God Deals with Israel by His Two Witnesses

ABRAHAM AND HIS THREE GUESTS

We must visit the very beginning of the mention of this great nation, and people, to see their origin and the pattern with which the Lord God (Yahweh) dealt with them.

ABRAHAM (Gen.12-18).

It all started with one man, which has been the way we know God to do his things. He wanted mankind to fill the whole earth, but he chose to create only one, so that there would be order, and individuals could trace their source should there be an infiltration as was with Cain and Abel. God called Abraham out, separated him from his people, and promised him a Land flowing with milk and honey, which he and his seed should afterward inherit.

This land was the very Land upon which Adam dwelled, and from where he ruled the world, even Canaan (Eden), the delight of God and the mountain of his holiness. The Lord had seven encounters in the space of 24 years with Abraham before the birth of the physical seed (Isaac), and on the day they had the last of the seven discussions, God appeared unto him in the plain of Mamre (Gen 18: 1-33).

This is the account of the visit.

- Gen 18:1-10 The bible introduces the visitors as 3 men.
- Gen 18:10-21 The 2 men are silent, and the one identified as 'The Lord' takes over the discussion, the same person and the only one that Abraham worshipped in verse 3.
- Gen 18:22 The identities of the 3 men are further stated. It was the Lord God, and 2 men, but we are not told their names. The 2 men left the Lord God with Abraham and headed towards Sodom.
- Gen 18:23-32 Abraham stays back with the Lord negotiating for the life of Lot as God was determined to destroy Sodom.
- Gen 18:33 The Lord left Abraham after the negotiation failed and headed to accomplish his mission in Sodom.
- Gen 19: 1-2 The 2 men arrived Sodom as 2 Angels and are greeted in the city by Lot who also took them to his home.
- Gen 19: 15-22 The 2 Angels assisted Lot and his family to escape.
- Gen 19: 24 The Lord God himself arrives in Sodom as a consuming fire.

Did you notice that the Lord told Abraham that he was going to in Sodom? Yes, He actually did. I am

mentioning this because it appears as though only the 2 angels went to Sodom. God himself did go to Sodom as the fire that comsumed Sodom was no other but God, for the Lord our God is a consuming fire (Gen 18:21). In all of God's visit to Abraham, it was in this last visit that he gave a specific time for the promise to be fulfilled, and he came with 2 men, who were later identified as 2 Angels at their arrival in Sodom

THE START OF MONARCHY IN ISRAEL

After some time, the people of Israel rebelled against God and demanded a King to be set over them. The prophet Samuel went to the LORD with this complaint and was comforted, as the LORD told him, that he, 'Samuel', was not the one rejected but that the people had rejected Him, 'YAHWEH (Jehovah)', from being their king. Watch the pattern by which the Kingdom of Israel was established.

SAUL (I Samuel 10: 1-6):

Saul was the son of Kish, of the tribe of Benjamin, the last son of Jacob through **Rachel**, whom he loved much. He had gone to search for his Father's lost asses and in the process, he encountered God through his prophet 'Samuel'. Samuel anoints Saul and kissed him saying "Is it not because the LORD hath anointed thee to be captain over his inheritance?" **1Samuel 10: 1**.

He then instructed him that he would find 2 Men by Rachel's sepulchre, and they will inform him of the lost asses of his father.

These 2 Men ministered to Saul prophetically, they witnessed to him the very problem that took him out of his father's house. I Sam. 10: 2.

Again, in verse 3, he was to meet some other three (3) MEN at the plain of Tabor on their way to Bethel, the first carrying three kids, the second carrying three loaves of bread, and the third, a bottle of wine. By the articles they were carrying we could tell who these men were. We very much remember that Abraham once met Melchizedek who gave him bread and wine, which today represent the communion (The Lord's supper). In the case of Saul, his kingdom was not yet established, so he was given only 2 loaves of bread to **sustain** him until Samuel would meet him to establish his kingdom at Gilgal, but he failed as we find in 1Samuel 13:8-15.

These 3 men were the same that met with Abraham when his promised seed was to be established. Let us also consider the strategic position where Saul

met the 2 men. When a son is to be made king, before he ascends the throne, he must first go to kneel before the mother for the last time, and the mother would express her joy such as, 'Oh! My son, whom I bore, after now I am the one to bow before you as my king', then the son would rise after his response and take his place on the throne and will never submit to any flesh under his domain as long as he reigns. Saul was made to meet the 2 men at the sepulchre of the mother of Israel and his own mother "RACHEL" (figuratively speaking).

TWO OLIVE TREES (Zechariah 4: 1-14)

The prophet Zechariah was shown a mysterious vision that he could not comprehend (Zech. 4: 2-3). What he saw was the entire program of God for the Jews and the Gentiles. The angel that interpreted the vision told him that God was saying to Zerubbabel that it was not by MIGHT nor by POWER but by the SPIRIT of the LORD GOD. Here the ministry of these 2 men is described as 'MIGHT' (*The Might of the Law*) and 'POWER' (*The Power of the Prophets*). Matt 11: 13, Luke 16: 16.

Zechariah the prophet asked concerning the 2 Olive trees, which also are the 2 Olive branches, and was told that they were the 2 ANOINTED ONES standing before the Lord of the whole earth (Zechariah 4: 11-14).

In summary, we now know that the 2 men that accompanied YAHWEH, the God of the whole earth, to visit Abraham, were the same that met Lot as 2 Angels, Saul as 2 men in '1 Sam 10:2', and were identified by the following titles to the prophet Zechariah; 2 Olive trees, 2 Olive branches, Might and Power, and finally the 2 Anointed ones that stood before the Lord of the whole earth

Finally, these 2 men were mentioned in the book of **Revelation 11: 3-12**: they were referred to as the **2 WITNESSES**. Oh my! This is what they have been all along from Genesis 18. They never spoke while the **Lord God** was speaking, they were just there as witnesses. **Rev 11: 3-6**. It is clear that the 2 men all along represent **THE LAW** to ISRAEL and **THE PROPHETS** to the NATIONS, and that confirms to our friends who propagate the doctrine of Trinity that they are in error. On the Mt. of Transfiguration, **Jesus Christ** was proven to be the God of the whole earth made manifest in the flesh when these 2 angels appeared in the bodies of **MOSES** AND **ELIJAH** to talk about his death. **Matt 16: 27-28, 17: 1-3**.

The event on the Mount of transfiguration and the *Voice* that spoke on that day was to confirm **Zechariah 4: 6**.

"This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased, hear ye him".

It was to let them (Peter, James and John) know that it was no longer going to be by MIGHT (The LAW of Moses), or by POWER (The power of the PROPHETS 'Elijah'), but by HIS SPIRIT (God in his Son 'Jesus Christ', reconciling the world to Himself) says the LORD. Surely, the Lord God Almighty had dealt with the nation of Israel through their years of existence in the Old Testament by his 2 witnesses (The Law and The Prophets). It is also clear that before the great and dreadful day of the LORD will come at the end of Daniel's seventieth (70th) week, God will send again his WORD through these 2 WITNESSES and they will gather the **ELECTED JEWS** (144,000)unto Matthew 5:17, 7:12, 11:13, Luke 16:16.

I have often mentioned that God was not writing a language examination where He must write 20 million words, so that our bible will be voluminous. The Psalmist said, "forever O' God, thy word is settled in the heavens". In all the dealings of God with Israel, you will find the 2 witnesses, as shown clearly in the life and ministry of JESUS CHRIST.

THE WISE MEN FROM THE EAST

The wise men that came from the East to worship the baby Jesus at birth were just 2 magi with their servants, and not 3 as we traditionally believed due to the 3 gifts presented. They were not friends and may not have known each other until they met on the way to Bethlehem. We have come to know that the magi, who were from the region between Iran and India, travelled for months ONLY at night while they rested during the day. This is true because they left their own country following the star, and stars do not appear during the day. It was the star that brought them together, and today also. if we have seen His star and have the one true faith. then we would meet in THE WAY (JESUS CHRIST, the WORD). These men had depended on the star that led them until the night before they saw Jerusalem. The very moment they turned to the organised way of seeking God, the star disappeared. Matt 2: 1-11.

THE 2 ANGELS AT THE GRAVE OF JESUS

And it came to pass as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, <u>two men</u> stood by them in shining garments: And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead? **Luke 24: 4**

And seeth <u>two angels</u> in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. John 20:12-14.

THE TWO MEN ON MT. OLIVET AT THE ASCENSION OF JESUS CHRIST (Acts 1: 9-1)

These are the **TWO ANOINTED ONES** standing before the God of the whole earth. **Zech 4:14**, **Rev 11: 3-6**.

MICHAEL and GABRIEL

Having gone through the scriptures to relate the ministry of these two men, we can now understand that prior to the earthly ministry of Moses and Elijah, the Two Men who accompanied YAHWEH (Elohim) to Abraham's house were the angels MICHAEL and GABRIEL. They are a perfect representation of the two witnesses of God; MICHAEL representing the LAW to ISRAEL and GABRIEL representing GRACE to the Church, which was later perfected in the ministry of Moses and Elijah.

Notice that Michael is to stand for the People of Daniel (ISRAEL), but *The Message* of Gabriel has always found a way to cross over to the Gentiles. He was sent to Daniel in a Gentile Land (Babylon), and announced the birth of John the Baptist who was to forerun Jesus Christ, in whom the Gentiles must also believe in to be saved. Let us compare the statement of the Man '*Gabrie*l' to Zachariah and that of *Elijah* the Tishbite to Ahab.

1Kings 17: 1

And Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, As the LORD God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.

Luke 1: 18-19

And Zacharias said unto the angel, whereby shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife well stricken in years. And the angel answering said unto him, I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God; and am sent to speak unto thee, and to shew thee these glad tidings.

The common term here is 'Standing in the presence of God or before God'. We all know that if this means literal standing, then there were others standing also, but it is pointing to a Position. Gabriel and Elijah used the same body of words, and that is a point for you to consider. There is surely an undeniable similarity between Gabriel and Elijah.

Gabriel was the Pastor to the Nations, but do not forget that Israel was a nation too, for the Gentiles must source from one of the stems of Israel. Elijah was a Jewish prophet first before spreading his ministry outside the borders of Israel. Gabriel was sent to minister to Israel during their captivity in Babylon, but you cannot point to the archangel Michael giving any message to Israel outside their homeland; however, this lot fell on Gabriel as seen in the book of Daniel.

DISPUTING OVER THE BODY OF MOSES

Jude 9. Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.

<u>2Pet 2:11</u> Whereas angels, which are greater in power and might, bring not railing accusation against them before the Lord.

Have you wondered why Michael and Satan had to contest the body of Moses? The apostles Jude and Peter did not treat this as a subject, but in mentioning the excesses of the false prophets who will manifest in our time today, they both dropped a nugget for those who care to know. The subject of Michael contesting with Satan over the body of Moses did not seem to be hidden to lay Israelites but to us Gentiles it is a confusing subject. Just as it is with some other scriptures, many will choose not to know, but if you do not mind, I wish to draw your attention to something.

What did both of them want with the body of Moses?

We must understand that Satan's demons do not possess dead bodies (corpses). Once a person dies, the spirits of hatred, fornication, murder, lying and others, can no longer reside in that body and they will certainly move on and find their next host. The truth is that these evil spirits that possess people today and hinder them from living for Christ, will abandon the body moments before death, because death cannot meet them in that body.

Satan keeps the body per-se because the soul of the person is locked up in his prison house (The house of death). The body of a dead person is of less importance to Satan and his demons because they can only possess what has life; also the Spirit of God cannot indwell the body of a dead person as was said in Isaiah 38: 18. "For the grave cannot praise thee, death can not celebrate thee: they that go down into the pit cannot hope for thy truth."

WHY THEN DID GOD COMMAND THE PRIESTS NOT TO TOUCH DEAD BODIES?

Death is separation from God, and the Priests who were separated UNTO God were commanded not to defile themselves with dead bodies. This law was

extended to the people of Israel stating that they must purify themselves after coming in contact with dead bodies.

Lev 21: $\underline{10}$ ¶ And he that is the high priest among his brethren, upon whose head the anointing oil was poured, and that is consecrated to put on the garments, shall not uncover his head, nor rend his clothes;

<u>11</u> Neither shall he go in to any dead body, nor defile himself for his father, or for his mother;

Numbers 19:11-13

11 ¶ He that toucheth the dead body of any man shall be unclean seven days.

12 He shall purify himself with it on the third day, and on the seventh day he shall be clean: but if he purify not himself the third day, then the seventh day he shall not be clean. 13 Whosoever toucheth the dead body of any man that is dead, and purifieth not himself, defileth the tabernacle of the LORD; and that soul shall be cut off from Israel: because the water of separation was not sprinkled upon him, he shall be unclean; his uncleanness is yet upon him.

The Priests were asked by God not to come in contact with dead bodies so that they would not be polluted. It was not that these dead bodies were harmful, but God only gave them a shadow of something to come, of which we can see the type in many ways in the New Testament. Since death is separation from God, the reason for death is sin, so it is wholly interwoven with water baptism in the name of Jesus Christ as seen in Numbers 19:13.

MOSES' RESURRECTION

The struggle for the body of Moses by Michael and Satan was for resurrection, yes, and it was the resurrection of Moses.

<u>Deut 34:5.</u> So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD.

<u>6</u> And he buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, over against Bethpeor: but no man knoweth of his sepulchre unto this day.

After the death of Moses on the Mt. of Moab, God buried him and kept the grave site a secret from all men, and nothing was mentioned about this until the Apostles came and spoke of the contest for his body between Michael and Satan. Moses was truly dead and God himself does not break rules, for all the dead were held bound by Satan in his prison house, and Moses was no exception.

Now the spiritual standing of Moses is that he is one of the two witnesses of the Almighty Yahweh, the God of the whole earth. God had to sample resurrection, and Michael, who is actually the Angel

that led Moses and Israel out of Egypt, and who is also Christ in angelic form; this Michael had to be the one to bring back Moses from the dead. A similar case recorded in the vision of John, when the Elder who comforted John in Rev 5:5 was no other but John himself.

Who did God send to lead Israel? It was the man 'Moses'.

What about the Pillar of Fire by night that usually turn to Pillar of cloud by day? This was the Angel of the Lord, and that Angel who bears the name of Yahweh's Christ to Israel is none other than Michael, the unseen one and messenger (angel) that led Israel out of Egypt.

Exodus 23:20-22 ¶ Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared. 21 Beware of him, and obey his voice, provoke him not; for he will not pardon your transgressions: for my name is in him. 22 But if thou shalt indeed obey his voice, and do all that I speak; then I will be an enemy unto thine enemies, and an adversary unto thine adversaries.

If you have been following this subject closely, you will understand that Moses and Elijah were called God's two witnesses as they represent the Law and the Prophets. The message of the resurrection of Moses is made clear from the **Mt. Tabor** experience during the transfiguration. Peter, James and John saw in the vision Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

They actually represented the two (2) groups of believers that enter into the glory of the Father through the finished work of Jesus Christ.

- (a) Those who will not taste of death (Elijah) but will be translated (Raptured) into glory.
- (b) Those who will die and be buried and at his coming will resurrect (Moses) to be translated (Raptured) into glory.

Another example is in the story of the rich man and Lazarus; when the rich man requested Abraham to send Lazarus to his 5 brethren on earth, he replied thus:

<u>Lu 16:29</u> Abraham saith unto him, **They have Moses and the prophets**; let them hear them.

Abraham was simply saying to the rich man that the living had The Law and The prophets, which is represented by Moses and Elijah.

Why must it be Michael that would come for the body of Moses?

As stated earlier, Michael is the great prince standing for the children of Israel; therefore, he takes responsibility for them. He, like Moses, would have nothing to do with the Gentile Nations unless the nation of Israel was involved. Dan12: 1.

Gabriel was taking a message to Daniel and was held up by the prince of Persia, and he would not fight his way for he guarded the message sent to Daniel. It took the intervention of Michael to rescue Gabriel from the prince of Persia (Dan 10:12-13). Please understand that Michael's involvement was just to release Gabriel, as it was Gabriel's jurisdiction to deal with the Nations as is clearly shown in the next scripture.

20 Then said he, Knowest thou wherefore I come unto thee? and now will I return to fight with the prince of Persia: and when I am gone forth, lo, the prince of Grecia shall come.

21 But I will shew thee that which is noted in the scripture of truth: and there is none that holdeth with me in these things, but Michael your prince.

Gabriel was asking Daniel if he had now understood why he had to come to him, which was to make known the things that will befall the children of Israel (Dan10: 14), and after then he was to return to fight with the prince of Persia. Why was Gabriel returning to fight the prince of Persia? It was because Michael did not do that; he only made way for Gabriel, for that was not in his jurisdiction.

Finally, to prove that these two beings' ministry are manifested in that of the two witnesses, the man Gabriel said "But I will shew thee that which is noted in the scripture of truth: and there is none that holdeth with me in these things, but Michael your prince.

If Gabriel is re-emphasising that Michael is the prince of Daniel's people (Israel), then why was he there to talk with Daniel? He did so because his ministry is to the nations, like Elijah, but the Gentiles themselves must source through one of the stems of the nation of Israel, Praise God!