs to be properly discipled to Christ, being grounded in the Foundations of the Faith. We have to live every day with purpose, with His eternal purpose for our lives in perspective!

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved.

Key points to remember from this foundation:

- There is a literal eternal judgment for the wicked (who at the Great White Throne Judgment, will all be cast into the Lake of Fire for all eternity.

- There is a literal eternal Heaven for the righteous (Those who obey and truly live for Jesus).

- Judgment starts with the House of God.

- We will be judged by our works, whether they be good or evil.

- We will be judged by how we obeyed or disobeyed the calling of God on our lives.

- God's judgments are to cause the people to repent, if they refuse to respond and repent from His judgments, then His wrath will be reserved for them and they will experience (the second death) forever and ever in the eternal Lake of Fire and brimstone!

- We must be eternally focused!

- How we live now will determine our positioning in the next life.

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

CLOSING ENCOURAGEMENT:

Every Believer should be able to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom of God to someone and lead them to Christ, so that they can be born-again. Every Believer should be able to then water baptize a new convert (as well as those who never got baptized). They should be able to also help them get delivered from evil spirits and lay hands on them so that they can be baptized with the Holy Spirit and Fire.

How are we to disciple new Believers?

The Lord said, by "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." (Matt. 28:20a KJV)

As you have now studied these six Foundations of the Faith, it is very important to make sure that each one is properly laid in your life, with sound doctrine, in order to continue on to the next level.

"For precept must be upon precept…" **(Isaiah 28:10a KJV)**

"Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which **built his house upon a rock**:" **(Mathew 7:24 KJV)**

Our spiritual house (our lives) must be built on the solid foundation of the Rock (Christ)! "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." (1 Corinthians 3:11 KJV)

"Therefore leaving the principles of **the doctrine of Christ**, let us go on to **perfection**." **(Hebrews 6:1 KJV)**

Once these basic foundations are laid in your life, it's time to continue "on to **perfection**." Which means continue on to **maturity**, going to the next level. There are so many things that the Lord has available for us, but until these foundations are laid, then how can you go on to deep things?

If you have completed this training manual and still have yet to walk in all six of these foundations. I would strongly encourage you to go through it again from the beginning, and by faith receive all that the Father has available for you!

May the Lord Jesus bless and keep you!

Joseph T. Bishara

BARA International
BARAinternational.org

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved.

TO CONTACT OR SUPPORT:

If you have been blessed by this free publication, we would love to hear from you! Please contact us at:

BARAinternational.org/contact/

You are also welcome to write to us at:

Mailing Address:

Joseph & Christina Bishara
101 Rainbow Dr. #13294
Livingston, TX 77399

SUPPORT:

If you would like to support us personally you can do so through the mailing address above or digitally through CashApp or Zelle by scanning the QR code above, linking to the support page on our website at:
www.BARAinternational.org/support/

Our Lord Jesus said, "Freely ye have received, freely give."
Discipleship and the Gospel message must be FREE, we never charge to minister.

"For we are not as many, which make merchandise of the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God in the sight of God speak we in Christ."
(2 Corinthians 2:17 1599 Geneva Bible)

We are not a tax-exempt corporation.

"They say unto him, Caesar's. Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's." **(Matt. 22:21 KJV)**

This free publication is subject to copyright.

Printing or copying for Bible study usage is permitted so long as it is printed in its entirety. Unless otherwise identified, Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version.

© Copyright 2024 Joseph T. Bishara All Rights Reserved.

Appendix A:

Bible Translations - Which One Do I Choose???

Listen by clicking on the link below:
https://barainternational.org/resources/
https://www.brighteon.com/67cd042b-93e5-4aa5-9132-fe0b5722fb9a

Appendix B:

Elohim or Trinity? ----------
Read by clicking on the link below:
https://barainternational.org/2023/06/09/elohim-or-trinity/

Appendix C:

The Gift(s) Of Tongues ----------

Page 107 or download by clicking on the link below:
https://barainternational.org/2020/02/05/the-gifts-of-tongues/

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

Appendix C:

THE GIFT(S) OF TONGUES

Introduction

All throughout the New Testament we see a lot of things happening around the mysterious gift(**s**) of tongues, specifically in the book of Acts… Are the gifts of tongues still for today? Though the gifts of tongues may seem as a great mystery, I believe that through this teaching, you will clearly hear and receive revelational understanding on what the Word of God is saying, concerning the gift**s** of tongues! We will cover the Biblical context of what tongues are and how the Body of Christ operated in them in the past. Are tongues still for us today and is it God's will for us to still operate in them? As Christians, everything that we believe and hold to in the Faith, should always lineup with God's Word, the Holy Bible! We should desire everything that God has for us in Christ Jesus! Regardless of our personal opinions, if our experiences, or lack thereof, don't agree with His Word…then something is wrong, something is wrong with our belief, because our actions will naturally flow out of our belief!

Throughout the years, I have heard some people from various Christian denominations express that the gift**s** of tongues are too bizarre of a phenomena to be real. They even think that those who do such things are either out of their mind or just making things up and babbling. Apparently, that's exactly how some of the people who observed the early Church speaking in tongues thought in Acts chapter 2 on the day of Pentecost, "[12] And they were all amazed, and **were in doubt**, saying one to another, What meaneth this? [13] **Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine**." Acts 2:12-13 (KJV)

Over the years, we've had a lot of questions from other Christians and even some unbelievers, regarding the gifts of tongues. I wrote this teaching with the intent of clearing up a lot of the misunderstandings about the gifts of tongues. As you continue reading, you who are in the Body of Christ, who believe that the Holy Bible is the written and inspired Word of God will be equipped and be able to help others. The Lord Jesus said in John 8:32 (KJV), "[32] And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." It's by faith that we receive Christ. It's by faith that we obtain spiritual gifts and operate in them, through the grace and empowerment of the Holy Spirit. If we truly want to follow sound doctrine, we need to heed the Apostolic order and instructions that are laid out for us. We need to study the Word, giving close attention to how the first century Church operated. Head knowledge will only get you so far. In order to progress deeper in our walk with God as Christians, we must live out His Word. We are to walk in experiential revelation and understanding that is in agreement with His Word!

There are still those who believe that the Holy Bible is indeed the inspired written Word of God. Yet, due to a lack of understanding, they believe that the gifts of tongues, along with other spiritual gifts, have already been done away with after the first century Christian Church. They will usually reference the following verses, showing that these gifts along with others will all indeed be done away with:

1 Corinthians 13:8-12 (1599 Geneva Bible, GNV)
[8]Love doth never fall away, though that prophesyings be abolished, or the tongues cease, or knowledge vanish away. [9]For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. [10]But **when that which is perfect, is come**, then that which is in part shall be abolished. [11]When I was a child, I spake as a child: I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. [12]**For now we see through a glass darkly: but then shall we see face to face. Now I know in part: but then shall I know even as I am known.**

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

I've heard many Christians who have been taught an unfounded doctrine that speaking in tongues, has been done away with after the early Church. They reference the above verse to suggest that, because we now have the Holy Bible, which they interpret as "the perfect," we no longer need to operate in these spiritual gifts. This interpretation is very sad and far from the truth. When we look at this verse, as a whole, we can see that the "perfect" it is actually referencing to is The Lord Jesus! In verse twelve it says, "[12]**For now we see through a glass darkly: but then shall we see face to face. Now I know in part: but then shall I know even as I am known.**" When we are in with the perfect One, the Lord Jesus, seeing Him "face to face" then we will know fully, because we will be with Him in His glory! We will have no need of prophecy or the various gifts of tongues, because those spiritual gifts are for us when we are here on earth, for the purpose of prayer, edifying our spirit, and the ministering of the Gospel. 1 Corinthians 13:8-12 is clearly describing when we see and are with the Lord Jesus in Heaven.

Further more, in the next chapter, the Apostle Paul instructs the believers to "pursue love, yet **desire earnestly spiritual gifts**..." **(1 Cor. 14:1)** Clearly, he is urging believers to desire these spiritual gifts, as they were and are available for Christian Believers to obtain through the power of the Holy Spirit! He then exhorts the Believers by saying, "[37] If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are **the commandments of the Lord**. [38] But if any man be ignorant, let him be ignorant. [39] Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy, **and forbid not to speak with tongues." (1 Cor. 14:37-39 KJV)**

Often the problem is, we read and view the Bible through someone's theology that doesn't always match up to the examples and context that we see in Scripture. **The Lord Jesus tells us that speaking in tongues is a sign that will follow His believers!**

Mark 16:17 (KJV)
[17] **And these signs shall follow them that believe**; In my name shall they cast out devils; **they shall speak with new tongues**;

Acts 19:1-7 (KJV)
[1]And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, [2] He said unto them, **Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?** And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. [3] And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. [4] Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. [5] When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. [6] And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, **the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.** [7] And all the men were about twelve.

If you are unfamiliar with "speaking in tongues" you may be thinking, "Yes, Jesus did say that those who believe "shall speak with new tongues." "But what does it mean to speak with new tongues, what's it for, how does it work and is it really for every Believer?" As you continue reading, we will answer these questions.

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

UNDERSTANDING TONGUES / HOW WE OPERATE IN THEM AS CHRISTIANS

Throughout this study we will cover: speaking, praying and singing in tongues. I'll explain each purpose and how the believer is to operate in these different forms of tongues. Though this study covers a great deal of details, understanding of and operating in these giftings does not need to be complicated. Tongues can be broken down to the following forms:

- **The Spirit of God speaking through man in a tongue to others**
- **The Spirit of God speaking/interceding through man in a tongue**
- **The spirit of man singing in a tongue to God**
- **The spirit of man praying in a tongue to God (personal prayer language)**

It's important for us to understand that there's a specific context for the gifts of tongues that each verse in the Word of God references to. In the New Testament, we see several distinct variations of praying in tongues. For those in Christ, who have been baptized by the Holy Spirit, there are **two forms for public use** (for the edification of others) and **three forms for personal use**. Within these various forms of tongues, **there are three different types of languages: Human languages of the Earth (unknown to the one speaking it), Heavenly language (requires interpretation when used in public), and personal prayer language (between your spirit and the Spirit of God).**

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

TONGUES FOR PUBLIC USE:

SPEAKING IN A DIFFERENT TONGUE OF A HUMAN LANGUAGE OF THE EARTH, THAT YOU DO NOT KNOW – USUALLY FOR MISSIONARY EVANGELISM AS A SIGN TO UNBELIEVERS:

"…tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but **to them that believe not**…"
1 Cor. 14:22a (KJV)

This form of tongues is a prophetic sign, a witness of God unto them that do not yet believe.

Acts 2:1-11 (KJV)
[1]And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. [2] And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. [3] **And there appeared unto them cloven *(split)* tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. [4] And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.** [5] And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. [6] Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language. [7] And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans? [8] And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born? [9] Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia, [10] Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes, [11] Cretes and Arabians, **we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God.**

These Believers were all speaking in other tongues, as the Holy Spirit was giving them utterance (speaking in different human languages from different regions of the Earth). **The Spirit of God was speaking through these Christians.** Those who heard them speaking in tongues understood what was being spoken in their own language. **This form of speaking in tongues is a prophetic witness to others.** It is for ministering to other people, in a language that you do not know, usually for missionary evangelism, as a sign to unbelievers.

While on an overseas ministry trip, another brother and I (Joseph) felt strongly that we should go out on a walk to pray through the streets of a city we were in. It was around one in the morning! While walking, we ran into an older man who was very drunk. I felt prompted by the Holy Spirit to place my hand on his shoulder and pray for him in tongues, so I did. Each time I had a pause, the man responded in Chinese. I would then respond back in the tongue that sounded like Chinese coming out of my mouth. However, I had no understanding of what I was saying and neither did the brother that was with me. This continued for about five minutes or so. By the end of our time together, the man was sober and appeared to be in his right mind. The other brother and I then prayed for the man in English and the man seemed very grateful and full of joy. Then he went about his way no longer stumbling around like a drunk, but walking straight and lively. This was the first time I had experienced something like this. Though, I had not a clue what the Holy Spirit was speaking through me in Chinese, the man clearly did and was ministered to! For that trip, I had memorized a couple of short phrases in Chinese to get around. But in the natural, it would be absolutely impossible for me to have carried on in a conversation in a foreign language especially one so complex in tone and vocabulary without at least a year of proper studying. We need the Holy Spirit! We need His power to minister the Gospel!

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved.

Acts 1:8 (KJV)
[8] **But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses** unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

TONGUES AS A HEAVENLY LANGUAGE:

HEAVENLY LANGUAGE – THE HOLY SPIRIT SPEAKING THROUGH YOU IN A HEAVENLY LANGUAGE. REQUIRING A PROPHETIC INTERPRETATION WHEN SPOKEN IN PUBLIC:

Another form of speaking in tongues we see in Scriptures for public use is a **Heavenly tongue**. This tongue is for ministering to the Church Body, in the midst of the assembly. It is when the Holy Spirit speaks a prophetic utterance, through a Believer and then the Holy Spirit will give the prophetic interpretation of the tongue through someone. There must be an interpretation following the spoken tongue when in public. Therefore, the one who has a tongue, must discern if it is a tongue for public edification of the assembly, or if it is for personal edification. If it's for personal, then as the Bible clearly instructs, that they must remain silent and go pray in private to God (in their personal tongue/prayer language).

1 Cor. 12:7-10 (KJV)
[7] But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. [8] For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; [9] to another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; [10] to another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; **to another *divers* kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues**:

1 Cor. 12:28 (KJV)
[28] And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, **diversities of tongues.**

In these two verses above **we see that tongues is in the plural form**, which means that there is more than one type of tongues! Not every believer is gifted with speaking in tongues for public use. However, just as with every spiritual gift given by God, Believers who have been baptized in the Holy Spirit have the ability to operate in these gifts, just as with all the other gifts, as the Holy Spirit comes on them. In other words, God will use His willing ones to manifest His Spirit as He sees fit.

1 Cor. 14:6 (KJV)
[6] Now, brethren, if I come unto you speaking with tongues, what shall I profit you, except I shall speak to you either by revelation, or by knowledge, or by prophesying, or by doctrine?

1 Cor. 14: 9-13 (KJV)
[9] So likewise ye, except ye utter by the tongue words easy to be understood, how shall it be known what is spoken? for ye shall speak into the air. [10] There are, it may be, so many kinds of voices in the world, and none of them is without signification. [11] **Therefore if I know not the meaning of the voice, I shall be unto him that speaketh a barbarian, and he that speaketh shall be a barbarian unto me. [12] Even so ye, forasmuch as ye are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church. [13] Wherefore let him that speaketh in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret.**

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

1 Cor. 14:23-33 (KJV)

23 **If therefore the whole church be come together into one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those that are unlearned, or unbelievers, will they not say that ye are mad** *(out of your mind)* **?** 24 But if all prophesy, and there come in one that believeth not, or one unlearned, he is convinced of all, he is judged of all: 25 and thus are the secrets of his heart made manifest; and so falling down on his face he will worship God, and report that God is in you of a truth. 26 How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying. 27 If any man speak in an unknown tongue, let it be by two, or at the most by three, and that by course; and let one interpret. 28 **But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God.** 29 Let the prophets speak two or three, and let the other judge. 30 If any thing be revealed to another that sitteth by, let the first hold his peace. 31 For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted. 32 And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. 33 For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.

We need to understand that God is the God of order and has placed everything in Scripture for a reason. Ignorance is no excuse to disregard God's Holy Word. As seen in the above verse, He has established a structure for speaking in tongues when believers are assembled together.

Let's read verse twenty-three again, **23"If therefore the whole church be come together into one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those that are unlearned, or unbelievers, will they not say that ye are mad** *(out of your mind)* **?"(1 Cor.14:23 KJV).** If an ungifted person or an unbeliever sees this, they would definitely think everyone in this place is out of their minds. And worse, this assembly's actions will have most likely become a stumbling block and a cause for the unbeliever to close himself off from being ministered to by the group or even anyone else.

We heard a testimony of this happening from Delina, a young lady that we knew, Delina lived in California and had been very much put off by most of Christianity, from what she had seen and had witnessed from her family during her childhood years. She had gotten invited to go to a church retreat with someone and at a high point during the retreat, the pastor instructed the entire group of women to begin speaking in tongues in one accord. Now, not being a believer, nor having ever read the Bible or ever hearing of such a type of act, she felt extremely uncomfortable and couldn't wait to get out of there. She thought it was the most weird, chaotic thing that she had witnessed. To her, it was as if she was in some kind of a cultic meeting. Once she was home from the retreat, she called my wife Christina and expressed to her everything that had happened at this church retreat. In her words she said, "you guys are not like the others." She spoke with Christina about her experience, wanting to know what on earth these people were doing in this meeting and do we believe in this tongues thing too? Christina expressed to Delina how the gift of tongues is real and a powerful gift for Christians, but Scripturally, what that church did was acting disorderly and how this action was actually unpleasing before God. Christina also sent her the above Scripture reference to read. Delina was relieved to hear this and even mentioned it to the Christian lady who invited her on the retreat. How many people have had experiences similar to hers and have been turned off from coming to faith in Christ, because of disobedience and disorder in the Church?

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

Let's take another look at the second half of this passage:

> "[27] If any man speak in an unknown tongue, let it be by two, or at the most by three, and that by course; and let one interpret. [28] **But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God.** [29] Let the prophets speak two or three, and let the other judge. [30] If any thing be revealed to another that sitteth by, let the first hold his peace. [31] For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted. [32] And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. [33] For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints."**1 Cor. 14:27-33 (KJV)**

I want to emphasis again, in verse 28, that the Biblical instruction is very clear; if there is no interpreter, the one who has a tongue must discern if he has a public tongue to speak for everyone to hear or if he is speaking in his personal tongue (personal prayer language: we will cover in this in the last section).

When those who are leaders in the assembly disregard what the Scripture says along with the structure that God, in His wisdom, has put in place by His apostles and prophets - they give room for satanic influence and assault in the Body. We see disorder in Christian assemblies all to often. This direct disobedience to God's Holy Word is commonly done, as leaders instruct congregation to all pray together simultaneously, in tongues (their personal prayer language) even though God instructed through the Apostle Paul in verse **28 "But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God."**

Further more, verse 29 says, "Let the prophets speak two or three, and **let the other judge**." (1 Cor.14:29) Leaders, must shepherd the flock that God has allowed them to be responsible for. If the tongue, interpretation, or prophecy is off and you discern that it is not of the Spirit of God, it should be corrected publicly in the congregation, just as the Apostle Paul corrected his fellow Apostle Peter publicly for his prejudice of not eating with the Christian gentiles (see Gal. 2:11-15). If a prophetic word or a tongue is off and goes uncorrected by the leaders, they will receive a double judgment by God for not bringing the necessary correction according to the His Word. It is very important for leaders to confront and correct error in the assembly, least everyone who hear the false word or tongue thinks it's okay and receives something that's not of God.

Most Believers are unaware of the spiritual harm that can occur from not following God's instructions when speaking in tongues. First off, we need to realize that in contrast to the diverse gifts of tongues for the Christian, there are also false tongues and satanic tongues from foul spirits. We have witnessed people who have received an unclean tongue. If you have discernment, you will know of whose spirit is speaking. Is it the Holy Spirit speaking through the man of the mighty things of God, giving Him glory? Is it their spirit speaking to God? Is it babbling a falsely contrived tongue from the mind (which is not from their spirit man)? Or is it of an evil spirit speaking detestable blasphemies against God and the Church.

Further more, those of the occult who have given themselves to Satan, through being possessed by devils, can speak in an unclean tongue from a wicked spirit. With this they curse and speak incantations over others and blaspheme God. Now, when a minister or church leader leads everyone to speak together in their prayer language in tongues, the minister does not know that there could be those of the church of satan there, in the open assembly, who are assigned to curse and cause disruption in the Body. Many are afflicted and spiritually oppressed from disorder and misconduct like this in the Churches.

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

Leaders in the Body of Christ must have discernment in all things and must not remain ignorant of Satan's wiles. Remember everything in Scripture is there for a reason. Even if we don't understand why, it is there for our blessing and benefit.

TONGUES FOR PERSONAL USE:

THIS FORM OF THE GIFT OF TONGUES IS AVAILABLE FOR EVERY BELIEVER THAT HAS RECEIVED THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:

For personal use we will cover:

1. **The Spirit of God speaking/interceding through man to man's spirit.**
2. **The spirit of man singing to God.**
3. **The spirit of man praying to God**

Mark 16:17-18 (KJV)
17 **And these signs shall follow them that believe**; In my name shall they cast out devils; **they shall speak with new tongues**; 18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

When we pray in tongues for personal usage; out spirit is built up and strengthened, we wage spiritual war against the enemy, we worship the Lord and we make intercession for both ourselves and others. It's so important for every Believer to be baptized in the Holy Spirit and they will receive this gift from the Lord.

As Christians, we must realize that satan is always fighting to take our God given dominion. The Bible calls satan "the prince that ruleth in the air." (Eph 2:2 GNV) When we pray in tongues, we speak into the heavenlies, into the air. "…For ye shall speak in the air…" (1 Cor. 14:9 GNV)

Believers must speak in the Name (the authority and character) that is above every name. We speak to difficult circumstances in our path, to mountains that must obey, be uprooted and be moved. We speak with God – our spirit to His Spirit**. We have found it very productive for breakthrough, especially in times of urgency to pray our supplications to the Lord in our personal prayer language.** The Holy Bible tells us that "21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and they that love it, shall eat the fruit thereof." (Proverbs 18:21) Learn how to use your tongue, to speak according to the will of God, and you will bear good fruit!

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved.

1. THE SPIRIT OF GOD SPEAKING/INTERCEDING THROUGH MAN, TO MAN'S SPIRIT

Jude 1:20 (KJV) 20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, **praying in the Holy Ghost.**

John 7:38-39 (KJV) 38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, **out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.** 39 **(But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive**: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

Romans 8:26-27 (KJV)
26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but **the Spirit** itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what *is* the mind of the Spirit, because **he maketh intercession** for the saints according to *the will of* God.

In the three verses above, we can see that there is a clear distinction made for this tongue when it is the Spirit of God speaking/interceding through man to man's spirit. If desired you can ask the Holy Spirit for an interpretation or understanding of what He (the Holy Spirit) is speaking, but an interpretation is not required when done in private.

When we allow the Spirit of the Almighty God to speak through us into our atmosphere we will see the changes that He brings about. Here is a powerful testimony, I heard that took place in Africa:

"A woman came from the next town for the convention and after we finished one night, she wanted to go home quickly to go and get something, on the way she entered into a bus, not knowing she was being kidnapped.

So they took her and one other brother far into the jungle and they were doing all manners of atrocities to those people that were in front of them.

But then … they already took this woman they were already shaving her hair off in preparative to do whatever they wanted to do, but all of a sudden behind her back, the brother they picked up with her, began to speak in tongues and as he began to speak in tongues trouble came in the camp of the enemy.

Who brought this one here?

Where did they get them?

And they told him they got them in front of the Camp,

"Ah you took the wrong people!

Get away from here and immediately they set them free!

In the name that is above every other name, those who want to destroy you will hear a sound from heaven and they will release you." (Pastor E.A. Adeboye RCCG, Nigeria)

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

2. THE SPIRIT OF MAN SINGING TO GOD. – WORSHIPING GOD IN TONGUES

Singing in the spirit is a wonderful way to worship The Almighty God!

1 Cor. 14:14-15 (1599 Geneva Bible)
14 For if I pray in a strange tongue, my spirit prayeth: but mine understanding is without fruit.
15 What is it then? **I will pray with the spirit**, but I will pray with the understanding also: **I will sing with the spirit**: but I will sing with the understanding also.

Just as with singing praises to God with our understanding is very fruitful, singing in the spirit is even more. It is wonderful to bask in the presence of God in your spirit. When our spirits sing out to God, in our personal tongue, we are entering into a deeper level of worship then that of our minds.

In the Old Testament, the people would worship God in the temple. Now, in Christ, we see that we are now the temple of God. (see 1 Cor. 6:19-20). In the Old Testament, the temple was constructed of three parts: the outward court, the court within, and the Holiest of all.

The **Outward Court** represents the (**body**).
The **Court Within** represents (**the soul**).
The **Holiest Of All** represents the (**spirit of man**).

In the New Testament we as Christians are the temple of God. (See 1 Cor. 6:19-20)
Where does the Spirit of God dwell? He dwells in the Holiest of all, within our spirit.

John 7:37b-38 (KJV)
37 ... If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. 38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

That word for belly according to the Strong's Concordance #2836 means: (hollow, cavity) man's innermost being (the spirit of man).

Out of man's spirit will flow rivers of water of life (the Holy Spirit). When someone is born again, they receive the gift of the Holy Spirit... The Holy Spirit will dwell in their spirit, their innermost being. He is in the Holiest of all, within your spirit.

Our minds can take us into the Outer Court and even the Inner Court. But when we worship and commune with God out of our spirit it is a much high level of worship to God. It is from within the Holiest Of All! It is when our spirit, soul and body worship God in one accord! All who are made clean by the blood of the Lamb have been given the invitation to enter into God's presence in this manner. As Believers, worshiping God in the spirit is something that should be not only enjoyed, but it also should be a part of our every day lives. Also, satan and his followers cannot stand being in the presence of authentic worship to God.

John 4:23-24 (KJV)
23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in **spirit and in truth**: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. 24 **God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.**

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

3. THE SPIRIT OF MAN PRAYING TO GOD

1 Cor. 14:2 (KJV)
2 For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; **howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries** *(secret things).*

1 Cor. 14:14a (KJV)
14 For if I pray in an unknown tongue, **my spirit prays**…

1 Cor. 14:28b (KJV)
28 … **let him speak** to himself, and to God.

The Apostle Paul was describing his personal prayer language when he said, "18 I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all:" **(1 Cor. 14:18 KJV)**

The personal prayer language of the Believer is a very powerful gifting for our walk with God. It is also very productive when you put it to use in the battle against the enemy. Unlike your English or other native language, evil spirits cannot understand what you are saying when your spirit or the Spirit of God are communicating through your personal prayer language! **With your prayer language, the Bible says that no one understands it, but God alone**, "in the spirit he speaketh secret things." (1 Cor. 14:2). This means that no devil can understand it. In warfare, it is always better if your enemy has trouble reading your next move. Over the years, I have learned to discern when it's my spirit speaking or the Holy Spirit speaking through me. As we continue to grow in our prayer language, our spiritual vocabulary can develop and we will be able to distinguish different tones when we pray in our warfare, intercession, praise tongue etc. We don't memorize any of the words, because we are praying in the spirit so it flows out from within us when we pray.

Our spirit speaks with God in prayer. He hears our prayers, and gives His holy angels orders to carry out His will. It is a secret heavenly prayer language between your spirit and the Spirit of God.

There is no need for an interpretation when praying this way in private, as it is you speaking to God alone. However, according to 1 Cor. 14:12-16 you can ask God for the interpretation of what you are praying. The interpretation may come in the form of a direct Word from the Lord or may come as mental clarity giving wisdom and understanding regarding a situation where there was needed breakthrough. Sometimes in prayer, our spirit will be petitioning the Lord and we may see the results in the natural. Had the prayer not been prayed in tongues, we may have not known how to intercede for a certain situation.

Though it is not proper to speak in a tongue in a public open meeting without an interpretation (1 Cor. 14:28), it's very powerful for believers who have been baptized in the Holy Spirit to pray together with both understanding and with their personal prayer language in a private meeting, where you know all the Believers who are there. It is also helpful to pray in tongues with the laying on of hands over believers for them to receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 19:6 (KJV)
6 And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

Acts 10:46-47 (KJV)
46 For **they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God**. Then answered Peter,
47 Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?

We should keep in mind that the guidelines for the gift(s) of tongues, in the Scriptures, is not as a burden of legalism, but for order and edification in the Body of Christ.

The personal prayer language is such and important form of the gift of tongues for the each individual believer in their walk with God and is available for **all** those who have been baptized in the Holy Spirit. If you are reading this study and have not yet received this gift, I urge you to continue in faith and earnestly desire everything that God has for you! Just as you received salvation, in Christ, by believing in your heart and through confession with your mouth, (see Romans 10:8-10) it's by faith that we receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues! Many times throughout the Book of Acts we see examples of believers who had just came to Christ, who were immediately water baptized into Jesus and received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit through the laying on of hands all in the same hour! It was always very evident that they received the baptism of the Holy Spirit, as they immediately began to speak in new tongues as the Holy Spirit came on them and filled them! **You can pray by yourself or if you can, I would recommend having a Spirit filled Believer lay hands on you and ask the Lord Jesus to baptize and fill you with the Holy Spirit!**

Acts 19:1-6 (KJV) And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples,2 He said unto them, **Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?** And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. 3 And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. 4 Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. 5 **When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.** 6 **And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.**

Acts 10:44-48 (KJV) 44"While Peter yet spake these words, **the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.** 45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also **was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.** 46 **For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God.** Then answered Peter, 47 Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have **received the Holy Ghost** as well as we? 48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days."

Acts 8:14-20 (KJV) 14 Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: 15 Who, **when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost:** 16 (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.) 17 **Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.** 18 And when Simon **saw** that through laying on of the apostles' hands **the Holy Ghost was given**, he offered them money, 19 Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost. 20 But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money.

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International

Acts 2:1-4 (KJV) "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3 **And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.** 4 **And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues,** as the Spirit gave them utterance."

In all four of the above scriptures, each time the Believers received the baptism in the Holy Spirit there was a very clear physical manifestation of the Holy Spirit that they witnessed, showing that indeed, God's power had come upon them! **The evidence that the Holy Spirit filled them was that they spoke in new tongues!**

There are all kinds of unbiblical teaching regarding the gifts of tongues, which cause hindrances of confusion and unbelief in God's people, blocking them from receiving the gifts that God has for them. In the same way you came to Christ, you must believe and speak out in faith. **Faith** is a key element in the Christian life. Praying in tongues is an action! You must act in faith and as you allow your spirit and the Holy Spirit to flow from your innermost being and speak through your mouth (see John 7:38-39). Praying in tongues is not thinking up in our mind or preparing the words/groans to speak. It is a flowing river that you will need to let out, and once it starts flowing, it will become more natural. The words do not come out of your mind, they come out of your innermost being!

"4 He that speaketh in an unknown tongue *(language)* edifieth himself…" (1 Cor. 14:4a KJV) As you continue to speak out in faith you will grow in this gift and continue to edify (strengthen and buildup) your spirit man. It is a language that you will develop and grow in. The more you grow in the things of God, the more of His life you will see flowing through you. We need the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives in order to be true and effective witnesses of the Gospel of the Kingdom of God! (See Acts 1:8)

The measure of your life that you have surrendered to God is the measure that He will occupy. Give Him everything and gain everything that He has for you! Satan hates it when a believer grows in the Lord and he will do everything he can to keep you from operating in God's power. Of course, just as soon as you receive your prayer language, the devils speak their lies and say, "you're just babbling" and "it's not really real, you're making it up." The reality is, to them it is babble, because they have not been given the right to understand your prayer language, as it is hidden from them! So, when the enemy comes at your mind with lies, "7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." (James 4:7 KJV) "8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (1Peter 5:8 KJV)

I pray, that through this study, a great deal of the mystery regarding the gifts of tongues has been unlocked for you to receive and walk in all that God has made available for you, specifically the Believer's personal prayer language (tongue). This is for **all** who receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit. We should earnestly desire all that God has for us.

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

Luke 11:9-14 (KJV) 9 And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. 10 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. 11 **If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent?** 12 **Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?** 13 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: **how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?** 14 **And he was casting out a devil, and it was dumb.** And it came to pass, **when the devil was gone out, the dumb spake**; and the people wondered.

If we are praying to God and asking Him to fill us with the Holy Spirit and give us the gift of tongues/our prayer language, will He give us a stone? Will He give us a serpent? Of course not! **Our Heavenly Father is good and He will truly give us the Holy Spirit! He will not give us an evil spirit when we ask Him to give us what has been promised to us in His Word!** We see here in Luke 11:14, that the man that Jesus was ministering to was not able to speak! But, Jesus came and delivered him and set him free and then the man was able to speak. In the same way, may you be set free from all fear, unbelief and incorrect doctrine. May you be filled with the Holy Spirit and your tongue be loosed so that your spirit and the Holy Spirit can speak through you in tongues!

If you have any questions follow this reading after seeking the Holy Spirit in prayer, you are always welcome to reach out to us and we will do our best to make ourselves available. May the Lord Jesus bless you and fill you with His Holy Spirit and lead you into all truth that is only found in Him. May He bless you with His gifts and every good thing that He has for you, that you may be a blessing to all those around you, for His Glory!

Joseph T. Bishara
BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

For questions or copies please contact: www.BARAinternational.org

COPYRIGHT ©2008-2024 BY JOSEPH T. BISHARA
PLEASE CONTACT FOR PERMISSION TO REPRINT THIS STUDY. PRINTING OR COPYING FOR BIBLE STUDY USAGE IS PERMITTED SO LONG AS IT IS PRINTED IN ITS ENTIRETY. UNLESS OTHERWISE IDENTIFIED, SCRIPTURE QUOTATIONS ARE TAKEN FROM THE KING JAMES VERSION AND ARE MARKED KJV.

SOURCES:

- *Unless otherwise identified, Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version and are marked (KJV)*

- *1599 Geneva Bible. (2014) Tolle Lege Press. Scripture quotations are marked (GNV).*

- *[1]Johnson, Neville (2010) The 1st Principles.*

- *[2] If You Care to Accept It: by Bryan Archer,*
  [1]Johnson, Neville (2010) The 1st Principles.

- *Cover Page Image #1 Photography by Joseph T. Bishara*

- *The Tabernacle Image #2, Illustrated by Malik I. Bishara*

- *End Times Bible Prophecy Timeline – (Page 80) – Written by Joseph T. Bishara*
  – Photography by Joseph T. Bishara
  – Illustrated by Joseph T. Bishara, Malik I. Bishara

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved. BARA International
www.BARAinternational.org

© 2024 -2026 Joseph T. Bishara, All Rights Reserved.

TO CONTACT OR SUPPORT:

If you have been blessed by this free publication, we would love to hear from you! Please contact us at:

BARAinternational.org/contact/

You are also welcome to write to us at:

Mailing Address:

Joseph & Christina Bishara
101 Rainbow Dr. #13294
Livingston, TX 77399

SUPPORT:

If you would like to support us personally you can do so through the mailing address above or digitally through CashApp or Zelle by scanning the QR code above, linking to the support page on our website at:
www.BARAinternational.org/support/

Our Lord Jesus said, "Freely ye have received, freely give."
Discipleship and the Gospel message must be FREE, we never charge to minister.

"For we are not as many, which make merchandise of the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God in the sight of God speak we in Christ."
(2 Corinthians 2:17 1599 Geneva Bible)

We are not a tax-exempt corporation.

"They say unto him, Caesar's. Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's." **(Matt. 22:21 KJV)**

This free publication is subject to copyright.

Printing or copying for Bible study usage is permitted so long as it is printed in its entirety. Unless otherwise identified, Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version.

© Copyright 2024 Joseph T. Bishara All Rights Reserved.
Version 1.4.7