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|  | **LightHouse Ranch****Bible Study**  |

***Fellowship of the Mystery – Part I***

Joshua chapter 9; Ephesians 1-4:20; Genesis 9

 **I. The Wilily Works of the Gibeonites**

 **II. The Mystery starts at the Beginning**

 **III. Japheth “Enlarged”**

**IV. Dwelling in the Tents of Shem - Fellowcitizens**

 **V. Dwelling in the tents of Shem - The Fellowship of the Mystery**

**VI. Dwelling in the Tents of Shem – Walk Worthy of your Vocation**

**VII. Dwelling in the Tents of Shem – Speaking The Truth in Love**

*And Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done unto him. And he said, Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren. And he said, Blessed be the LORD God of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant. God shall enlarge Japheth, and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant*. **(****Genesis 9:24-27****)**

**Fellowship of the Mystery –** Joshua 9, Genesis 9, Ephesians 1-4:20

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| **Deuteronomy 32:8** **When the most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when he separated the sons of Adam, he set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel.** |

**Last week we experienced God’s message to Joshua when after the triumph at Jericho, the army of Israel was defeated at Ai. Joshua immediately rent his clothes and fell on his face before the LORD. While on his face, Joshua reiterated how bad the defeat had been, as well as, mentioning that that the Canaanites might think that the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob could bring His people this far, but was unable to give His people victory.**

**God, then instructed Joshua that just seeking the LORD is not enough to win the battle. The LORD said, “Get Thee Up!”. Joshua was the Captain, and action must be taken – there was sin in the camp, and until this sin is addressed, no victory is possible. This is an important lesson for God’s people of all dispensations to learn – Of course we need to seek God; but also know that God is going to speak, and when He does, God’s people must obey His voice, so they can achieve victory. Religion is not going to help the situation, on the contrary religion will only hinder the servant of God. Obedience is what the LORD demands as He views the complete picture from eternity to eternity and never, never, thinks only about the “here and now”.**

**Today, in chapter 9, Johua and his camp is going to make the opposite mistake made in chapter 7, forgetting to seek the LORD before making an important decision concerning the camp of Israel at Gilgal and succumbing to wiles of the Gibeonites. This whole situation is a partial fulfillment of Noah’s prophecy way back at the Flood; and the storyline travels throughout the Bible explaining the mystery of Christ throughout eternity.**

**I.** **Wilily Works of the Gibeonites –Also See –** Judges 1:28-35; I Kings 9:19

**The Gibeonites had heard the concern of the Kings of other Canaanite tribes**

**Joshua 9:1** And it came to pass, when all the kings which *were* on this side Jordan, in the hills, and in the valleys, and in all the coasts of the great sea over against Lebanon, the Hittite, and the Amorite, the Canaanite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite, heard *thereof*;
**Joshua 9:2** That they gathered themselves together, to fight with Joshua and with Israel, with one accord.
**Joshua 9:3** And when the inhabitants of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done unto Jericho and to Ai,

**The wiles of the Gibeonites**

**Joshua 9:4** They did work wilily, and went and made as if they had been ambassadors, and took old sacks upon their asses, and wine bottles, old, and rent, and bound up;
**Joshua 9:5** And old shoes and clouted upon their feet, and old garments upon them; and all the bread of their provision was dry *and* mouldy.
**Joshua 9:6** And they went to Joshua unto the camp at Gilgal, and said unto him, and to the men of Israel, We be come from a far country: now therefore make ye a league with us.
**Joshua 9:7** And the men of Israel said unto the Hivites, Peradventure ye dwell among us; and how shall we make a league with you?
**Joshua 9:8** And they said unto Joshua, We *are* thy servants. And Joshua said unto them, Who *are* ye? and from whence come ye?
**Joshua 9:9** And they said unto him, From a very far country thy servants are come because of the name of the LORD thy God: for we have heard the fame of him, and all that he did in Egypt,
**Joshua 9:10** And all that he did to the two kings of the Amorites, that *were* beyond Jordan, to Sihon king of Heshbon, and to Og king of Bashan, which *was* at Ashtaroth.
**Joshua 9:11** Wherefore our elders and all the inhabitants of our country spake to us, saying, Take victuals with you for the journey, and go to meet them, and say unto them, We *are* your servants: therefore now make ye a league with us.
**Joshua 9:12** This our bread we took hot *for* our provision out of our houses on the day we came forth to go unto you; but now, behold, it is dry, and it is mouldy:
**Joshua 9:13** And these bottles of wine, which we filled, *were* new; and, behold, they be rent: and these our garments and our shoes are become old by reason of the very long journey.

**What about the council of the LORD?**
**Joshua 9:14** And the men took of their victuals, and asked not *counsel* at the mouth of the LORD.
**Joshua 9:15** And Joshua made peace with them, and made a league with them, to let them live: and the princes of the congregation sware unto them.
**Joshua 9:16** And it came to pass at the end of three days after they had made a league with them, that they heard that they *were* their neighbours, and *that* they dwelt among them.
**Joshua 9:17** And the children of Israel journeyed, and came unto their cities on the third day. Now their cities *were* Gibeon, and Chephirah, and Beeroth, and Kirjath-jearim.

**Because of their oath, the Israelites did not kill the Gibeonites for their deception****Joshua 9:18** And the children of Israel smote them not, because the princes of the congregation had sworn unto them by the LORD God of Israel. And all the congregation murmured against the princes.
**Joshua 9:19** But all the princes said unto all the congregation, We have sworn unto them by the LORD God of Israel: now therefore we may not touch them.
**Joshua 9:20** This we will do to them; we will even let them live, lest wrath be upon us, because of the oath which we sware unto them.

**Let them live but be slaves to the camp of Israel**

**Joshua 9:21** And the princes said unto them, Let them live; but let them be hewers of wood and drawers of water unto all the congregation; as the princes had promised them.
**Joshua 9:22** And Joshua called for them, and he spake unto them, saying, Wherefore have ye beguiled us, saying, We *are* very far from you; when ye dwell among us?
**Joshua 9:23** Now therefore ye *are* cursed, and there shall none of you be freed from being bondmen, and hewers of wood and drawers of water for the house of my God.

**The Gibeonites answer**
**Joshua 9:24** And they answered Joshua, and said, Because it was certainly told thy servants, how that the LORD thy God commanded his servant Moses to give you all the land, and to destroy all the inhabitants of the land from before you, therefore we were sore afraid of our lives because of you, and have done this thing.
**Joshua 9:25** And now, behold, we *are* in thine hand: as it seemeth good and right unto thee to do unto us, do.
**Joshua 9:26** And so did he unto them, and delivered them out of the hand of the children of Israel, that they slew them not.
**Joshua 9:27** And Joshua made them that day hewers of wood and drawers of water for the congregation, and for the altar of the LORD, even unto this day, in the place which he should choose.

**Much of the interpretation of this mystery is found in the first 3 chapters of Ephesians. Here is an excerpt from the 1st chapter with Paul is addressing a Gentile church:**

**I. Jews & Gentiles Chosen Before the World’s Foundation – Pitching Shem’s Tents**

**Ephesians 1:3** Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly *places* in Christ:
**Ephesians 1:4** According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:
**Ephesians 1:5** Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

**Ephesians 1:6** To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.
**Ephesians 1:7** In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;
**Ephesians 1:8** Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence;
**Ephesians 1:9** Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself:
**Ephesians 1:10** That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; *even* in him:
**Ephesians 1:11** In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:
**Ephesians 1:12** That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.
**Ephesians 1:13** 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 with that holy Spirit of promise,
**Ephesians 1:14** Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

**II. The Mystery starts at the Beginning – Pitching the Tents of Shem**

**A. Promise of the One that will bruise the head of the serpent**

**Genesis 3:14** And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou *art* cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:
**Genesis 3:15** And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.
**B. Parallels Between Adam and Moses**

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| **Parallels Between Adam and Noah** |
| **Adam – 1st Man** | **Noah – Start Over** |
| **1.) Commission to be fruitful, multiply, and replenish the earth – (****Genesis 1:27-28****)** | **1.) Commission to be fruitful, multiply, and replenish the earth – (****Genesis 9:1****,** **Verse 7****)** |
| **2.) In charge of the animals – (****Genesis 1:26****)** | **2.) In charge of the animals – (****Genesis 9:2****)** |
| **3.) Became an Husbandman – (****Genesis 2:15****)** | **3.) Became an Husbandman – (****Genesis 9:20****)** |
| **4.) Sin involved partaking of a fruit (****Genesis 3:6****)** | **4.) Sin involved partaking of the juice of a fruit****(****Genesis 9:20-21)** |
| **5.) Sin caused nakedness – (****Genesis 3:7****;** **10-11****)** | **5.) Sin caused nakedness – (****Genesis 9:21-22)** |
| **6.) Somebody else covered them – (****Genesis 3:21****)** | **6.) Somebody else covered them- (****Genesis 9:23****)** |
| **7.) Curse with a promise – (****Genesis 3:15-19****)** | **7.) Curse with a promise – (****Genesis 9:24-27****)** |
| **8.) Three sons mentioned (Cain, Abel, Seth)****(****Genesis 4:1-2****;** **Verse 25****)** | **8.) Three sons mentioned (Shem, Ham, Japheth)****(****Genesis 9.18-19****)** |
| **9.) One son brought sorrow and disappointment****(****Genesis 4:8-11****)** | **9.) One son brought sorrow and disappointment****(****Genesis 9:22-25****)** |
| **10.) Another son was included in promised seed****(****Genesis 4.25****)** | **10.) Another son was included in promised seed****(****Genesis 9.27****)** |

**C. Noah’s Prophesy**

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| **The Tents of Shem - Nations Divided in the Earth after the Flood** |
| **Genesis 9:1** **And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.** |
| **Shem – 2nd Born**  | **Ham – 3rd Born** | **Japheth - 1st Born** |
| **Genesis 9:26** **… Blessed be the LORD God of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant.** | **Genesis 9:25** **… Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren.** | **Genesis 9:27** **God shall enlarge Japheth, and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant.** |
| **Eternal prophecy begins fulfillment in Genesis chapter 12, through Abraham Isaac, Jacob, and extending through David. David’s royal line continuing to Christ, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.**Genesis 12,15,17; II Samuel 7; Isaiah 11; Jeremiah 22:24-30 ; Haggi 2:20-23; Zachariah 6:12;  | **There is no generational Curse!** **Prophecy Fulfilled within 200 years. Canaan literally became “a servant of servants” to his brethren because of his desire for Pagan sin (Religion). This servitude began in the time of Joshua, expanded into the time of the Judges, and all the way through to the time of Solomon.**Joshua 9:1-3; Joshua 9:4-14; Joshua 9:19; Judges 1:28-35; I Kings 9:19; | **A continuation of** **Genesis 3:15****, not appearing again for 1500 years. Beginning as “Japheth” is “enlarged” by the Japhethite Medes and Shemite Persian conquers of the Babylonian empire, whom God used to remove sinful Judah from their land, judging the “tents of Shem”. King Cyrus gave the decree for “Shem” to return, and Japheth’s enlarging continues with the Greeks and later the Romans. God is using Japheth to protect the “Tents of Shem” while dwelling under their cover. God used the Japhethite Romans to judge “Shem” as they rejected their Messiah, removing them from the land again. The church began by “Shem” and expanded into Japhethites and Hamites. Thus the church is under the “Tents of Shem”. This continues with the Portuguese, Spanish, and especially the British, instrumental in Jews returning to their land again. When the last form of Rome re-appears, Rome’s last Caesar will be defeated by the Shemite, Jesus Christ. Then the “tents of Shem” (Now the Kingdom) will in one day be established**  |
| **Elam** | **Cush** | **Gomer (Germany, Crimea, Cambria,Celts)** |
| **Asshur(Assyria)** | **Seba** | **Ashkenaz(Germany, Saxons, Scandinavia)** |
| **Arphaxad** | **Havilah** | **Riphath (Carpathians)** |
| **Salah** | **Sabtah** | **Togarma (Armenia)** |
| **Eber (Hebrews)** | **Raamah** | **Magog (Georgia, Scythians)** |
| **Peleg** | **Sheba** | **Madai (Medes, Aryans, India)** |
| **Joktan** | **Dedan** | **Javan (Ionians, Greeks, Coastlands)** |
| **Almodad** | **Sabtecchta** | **Elishah (Hellas)** |
| **Sheleph** | **Nimrod (Babylon, Erech, Calneh, Nineveh)** | **Tarshisti (Spain)** |
| **Hazarmaveth** | **Mizram (Egypt)** | **Kittim(Cyprus)** |
| **Jerah** | **Ludim** | **Dodanium (Rhodes)** |
| **Hadoram** | **Anamim** | **Tubal** |
| **Uzal** | **Lehabim** | **Meshech** |
| **Diklah** | **Naphtuhim** | **Tiras (Thrace, Teutons)** |
| **Obal** | **Pathrusim (Pathros)** |  |
| **Abimael** | **Casluhim (Philistines)** |
| **Sheba** | **Philistim** |
| **Ophir** | **Caphtorum** |
| **Havilah** | **Phut (Libya)** |
| **Jobab** | **Canaan** |
| **Lud (Lydia)** | **Sidon** |
| **Aram** | **Heth (Hittites, Cathay)** |
| **Uz (Job)** | **Jebusites** |
| **Hul** | **Amorites** |
| **Gether** | **Girgashhites** |
| **Mash** | **Hivites** |
|  | **Arkites (Phoenicians)** |
| **Sinites (Sino, China)** |
| **Avidities** |
| **Zemarites** |
| **Hamathite** |

**D. Fulfillment of Noah’s three part Prophecy – Continuation of Genesis 3:15 Prophecy**

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| **Noah’s Prophecy – continuation of the Messianic prophecy of He who will bruise the head of the serpent** |
| **Prophecy** | **Reference** | **Time the prophecy is fulfilled** |
| **… Blessed be the LORD God of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant.** | **Genesis 9:26** | **The LORD God is eternally Blessed** **Pitching the Tents of Shem**Genesis 3:15; Ephesians 1:3: Genesis 12 |
| **… Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren.** | **Genesis 9:25** | **A few hundred years until we see Caanan a servant** **Canaan tribe a servant to 12 tribes through to Solomon** |
| **God shall enlarge Japheth, and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant.** | **Genesis 9:27** | **1.) About 1500 years to manifest Japheth in Tents of Shem****2.) Japheth enlarges and God uses him to judge and protect the tents of Shem while living under the cover.** **3.) The church is pitched by Shemites and expanded Japheth and Hamites are grafted into the tents pitched by Shem** |
| **Acts 17:26**And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation; |
| **Deuteronomy 32:8**When the most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when he separated the sons of Adam, he set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel.

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| **First three converts after 3000 Shemites pitched the tents of Shem** |
| **Convert** | **Reference** | **Descendant of:** |
| **Cornelius** | Acts 6:11-7:50 | **Japhethite** |
| **Ethiopian Eunuch** | Acts 8:26-39 | **Hamite** |
| **Saul** | Acts 8:1-43 | **Shemite** |

**Map of Dispersal of Noah’s Descendants after the Flood** |
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**III.** **Japheth “Enlarged”**

**Genesis 9:27**God shall enlarge Japheth, and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant.

**We can see that the prophecy of verse 25 concerning Canaan began to be fulfilled within 200 years. We saw the prophecy concerning Shem began fulfillment in two chapters of Genesis. But the prophecy concerning Japheth was not seen for a period of at least 1500 years. When did it begin?**

1. **When we think of the great civilizations in ancient times we think of Egypt, Shinar, and even the greatness of David and Solomon – These were all either Hamites or Semites.**
2. It wasn’t until the Japhethite Medes and Shemite Persians conquered Hamite Babylon claiming a greater empire for themselves (Japhethites helping “Shem pitch his tent”)
3. Then we see Japhethite Alexander the Great, a descendant of Javan, conquered Persia and went East claiming more land for the (Japhethites helping “Shem pitch his tent”)
4. Then we see Japhethite Rome conquering the Greeks and going west claimed again more land for Japhethites than anyone before him. (Japhethites helping “Shem pitch his tent”)
5. Then the Dutch, Spanish, French, Portuguese, and especially the English, all had empires and claimed more land for the Japhethites.
6. It was the British General Allenby who conquered Palestine during WWI, helping some Jews return to the land. The British foreign ministry department, however, later turned their backs on Israel and then the “Sun sat on the Union Jack”.
7. These Europeans went to the New World and the one “superpower” still standing today, the United States has sent more missionaries than any other country.
8. It took a long time to develop, but it is still going on today.

So it took 1500-1600 years to see the fulfillment, it is still being fulfilled today, and will continue on into the Kingdom. What does it mean to “Dwell in the tents of Shem”?

1. **What does the Bible say about “tent dwelling? (Sojourners or strangers – temporary habitation)**
2. **Psalm 78:55**He cast out the heathen also before them, and divided them an inheritance by line, and made the tribes of Israel to dwell in their tents.

**Looks like here it is living in a tent someone else pitched. Assuming the blessing of someone else’s labor.**

1. **I Chronicles 5:10**And in the days of Saul they made war with the Hagarites, who fell by their hand: and they dwelt in their tents throughout all the east land of Gilead.

**Again, looks like here it is living in a tent someone else pitched**

1. **Psalm 84:10** **…** I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

**A doorkeeper is a lot of work, but still better to take a lowly job in God’s house than relaxing in the tent of wickedness. Contrasting resting and working.**

1. **Psalm 69:25** Let their habitation be desolate; and let none dwell in their tents.

Here is an example of Hebrew poetry, synonymous parallelism **– rhyming synonymous thought to get the interpretation – Contrasting dwelling in a tent to desolation. Contrasting fruitfulness with desolation. Here, to dwell in tents is called a “habitation”**

1. **Psalm 120:5**Woe is me, that I sojourn in Mesech, that I dwell in the tents of Kedar!

Again, here is an example of Hebrew poetry, using parallelism to define “dwelling in a tent is temporary. Or sojourning

**6. The church are sojourners here in fear**

**I Peter 1:15**But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;

**I Peter 1:16** Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

**I Peter 1:17** 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:

**IV. Dwelling in the Tents of Shem - Fellowcitizens**

**Ephesians 2:10** For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

**Ephesians 2:11** Wherefore remember, that ye *being* in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands;

**Ephesians 2:12** That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

**Ephesians 2:13** But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.

**Ephesians 2:14** For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition *between us*;

**Ephesians 2:15** Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, *even* the law of commandments *contained* in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, *so* making peace;

**Ephesians 2:16** And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby:

**Ephesians 2:17** And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh.

**Ephesians 2:18** For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

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

**Ephesians 2:20** And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner *stone*;

**Ephesians 2:21** In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord:

**Ephesians 2:22** In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

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| **Can we see what has happened here? Jesus Christ, of the line of Shem, swung open the flap of Shem’s tent and said all you Japhethites and Hamites come in.** |

1. **Paul explained this with another metaphor in Romans 9-11. (The context is nations)**

**Romans 11:13**For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify mine office:
**Romans 11:14** If by any means I may provoke to emulation *them which are* my flesh, and might save some of them.
**Romans 11:15** For if the casting away of them *be* the reconciling of the world, what *shall* the receiving *of them be*, but life from the dead?
**Romans 11:16** For if the firstfruit *be* holy, the lump *is* also *holy*: and if the root *be* holy, so *are* the branches.
**Romans 11:17** And if some of the branches be broken off, and thou, being a wild olive tree, wert graffed in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree;
**Romans 11:18** Boast not against the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee.
**Romans 11:19** Thou wilt say then, The branches were broken off, that I might be graffed in.
**Romans 11:20** Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear:
**Romans 11:21** For if God spared not the natural branches, *take heed* lest he also spare not thee.
**Romans 11:22** Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in *his* goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off.
**Romans 11:23** And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be graffed in: for God is able to graff them in again.
**Romans 11:24** For if thou wert cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and wert graffed contrary to nature into a good olive tree: how much more shall these, which be the natural *branches*, be graffed into their own olive tree?
**Romans 11:25** For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.
**Romans 11:26** And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:
**Romans 11:27** For this *is* my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins.

**We can also see that Jesus Christ, as He blinded Israel (****II Corinthians 3:1-18****) to allow the Gentile in, did not forget Israel. God’s intention has always been the entire world. Truly, the culmination of Abraham’s Seed has blessed the entire world**

**V.** **Dwelling in the tents of Shem - The Fellowship of the Mystery**

**A. By Revelation of the Mystery**

**Ephesians 3:1** For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles,
**Ephesians 3:2** If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward:
**Ephesians 3:3** How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words,
**Ephesians 3:4** Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ)
**Ephesians 3:5** Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit;

**B. That the Gentiles should be Fellowheirs**
**Ephesians 3:6** That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel:
**Ephesians 3:7** Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power.
**Ephesians 3:8** Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ;

**C. To Make All Men See the Fellowship of the Mystery**
**Ephesians 3:9** And to make all *men* see what *is* the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:
**Ephesians 3:10** To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly *places* might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God,
**Ephesians 3:11** According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord:
**Ephesians 3:12** In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.
**Ephesians 3:13** Wherefore I desire that ye faint not at my tribulations for you, which is your glory.

**D. Paul Prays for this Gentile Church**
**Ephesians 3:14** For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
**Ephesians 3:15** Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,
**Ephesians 3:16** That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;
**Ephesians 3:17** That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,
**Ephesians 3:18** May be able to comprehend with all saints what *is* the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;
**Ephesians 3:19** And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.
**Ephesians 3:20** Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,
**Ephesians 3:21** Unto him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

**VI. Dwelling in the Tents of Shem – Walk Worthy of your Vocation**

**Ephesians 4:1** I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,
**Ephesians 4:2** With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;
**Ephesians 4:3** Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
**Ephesians 4:4** *There is* one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;
**Ephesians 4:5** One Lord, one faith, one baptism,
**Ephesians 4:6** One God and Father of all, who *is* above all, and through all, and in you all.
**Ephesians 4:7** But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.
**Ephesians 4:8** Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.
**Ephesians 4:9** (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?
**Ephesians 4:10** He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)
**Ephesians 4:11** And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;
**Ephesians 4:12** For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:
**Ephesians 4:13** Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

**VII. Dwelling in the Tents of Shem – Speaking the Truth in Love**
**Ephesians 4:14** That we *henceforth* be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, *and* cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;
**Ephesians 4:15** But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, *even* Christ:
**Ephesians 4:16** From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.
**Ephesians 4:17** This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind,
**Ephesians 4:18** Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart:
**Ephesians 4:19** Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.
**Ephesians 4:20** But ye have not so learned Christ;