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To know who the Son of Man is...

NO.227

## **UPON THIS ROCK**

When Jesus was walking on earth, He told the disciples that He had many things to tell them but He could not for they were not ready. It was after He sent His Spirit within them that He was able to, little by little, reveal the truths they needed to be made free and to become witnesses unto Him.

The first disciples knew Jesus after the flesh. They walked with Him every day and they also saw Him in His body of glory. They were filled with love for Him and they made it their duty to write about the things that they heard in their daily lives with Him. Their strong testimonies in writing is certainly part of the foundation upon which Jesus is building His church.

In his testimony John wrote, "That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; for the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us; that which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ." (I Jn.1: 1-3)

These men had lived close to Jesus for about three years and their testimony in writing is certainly the framework of the building, but the solid foundation that cannot be shaken is more than that. There was a day when Jesus asked the disciples, "Whom do men say that I the Son of man am? And they said, Some

say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets." (Matt.16:13b-14)

Jesus knew His disciples were just as confused as other men when it came to that question. Men cannot possibly know who the Son of man is unless the Father reveals it to them. "All things are delivered to me of my Father: and no man knoweth who the Son is but the Father; and who the Father is, but the Son, and he to whom the Son will reveal him." (Lk.10: 22)

No man can go to the Father except through the Son and no man can know the Son except the Father reveals Him. The answer to the question, "Who is the Son of man?" remains one of the most obscure mystery of our times.

In this same discussion Jesus asked Simon, "But whom say ye that I am?" (Matt.16: 15) And he answered, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." (Vs.16) It was then that Jesus told Simon, "Blessed art thou, Simon Barjonas: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee that thou art Peter, and upon that rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." (Vs.17-18)

On that day, Jesus had opened Peter's ear to the Father and the Father revealed the Son to Peter. This was the Rock upon which Jesus founded His church. Peter the man was not the foundation Rock, Peter was the first one to whom Jesus opened the way to hear from the Father. Jesus explained that

this is how He would build His church.

# THE SOLID ROCK IS THE FATHER RE-VEALING THE SON. IT IS KNOWING WHO JESUS CHRIST REALLY IS.

Indeed, it is the Holy Spirit of Jesus Christ dwelling in us that opens our ears so that we hear the voice of the Father revealing the Son in us. There is no other way to know the Son but through the Father and there is no way to hear the Father except through the Son (Holy Spirit within).

Eternal life is to know the One true God. It is to know and to see the Son as He is. "...when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is." (I Jn.3: 2b) He will appear in us when the Father fully reveals Him.

The day that Jesus questioned Simon Barjonas on the matter, He opened the heavens to him and Simon heard from the Father. This changed Simon and from that day forward Jesus called him Petra- a stone or rock. Peter had been given the key and from that day forward he was unshakable in his knowledge of the Son of God.

The true church is not built on the doctrines of men. It is not built on the works of men, even good and charitable works, it is built with the lively stones of truths revealed by the Father through the Son. When one hears from the Father, one becomes unshakable.

Paul was aware of this. He tells us that "...when it pleased God who separated me from my mother's womb, and call me by his grace, TO REVEAL HIS SON IN ME, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood..." (Gal. 1: 15-16) Paul knew that in order to preach God's grace among the heathen, the Father had to first reveal His Son in him. Paul did not run to seminary or to any apostolic conference; he spent the next three years alone with the Lord in the desert of Arabia. (Vs.17)

Today, God is shaking everything that can be shaken. Indeed, all of the doctrines that are floating

around in Christendom are being shaken. Only that which we hear from the Father will remain.

We must note that not long after Peter heard from the Father we find him rebuking Jesus for saying that He must go to Jerusalem and suffer at the hand of the chief priests, elders and scribes and be killed. Peter was outraged at this and he exclaimed, "Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee." (Matt. 16: 22b) Jesus then turned and said unto Peter, "Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offense unto me; for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men." (Vs.23)

The very same Peter who heard from the Father could also revert to his carnal mind. Satan is the ruler of the carnal mind and as long as we are in these vessels of death we can be moved by our carnal emotions or we can yield to Christ and be led by the voice of God.

Nevertheless, we can never be shaken from the truths that the Father reveals to us. The disciples' testimony written on the pages of the best selling book in the world can never be taken away. Our testimony of the Son is not written with pen and ink but it is engraved in flesh and blood. It is the life of the Son in us

## GOD SPEAKS

"God who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom he made the worlds; who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high." (Heb.1: 1-3)

When the God of the Old Testament spoke, the mount was on fire and the people trembled. Today, many Christians still see Him as a fearful, unapproachable God on a throne in the far away heavens. So when one mentions that they have heard from God, they turn away with disbelief and scorn.

Other Christians know that God speaks, but they still see Him as an austere and unforgiving judge upon a throne giving orders to beat down and even to throw into hell anyone who does not observe His commandments.

Yet the verses above tell us that while God is the Majesty on high, the supreme ruler of the entire universe, in times past He spoke to His people through the fathers, Moses and Abraham among others, through the prophets and today He is speaking to us through His Son.

In Old Testament times God ruled His people by the Law. This was the covenant that He made with Israel. There is no mercy or grace in the Law yet the Law is holy and good and it gave the people structure and direction for behavior among themselves. But the Law condemned anyone who was found guilty of disobedience and they suffered the penalty of the Law.

The new covenant promises a new heart, a new nature that loves God and will not be disobedient. Jesus illustrated this with the woman that had committed adultery. They were all gathered around her to stone her according to the Law. But He intervened and revealed the sinful hearts of her accusers and said, "Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more." (Jn.8:11b) I believe that in that moment, the love of God entered her heart and changed her so that she would no longer go back to her sinful ways.

It is because we have not fully entered into the grace of Jesus Christ that the accuser of the brethren (Law of sin and death) is able to beat us down into thinking that we can never please God. This would be true IF there was not One who is our Advocate and Comforter. Everything that God speaks to us is filtered through the Son.

In the Son we know that the kingdom of God is not of this world; it is a spiritual kingdom. It does not deal with literal Law, it deals with the hearts. "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high (heavenly) places." (Eph.6:12)

Our enemies are no longer in flesh and blood as in the Old Testament; our enemies are the spirits that rule the fleshy hearts and carnal minds of men. John the Baptist declared, "And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees, every tree therefore which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire." (Lk.3:9)

God is not longer dealing with the outer tree but with the root. He is bringing down and burning up all that offends in the depth of our hearts. God's love is the consuming fire that burns up all that is not of Him and that refines all that is of Him. To enter the kingdom of the Son, one must go through the fire.

John tells us that the Son is the propitiation for sins. "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the PROPITIATION for our sins: and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world." (I Jn.2: 1-2)

This is a huge deal because "propitiation" means appeasement of an angry God. The sacrifice of Jesus not only atones for all sins, it appeases the anger of God so that we no longer face His wrath. And if we should keep sinning for a while, and we do, God's fire is no longer fueled by wrath to destroy us, but through the Son, His fire becomes our deliverance. This applies to each who has turned to Christ and it also applies to the whole world as they bow their knee and confess that Jesus Christ is Lord

So anyone who declares that God is coming down in His wrath upon the world does not know the truth that is in the Son. "Father forgive them for they know not what they do!" The Word propitiation is the same as the word for Mercy Seat. "For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ." (Jn.1: 17)

The bloodbath that we see unfolding in many places of our world today, is not the wrath of God upon humanity. The terrors and horrors that we see today are caused by the evil that is coming up out of the bottomless pit- the evil that dwells in the depths of man's carnal nature. Indeed, the Spirit that was holding such things in check has been removed and

now the hearts of godless men (the bottomless pit) has opened up to reveal the very violent and evil nature that is out to destroy everything including itself. The evil from the bottomless pit works as a terrorist who straps a bomb on himself to destroy as much as he can including himself. This should open the eyes of all men as it is clear that much knowledge has not profited humanity as long as evil still dwells in the the hearts of men. Indeed there are none good, no not one and the only way out is the way of the cross.

Paul writes that "The earnest expectation of the creature (creation) waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God...For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now." (Rom.8: 19, 22) At the same time that creation is being overwhelmed by the rise of the evil in man's hearts, the Christ is being formed within a people. The new earth and the new heaven (the new bodies and new hearts and minds) of the Christ creation are appearing. This is what creation is eagerly waiting to see.

## **TAUGHT OF GOD**

Jesus said, "It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh to me." (Jn.6: 45)

This does not mean that we are not taught by the teachers and pastors that the Lord sends us. And it does not mean that we should not read anything but the Bible. Indeed we need to be taught and the Lord sends His word in many ways. It means that what we learn can only be profitable if it is given by the Father to open our understanding to the knowledge of the Son. The ministries are given "Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the KNOWL-EDGE OF THE SON OF GOD, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ." (Eph.4: 13)

As Jesus said it would be at the time of the end, there are many false christs. This means there are many false anointings in his name. Many seek to know when Jesus in coming again. This reveals that they are short of knowing who the Son of God real-

ly is and they are ardently seeking to know the time of the coming of an "outward Jesus." They are intense in searching out dates of events and feasts of the Old Testament to set a date for the end of this age. No matter how spiritually advanced this may seem, it is the work of the carnal mind. It is the religious man seeking his own glory.

Recently the Lord explained this to me in a dream. "My husband and I were going to visit the "Smithsonian Institute." I was excited about that but when we got there I saw the very large building and it was almost in ruins. The walls were still up but the building had been totally neglected and covered over with dirt. We walked past booths which once displayed interesting and beautiful treasures.

Each booth had been built for one particular treasure to display. However, the booths now looked like caves with walls of dirt and the treasures were replaced by pool tables where young men were shooting pools. I was told that the treasures were in a safe place. They had been removed to keep them from being vandalized by these young men and teenagers that had taken over the place" End of dream.

Years ago my husband and I had visited the Smithsonian Museum in Wash.D.C. When I looked in the Encyclopedia I found that it is the world's largest museum and research complex. It comprises 19 museums in this country and 140 affiliate museums around the world. Above all it is an educational and research institution founded for the increase and diffusion or distribution of knowledge.

However, in the dream the Lord was not speaking about the actual institute that deals with the distribution of knowledge of natural things; the Lord was using this world famous institution as a counterpart for the spiritual resources that He makes available to us by His Holy Spirit.

There is a place in the Spirit where God displays His treasures and where they are revealed to us. Paul had been there many times and he had seen many treasures by the Spirit. He wrote, "But as it is written, eve hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither

have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea the deep things of God." (I Cor.2: 9-10)

When the treasures of the Spirit are searched out by the natural mind, the Lord removes them from view and the search for the things of God become merely a game of skill for the immature.

Billiards is a game of skill and one becomes very adept at it. Trying to put together the truths of the Spirit by our own research is as one trying to get the three billiard balls in the pockets. Today we are all aware of the signs of the times and it is easy to try to figure out the date of the Lord's "return." Some have skillfully been searching out through the dates and events of the Bible or through the Mayan calendar but this is all a vain game.

The things of God must be revealed to us by the Spirit of God. When God reveals His deep things, He opens them to our understanding and they become life to us. Anything that we try to dig up by our own knowledge and searching of the Scriptures or the dates of Old Testament feasts and events are not only useless to us, they become a game of skill. The game may be exciting and the more we play the more we want to play, but at that point we are in an earthy cave-like area of our natural mind and the treasures are nowhere to be found

Those who are caught up in this game may sound spiritual but when they are tested by fire, they are weak, immature and sometimes even morally perverted.

Recently someone who had been attending a small church called me. The young pastor had been teaching some of the deeper truths of the Spirit but he shocked his congregation when he was arrested in a park for soliciting sex from a young man; only the young man was an undercover agent. This young pastor had just been parroting what he had read somewhere or what he had deduced from searching the Bible. He had been playing a great game of skill but was living in his carnal nature.

Paul wrote, "knowledge puffeth up...if any man

think that he knoweth any thing, he knoweth nothing yet as he ought to know. But if any man love God, the same is known of him." (I Cor. 8: 1b-3)

When we are known of God, we have access to His true treasures but only as He reveals them. There may be moments when we see them clearly, and then there are times we seem totally void. God's word and purposes by natural knowledge is far removed from the glory that the Spirit imparts when HE reveals His treasures to us.

## THE DAY OF THE LORD

While Jesus gave several examples of what will take place at the time of the end of this age, He declared that none knew the exact date. "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away. But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only." (Matt.24: 35-36)

So it is certain that heaven and earth as it is today will pass away, but absolutely no one knows when this will happen. Even Jesus does not know unless the Father reveals it.

Peter explains, "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.

Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness. 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?

Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness." (II Pet. 3: 10-13)

So we now know that heaven and earth where man's self righteousness has ruled will be burnt up and replaced by new ones wherein God's righteousness will rule. If our minds have not been renewed and our understanding is in the earthly dimension only, we may be gripped by fear as we read these words.

But actually, we are at a time now when this prophecy is being fulfilled. Indeed, the heaven (the governing powers) and the earth (the carnal intellectual minds) are being tested by fire. We see governments, societies and all manners of regimes being melted with fervent heat. It has happened in our own private universe of self, and it is happening at large all over the world. It is a hard thing to witness but it is our hope for life.

This is the Day of the Lord. He is the Day and He is arising over the world today. Joel saw that day, "Blow the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the Lord cometh, for it is nigh at hand;

A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of cloud and thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations.

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." (Joel. 2: 1-3)

Heaven and the earth are burning up because the Son is arising in the sons and they are marching forward to established God's kingdom in earth as it is in the Spirit. A fire is going before them devouring all that has been established by the first Adam man and at the same time, it is bringing a new Day, even new heavens and new earth.

We are in that transition. It has taken place within each of us and now the same fire that burned up our old nature is spreading all over the world. It is a day of gloominess because of the terrible loss that it inflicts, but they will find out as we have, that the price to pay is small in comparison of the glory that is at hand.

## WHEN TIME IS NO MORE

In his prophetic vision, John heard, "...in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be fin-

**ished,** as he hath declared to his servants the prophets." (Rev.10: 7)

It is the seventh angel who is described as a "mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire." (Vs.1) There is no doubt that this angel who cries with a loud voice is the Messenger of the Lord Himself as He appears in the cloud to establish God's covenant (rainbow) with creation.

This angel is under oath. "He sware by him that liveth forever and ever...that THERE SHOULD BE TIME NO LONGER.." (Vs.6) So we conclude that in the day that this great angel is heard, the Lord Himself appears. It is in that day that the mystery of God is finished as He declared it through His prophets. And it is in that day that TIME IS NO LONGER.

In this earthly realm we live in the zone of TIME. God lives in eternity where there is no TIME zone. When the Bible states that things will happen IN THAT DAY, it is not speaking of a future time or day. That DAY is Christ. One could as well state, IN THAT LIGHT. It may be difficult for our minds to comprehend a place where there is no time, because we are so programmed to think about what was yesterday and what will be tomorrow.

Speaking through His prophet Isaiah, the Lord says, "Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else. I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, that unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear." (Isa.45: 22-23)

The Lord swore by Himself that this thing is done. In the next chapter we read, "Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me. **DECLARING THE END FROM THE BEGINNING**, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure.." (Isa.45: 9-10)

There is no failure in God's salvation. Creation

will be totally delivered for God has declared THE END FROM THE BEGINNING. God can do this for in eternity He sees the end from the beginning. He spoke the Word and it was done. Now in the realm of "time" we see it as it is fulfilled day by day in earth. By faith we see the things that are in Spirit as already done in earth. "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." (Heb.11:1)

By faith we take hold of the reality or the substance of that which we hope for. By faith, the things that we cannot see become very real. By faith, the things that were only in Spirit become a visible substance. When will all things that God spoke to us through the prophets and through the Son be substance that can be seen? When will the mystery of God be finished? WHEN TIME IS NO LONGER.

When there is no more delay because there needs to be no more tomorrows. When we have entered into His "rest" and all that He had spoken and that had been formed in "eternity" is now formed in earth. When His kingdom has come in earth as it is in heaven. When the Word that He spoke in the beginning is completely come in earth. When heaven and earth have passed away but God's Word remains. This is the time that we are reaching now. The Lord reigns! Hallelujah!

## THE SPIRIT OF CAIN

The lives of men in the Old Testament serve as examples to guide us through the struggles of this earthly creation. From the very beginning of the book, we find Cain, the very first son of Adam and Eve, striving to become a chosen son of God.

When Adam and Eve ate of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil another seed entered into them. This became obvious when their first two sons were born. They were two manners of people. One became a keeper of sheep and the other a tiller of the ground. Symbolically, one was occupied with living things and the other with earthly things. Both of these occupations are useful and beneficial when it comes to taking care of the natural man, but only

one is acceptable when it comes to the things of God.

The story has been told many times and we know that God did not accept Cain's sacrifice even though Cain ardently desired to be accepted of Him. Cain was a very religious man, so much so that when he saw that God accepted his brother's sacrifice and not his, his jealousy driven fury arose and he killed his own brother.

This is a true picture of the serpent spirit that will kill in order to be like God and to usurp the place of Christ. It is the spirit that wants to rule and reign in the earth using its own abilities and powers. It is the spirit that has established all the religions of this world, including Christendom and has killed the true servants of God to do it. This spirit is still holding on today and many of us are well acquainted with it.

When we were separated from the church systems, we fled from that spirit only to find that it was in us as well. It is as God has taken us through the death of the cross daily, that we are rising above that spirit and embracing the true Christ.

It is also the Cain spirit in us that strives by means of natural knowledge to find the treasures of the Spirit. It is the Cain spirit that leads us to search the Scriptures through our natural abilities rather than wait on the Spirit to lead us through them.

When we are moved by the Cain spirit, we may or may not be aware that we are as the Pharisees crucifying the Christ anew. Each time we use our carnal mind to dig up the things of God, we are as those who fall away and "crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame." (Heb.6: 6b)

This is a very serious matter. Many of us have been caught up in this game. Let us offer the Christ sacrifice unto God. Let us not offer the fruits of our own works unto God, but let us offer the lamb nature who willingly shed His blood and laid His life down for the sins of the world. It is then that we will find our new life. It is then that the Father will

reveal the Son in us and He will lead us into all truths.

Eve was deceived into thinking that she could be as God by the fruits of the tree of knowledge of good and evil- her own intellect (carnal mind). She did not really have the love of the truth, she wanted the truth to elevate herself. She had the love of "self". The Spirit within cries out from the depth of our beings (the ground) to be restored to life.

"The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven." (I Cor.15: 47) The body of the first man has been ruled over by the carnal mind. Paul teaches, "Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can it be." (Rom. 8: 7)

The mind rules the body. The mind dictates every move that we make and that each organ performs. The body is beautiful but because it is ruled by a ruthless dictator who cannot submit to the Word of God, the body moves closer to the grave each day.

The second man is the Lord from heaven. This man moves in accord with the Law- God's Word is Law. The Lord from heaven is the One who redeems our spirits and our souls. The more He rules from within, the more we are changed.

"For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day. For our light affliction which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;" (II Cor. 4: 16-17)

As this takes place day by day, the quickening power of His Spirit is leading us to the day when He fully appears on the throne of our minds. It is then that the inward man will be revealed and the outward man will put on immortality. The last enemy will be fully overcome and death and the grave will be under our feet.

Because God has finished the works in the beginning, none of this is accomplished by our own works. Anything that proceeds from our own selves will be destroyed by fire. This means that God will

make a full end of all our works no matter how much we value them.

It is as each day He speaks to our hearts and reveals His works to us that we are established in Him. It is then that we learn to fully trust Him through all of our trials. It is then that we find Him as our Deliverer- our strong shield and our refuge.

Jesus Christ is the Way. When He said He could do nothing of himself, He meant it. "Verily, verily, I say unto you, the Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for whatsoever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise." (Jn.5: 19)

Jesus knew the mystery of God. All things were already done in Spirit, and He was fulfilling them in the earth. He was bringing the kingdom of God in earth as it is in heaven (in the Spirit)- This is why He taught us to pray, *Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven*.

John was told that in the days of the voice of the seventh angel the mystery of God should be finished. In other words, the Christ creation would no longer be a mystery but would be fully come in earth. THIS DAY HAS BEGUN.

From the day He went to sit at the right hand of the Majesty on high, Jesus has been building His church. He has given Himself for her. He has sanctified her (set her apart) and cleansed her with the washing of His word. He has presented her unto Himself a virgin without spot or wrinkle or any such thing. She is a glorious church without blemish.

She has embraced His Word in Spirit and in truth and she is giving birth to a most glorious creation in His image. How beautiful, how marvelous! Surely all the sufferings that we have walked through in this realm of time, are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is about to be revealed IN US.

Because of His love, Jackie Caporaso