

# Jerusalem Above The Mother of Us All

"The Church of the  
Firstborn"



LIGHTENED BY HIS GLORY

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## THE THIRD ANGEL'S MESSAGE



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## **New Jerusalem – The Mother of Us All**

Gal 4:26 But **Jerusalem** which is above is free, which is **the mother of us all**.

Jerusalem below is in bondage we are told. (v25) It is a place filled with those who are in bondage to sin. This Jerusalem above has many children. These children are called the Sons of God, (v6) the children of the Father of us all. Born of the Holy Spirit.

Eph 4:6 **One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.**

This woman Jerusalem, that is the mother of us all is a “comely and delicate woman” (Jer 6:2). She stands on the moon, and is clothed with the sun.



Rev 12:1-2 And there **appeared** a great wonder **in heaven**; a **woman** clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: And she being with child cried, **travailing in birth**, and pained to be delivered.

This mother is with a child. The name of the mother of all of us has been revealed as “Jerusalem.” What is the name of the child she is travailing in birth with?

Heb 12:22-24 But ye are come unto **mount Sion**, and unto **the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem**, and to an innumerable company of **angels**, To the general assembly and **church of the firstborn**, which are written in heaven, and to **God** the Judge of all, and to **the spirits of just men made perfect**, And to **Jesus the mediator of the new covenant**, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.

In Mount Zion, we find the Heavenly Jerusalem, the mother of “the firstborn”, and all the angels, and all the sons and daughters of God. The mother of us all. Jesus is “the firstborn of every creature...before all things” (Col 1:15-17) “the only begotten son of God” So this Church is the Church of Jesus Christ, the church that Jesus said he was to build on the rock.(Matt 16:16-18) The “church of the firstborn” (Heb 12:22) He is to be formed within each one of us. His seed in us.

## **Come See the Bride**

Rev\_21:9, 22:17 .... Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife... And **the Spirit and the bride say, Come**. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

Who is calling us to “come and see”? The Spirit in writing this is calling you to behold her. This is important to remember. Paul says in the context of Galatians 4 which speaks of the “mother of us all” (v 26)

Gal 4:19 My little children, of whom **I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you,**

Can the church be any more “motherly” than this. And what birth must they receive in order to become a child of heavenly Jerusalem, a child of the mother of us all, the church of the firstborn? They must receive the Spiritual birth, Christ being formed in you.

Joh 3:6 **That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.**

The new birth. In order to be a member of the church of the firstborn, you must receive the new birth experience. You must be born into the family. A child of the “One God and Father of all”. Born again of the “mother of us all”.

Gal 4:6 **And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.**

Again, when receiving the spirit, then you become a son of God. Then you cry daddy, daddy. You also recognize “the mother of us all”(Gal 4:26). And how do we know the children of God?

Gal 4:28-29 **Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise. But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so it is now.**

We are “**born of promise**”. A promise comes from the word. So therefore we like Isaac are “**born again... by the word of God**” (1 Pet 1:23)

God’s children are born of the Spirit. This is what makes one a Son of God. This is what makes one a Son of the mother of us all. This is what makes one a member of “heavenly Jerusalem...the church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven.”(Heb 12:22, 23)

Unless this is a fact in the life, then we are not part of God’s “remnant” Church. We may fellowship with God’s Church as did Judas. And the Church may not judge him or will in no wise cast him out. The name of that member is not written on the books of the church by God who alone is “judge of all” who are “written in heaven”.

## **Israel the Firstborn – Church of the Firstborn**

We read the following:

Exo 4:22 **And thou shalt say unto Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD, Israel is my son, even my firstborn:**

Interestingly Esau was born first, and Jacob also known as Israel after receiving the blessing was born second to Isaac. Why wasn’t Esau God’s firstborn? Esau came out first. Jacob was not called Israel until he received the new birth. (Gen 32:9-29) Many today teach that you could not be born again until after the cross. But we’ve read already that Isaac was “born of spirit” (Gal 4:29). And here is another child, Israel, who never was called Israel until he wrestled with God, and received a new name. Why did he receive a new name?

The name signified his new birth as a son of God. In Exodus 4 when God said “Israel is my firstborn”, God is actually giving the gospel to Pharaoh. Though Esau was the firstborn son of man, Israel was the firstborn of God. And in order to become a son of God, one must be born of Spirit, born again. And this is what was preached to Egypt.

**Rom 8:14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.**

In order to be members of the family and children of the “mother of us all”, “the heavenly Jerusalem”, in order to be “Israel”, God’s “firstborn”, we must be “born” of the Holy Spirit. Otherwise we are not part of that family. The message of Elijah “shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers”. (Mal 4:6)

There is a very important principle that God has in the Elijah Message that we are to understand today.

## **The Stones**

Elijah had an important message to bear regarding Israel. He was to show just as John the baptist who “came in the spirit and power of Elijah” (Luke 1:17) that God was “able of these stones to raise up children to Abraham” (Matt 3:8). Or in other words, God is able to raise up stones to be Israel. In fact if we go to the story of Elijah we find that God did just that.

In the days of Elijah there had been no rain for three and a half years, the entire nation had been worshipping BAAL, and they had broken down the altars of God. God had reserved 7000 men who would not worship with these children at their altars. Who would not bow the knee to BAAL. In Romans 11, Paul explains that this was the “remnant” who truly were “Israel”(Romans 11:1-5). The others were bearing the name in vain. They called themselves Israelites, but in actuality they were not. (See Rev 2:9, 3:9)

In order to truly become Israel, one must be born of Spirit. Note the building up of Israel. We are “fellowcitizens” of the “heavenly Jerusalem”.

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

Only by the Spirit do we truly become a fellowcitizen of Israel. The Jerusalem below is in bondage to sin. But Jerusalem which is above is where those who are free from sin dwell. And these living stones make up the building or church of God.

Now Elijah had called for a meeting on the mount. He was commissioned to call the people to recognize the truth about God and His Firstborn Son. Not to bow at their altars and worship with them, but to tear down their altars and restore the altar of God which Israel had broken down. (1 Kin 18:30) He proposed a showdown between the prophets of BAAL and himself, a prophet of Jehovah. The showdown included a call on God to see who was the true God. BAAL or Jehovah.

When Elijah came to the altar of God, it was broken down, the stones were scattered across the ground. In a very similar manner today, the false prophets have set up another God in place of the true “God and Father of us all,” (Eph 4:6) and His children have been cast out of the synagogues and scattered across the earth. (See John 16:2, 3)

Now after Elijah gathers the twelve giant stones and repairs the altar which signifies the goodness of God in giving His only begotten Son, His “firstborn”. He says something very significant:

1Ki 18:30-31 And Elijah said unto all the people, **Come near unto me.** And all the people came near unto him. And he repaired the altar of the LORD that was broken down. And **Elijah took twelve stones**, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, unto whom the word of the LORD came, **saying, Israel shall be thy name:**

“Israel shall be thy name”. God is able of these stones to raise children to Abraham. (Mat 3:9) Something very important took place here. These stones were huge. And Elijah did not ask anyone else to help him. The work of God in restoring his children is only done by those who have been sanctified for the work. (Gal 6:1-4)

2Ti 2:21 If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master’s use, and prepared unto every good work.

God has a work for his people to do today which is very similar. Point them back to the truth about Israel. To his true church, the church of the firstborn, the church built on the solid rock. The church built out of living stones, the foundation, which includes the truth about God giving His only begotten Son to die for their sins, and the truth about his covenant of grace, that he promised not only that he would restore us, but put His Spirit in us and build us up a spiritual house.

1Pe 2:5 **Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood,** to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

This promise was offered to Israel at Mount Sinai, that they might become a nation of priests. But they didn’t accept that covenant, and only one tribe ended up being priests.

The Spirit alone can constitute His children, the Holy Spirit alone can constitute His Church. If the presence of Christ is not in the midst of them, or in them, if Christ is on the outside of the heart still knocking, and unless we allow him in, we cannot be the sons of God, we cannot be the spiritual house. We have yet to become an Israelite. We have yet to become a child of the mother of us all, which is Jerusalem, which is above.

Eph 1:22-23 And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to **the church, Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.**

If it is not the “fulness of him that filleth all in all”, it is not “His body”, it is not His “church”.

We may profess the name, we can call ourselves Israelites, Jews, Protestants, Christians, Seventh-day Ad-  
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ventists, Jehovah's Witnesses, The Church of God, etc. But if we don't have that spirit in us, we are no different than "Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children." (Gal 4:25) In other words "earthly Jerusalem" which is in bondage and slavery under the "elements of the world". (Gal 4:2, 3) In bondage to tyrannical rulers, in bondage and a slave to sin. (See Romans 6)

## **The New Covenant**

The covenant includes God writing his law, not just on pieces of stone, but living stones, walking epistles.

2Co 3:3-6 Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart....Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.

The Covenant of Grace has been given since the days of Moses, but many minds were blinded that they could not see it.

2Co 3:14 But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same vail untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which vail is done away in Christ.

Not only back then were they blinded to the gospel of Christ as given by Moses, But even today they are blinded to the gospel of grace which was in those same writings.

2Co 3:15 But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the vail is upon their heart.

Who blinded their minds when reading the books of Moses? And what were they supposed to see in those books?

2Co 4:4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

The gospel of God's covenant was preached unto them. Isaac was born again, Israel was God's firstborn after the Spirit. These children had the same gospel.

Gal 3:8 And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed.

Without accepting the gospel of faith, no man could ever be justified. (Gal 2:16, 20). Therefore it is this same gospel that was preached to Israel we are told in Hebrews 4:2.

Heb 4:2 For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit



them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.

God does not change how He deals with His people. The covenant is an everlasting covenant. And to accept this covenant would make us free, and children of the mother of us all.

Gal 4:24-26 Which things are an allegory: for **these are the two covenants**; the one from the mount Sinai, which gendereth to bondage, which is Agar. For this Agar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children. **But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all.**

Why was Sinai bondage? Because they didn't accept the promise of God, that He would work mightily in them, and instead answered God's promises saying "All that the LORD hath spoken **we will do.**"(Exo 19:8)

Does God depend on us to do good works of ourselves? No, it is not of yourselves, it is the work of God. Instead of answering the promises of God with our own promise, we simply should accept the promise of God and say "Amen, all that the LORD has said **HE WILL DO**".

Hagar, was Sarah's maiden, and Sarah, instead of trusting the LORD to give her a miracle child, born of the spirit, said instead "All that the LORD has spoken **we will do.**" And in turn the child Ishmael was born, a child "born after the flesh." (Gal 4:29) This was a covenant of bondage, a covenant of works, it was a covenant outside of God's ordained marriage covenant which the Lord joined together. God had already given Abraham a covenant based on better promises, not based on Sarah and Abraham's promises, but God's promises. The Old covenant was simply Abraham and Sarah trying to do the works of God of themselves, when it is not of themselves, it is the gift of God, and it comes alone by grace through faith. (Eph 2:8-10). How many are making this old covenant today?

God's covenant is based on "better promises". His promises. For us to promise to fulfill the work of God is a faulty promise, and if that is our covenant today, then we need a new covenant.

Heb 8:6-8 But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of **a better covenant, which was established upon better promises.** For if **that first covenant had been faultless**, then should no place have been sought for the second. **For finding fault with them**, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah:

The fault was with them. The fault was with the promises that they had made attempt to do what only God could do. This is why Hagar is an allegory of the Old Covenant made at Sinai. God gave the New Covenant to Abraham. He ratified this covenant at the cross. The particulars included the reception of the Holy Spirit. In order to truly become a Son of Abraham, a living stone, one must be born of the Holy Spirit. Otherwise you are a child in name only. In order to become a child of the "mother of us all" we must be children like Isaac, born after the spirit, born of promise, born again of the word of God.

Rom 9:8-9 That is, They which are the children of the flesh, **these are not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed.** For this is the word of promise, **At this time will I come, and Sara shall have a son.**



“Speak the word only”(Matt 8:8) This is “great faith”(Matt 8:10) to believe the “word of promise”(Rom 9:9). And to become a child of Abraham, an Israelite indeed, is to be a child of faith.(Gal 3:9)

## **I Will be There God**

Heb 8:10 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and **I will be to them a God**, and they shall be to me a people:

The covenant is with his bride. She is to be a chaste virgin. Notice the covenant language in the following verses:

2 Corinthians 6:14-18 **Be ye not unequally yoked** together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, **I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.** Wherefore **come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord**, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

He say’s “I will be their God”. And He will be to us a God. For this is the new covenant promise. His spirit in us, that we might be His children, sons and daughters, the church of the firstborn.

It is interesting that he tells us not to touch the unclean thing. Babylon is known to be a “cage of unclean and hateful birds” and God tells us “come out of her my people”. (Rev 18:1-4). Why? So that He can “be their God, and they shall be my people” (2 Cor 6:16) We need to hear his voice, to recognize truly who and what His church really is.

In the marriage covenant, the two “shall be one flesh”. (Gen 2:24) Not the “three shall be one flesh”.

1 Corinthians 6:14-17 And God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us by his own power. Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? **shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the members of an harlot? God forbid.** What? **know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh.** But **he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.**

You’ll notice that these verses have to do with worship practices. Particularly with those worshiping other gods. We by a covenant with a woman that is gone a “whoring after other gods” is considered a violation of the covenant.

Deu\_31:16 And the LORD said unto Moses, Behold, thou shalt sleep with thy fathers; and this people will rise up, and go a whoring after the gods of the strangers of the land, whither they go to be among them, and will forsake me, and break my covenant which I have made with them.

If you were married, would you approve of your wife having an intimate relationship with another man?

“In Mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance”(Joel 2:32)

Are you ready to go? Where will he be to them a God? In heavenly Jerusalem.

**Zec 8:8 And I will bring them, and they shall dwell in the midst of Jerusalem: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God, in truth and in righteousness.**

**Eze 37:25-27 And they shall dwell in the land that I have given unto Jacob my servant, wherein your fathers have dwelt; and they shall dwell therein, even they, and their children, and their children's children for ever: and my servant David shall be their prince for ever. Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them; it shall be an everlasting covenant with them: and I will place them, and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in the midst of them for evermore. My tabernacle also shall be with them: yea, I will be their God, and they shall be my people.**

He is bringing us to Mount Zion and Jerusalem.

**Zec 8:12, Joel 2:32 ...I will cause the remnant of this people to possess all these things.... in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call.**

God's remnant Church...Are you already there? Have you come unto the heavenly Jerusalem, to the church of the firstborn? The “remnant of her seed” (Revelation 12:17)

**Romans 11:1-5 I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew. Wot ye not what the scripture saith of Elias? how he maketh intercession to God against Israel, saying, Lord, they have killed thy prophets, and digged down thine altars; and I am left alone, and they seek my life. But what saith the answer of God unto him? I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to the image of Baal. Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace.**

And Grace is the only way by which to be “the remnant of His and Her seed”. The children of promise.

**Rev 14:1 And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads.**

## **Mount Zion – The New Covenant**

**Heb 12:22-24 But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.**

And only by accepting that new covenant, do we become children of the free woman. Israel the firstborn. She is a wonderful woman with many children.(Rev 12). The “boys and girls playing in the streets

thereof”(Zech 8:5) She is Jerusalem which is above, the mother of us all.(Gal 4:26) They have “One God and Father of all”(Eph 4:6) Will you come up to Jerusalem? (Zech 14:16-21). Will you let him use you as a living stone to build His holy house, His building, His temple, His sanctuary. I look forward to seeing you there.

-David Barron is a teacher of the Bible & Director at The Third Angel's Message. (<http://www.thethirdangelsmessage.com>)

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THE BIBLE TEACHES THAT WE HAVE "ONE GOD AND FATHER OF ALL" (EPH 4:6). IT TELLS OF OUR IDENTITY AS HIS SONS AND DAUGHTERS. BUT IT ALSO TALKS OF "JERUSALEM WHICH IS ABOVE...THE MOTHER OF US ALL." (GAL 4:26) WE ARE CALLED TO BE THE "REMNANT OF HER SEED"(REV 12:17) THIS WOMAN IS KNOWN IN SCRIPTURE AS "THE CHURCH". HER IDENTITY, AS WELL AS THE IDENTITY OF GOD, CHRIST, AND OURSELVES HAS BEEN SOMETHING THAT SATAN HAS TRIED TO KEEP US FROM RECOGNIZING SINCE THE TIME OF ADAM AND EVE. BY DOING THIS HE CAN KEEP US FROM RECOGNIZING THE POWER WE ARE GIVEN, AND OUR VALUE.

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