



## ***From the Inkwell***

*This issue of Latter Rain is based on light. Light is likened to revelation from God, and its brightness to our level of understanding.*

*We need “good light” to help us to put together things that happen in this world, and “Our Path to Light” is brightened if we seek to God for understanding. The ultimate goal is “The Victory over Evil and Sin - Death and the Grave” - “An Amazing Victory” as exemplified by Gideon and his army when the light (Power of God) shone within their pitchers typical of our bodies.*

*Debug challenges us to think about what light really is for John said, “God is light”.*

*Sermon 6 explains further the Christian Israelite beliefs of the different glories which we see exemplified in the the lights in the sky above us.*

*Remember God’s Presence is illustrated in Scripture as the light of glory, the light of truth and the light of holiness.*

*May God brighten your light as you read the articles in this magazine.*

*The Editor*

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*“...God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: but if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin”*

**1 John 1:5-7.**

# SERMON 6

*“There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory”*

1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:41.

These lights (the sun, moon and stars) were placed in the firmament (sky) so that the physical eye (outward eye) may give light to the physical body. But there is a spiritual message here alongside the physical. These lights were also placed as typical of the various gifts of the Immortal Spirit (Christ) which were to be given to

mankind at different periods until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in. When the fullness of the Gentiles comes in the fullness of the Spirit (Christ) should abide upon Israel who are dwelling in the Spirit, making it that the Spirit is doing His work in them thereby enabling their mortal bodies to put on immortality. All the lights

(of which the sun, moon and stars are set a figure) will

then be shining together

in the kingdom. The

night is set typical

of this mortal life

and the day set

typical of the

immortal life.

This delineates

between the way

of darkness and

the way of light.

“Ye are all

the children of the

light, and the

children of the day: we

are not of the night, nor

of darkness” 1<sup>st</sup>

Thessalonians 5.5. “And

God said, Let there be lights

in the firmament of the heaven

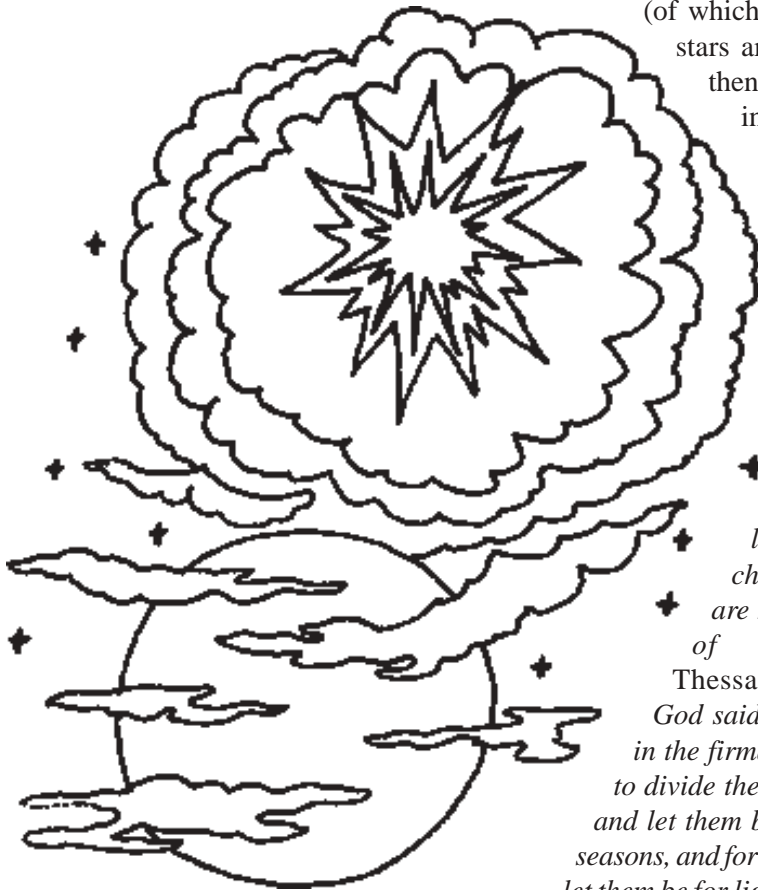
to divide the day from the night;

and let them be for signs, and for

seasons, and for days, and years: and

let them be for lights in the firmament

of the heaven to give light upon the



*earth: and it was so. And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also” Genesis 1:14-16.*

The people that walk in the light, which is compared to the sun, are those whose physical bodies will be preserved from death and also those martyrs who died for the testimony which they held of immortality.

This text can be divided into three parts:

1. the glory of the sun which is a sign of the glory of those whose mortal bodies will put on immortality
2. the glory of the moon which is a sign of those who seek for the salvation of their souls without the redemption of their physical bodies
3. the glory of the stars which is a sign of those who die unrepentant seeking neither the salvation of the soul or the immortality of the body.

### **The Glory of the Sun**

The glory of the sun is a sign of those whose mortal bodies will put on immortality. *“Thy sun shall no more go down...” Isaiah 60:20.* They will put forth their hand, *“...and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever” Genesis 3:22.* So when *“...this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is*

*written, Death is swallowed up in victory” 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:54.*

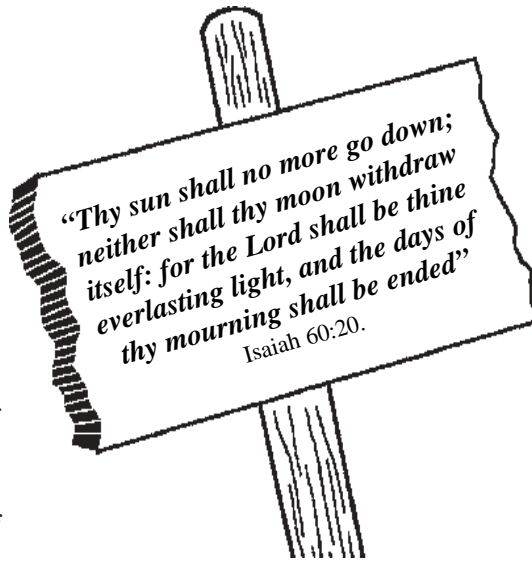
*“...and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled” Luke 21:24,* which is the law and the testimony given by God. We also find that temporal Jerusalem is figurative of spiritual Jerusalem.

*“But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings...” Malachi 4:2. “I have poured out my Spirit upon the house of Israel” Ezekiel 39:29.*

The Spirit (Christ) will afterwards live within them, the blood of their mortal bodies will be washed away (Ezekiel 16:9) and their flesh and bones will live according to the Spirit in the image of God. *“But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also*

*quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you” Romans 8:11.*

*“And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water...” Matthew 3:16. “And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him. And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost. And I saw, and bare record that*



*this is the Son of God*” John 1:32-34. The Son of God also referred to as “...*the firstborn among many brethren*” in Romans 8:29. The Spirit which descended from heaven and rested upon the body of Jesus (also called the woman’s seed) is that glory of which we are speaking of – the glory of the sun is set a figure of – as mentioned in the text.

The glory of the sun draws as a magnet. We find numerous examples in the Bible:

1. It rested on Enoch and he prophesied of things to come saying, “*Behold the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints*” Jude 14. The saints being martyrs.
2. It rested on Samson, “*And he took the door of the gate of the city, and the two posts, bar and all, and put them upon his shoulders, and carried them to the top of an hill*” Judges 16:3.
3. It rested on Elijah, and he prophesied, and then, “...*went up by a whirlwind into heaven*” 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 2:11.
4. It rested on Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego so that the king said, “*Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God*” Daniel 3:24,25. So these three men were in the Spirit of God, which Spirit appeared to the king with a body typical of the Messiah, that is Christ.
5. It rested on Daniel, and removed fear from him and shut the lions’ mouths (Daniel 6:22).
6. It rested on Moses and he prophesied of things to come and testified of Jesus.

Abraham met Melchizedek, the priest of the Most High God, and he blessed

Abraham and his seed (Genesis 14:18,19). Melchizedek was set as a type of Christ. At the fullness of times He will send Christ a second time and the spirit of Christ will abide on all that are of Israel, they dwelling in the Spirit, and testify of the “*King of Salem, which is King of peace*” Hebrews 7:2. Christ will do the same work in Israel as recorded in John 14:12, “*He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also*”. “*And I give unto them eternal life, and they shall never perish*” John 10:28.

And it will make them kings and priests as stated in Revelation 5:9,10, “*For thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood, and hast made us unto our God kings and priests; and we shall reign on the earth*”. The word ‘earth’ here denoting the body of man.

When the fullness of times is come, the Spirit, which is also known as the interpreter, is come, “*If there be a messenger with him, an interpreter, one among a thousand, to show unto man his uprightness: then he is gracious unto him, and saith, Deliver him from going down to the pit: I have found a ransom. His flesh shall be fresher than a child’s: he shall return to the days of his youth*” Job 33:23-25. This will fulfil that which was written by the prophets.

“*They go from strength to strength, every one of them in Zion appeareth before God*” Psalm 84:7. This passage is testifying to the power of the Spirit (the glory of the Sun) and is figurative of immortality. Christ said, “*I am the vine, ye are the branches*” John 15:5. “*It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin*” John 16:7,8 - He (the Comforter) will reprove the man of sin (2nd Thessalonians 2:3).

*“And they (the sons of men) remembered that God was their rock, and the high God their redeemer”* Psalm 73:35. This passages shows us that there are promises made by God to humankind, we are left a record of these promises in the Scriptures. Those believers abiding in the Spirit will remember all the promises God has made, *“...declaring the end from the beginning”* Isaiah 45:10.

*“Behold the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah”* Jeremiah 31:31. *“Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them saith the Lord”* Jeremiah 31:32.

This new covenant is the fullness of the Spirit, which is available without measure. This Spirit will rest on man, man dwelling in that Spirit, and be the girdle of his loins. The Law and Testimony will be written in the inward man – engraved upon his heart – which is as the glory of the sun. It was the branch of Christ that did the work in Jesus. This same spirit, Christ, will do the work in the house of Israel as He did in Jesus, *“Thou wilt ordain peace for us: for thou also hast wrought all our works in us”* Isaiah 26:12.

### **The Glory of the Moon**

Also referred to as ‘the light of the night’. This glory is a figure of those who seek for the salvation of their soul without the redemption of their bodies. This could be either the Jew who is under the law without the gospel, or the Gentile who is under the gospel without the law. Israel understands that the seed of the woman shall bruise the serpent’s head (Genesis

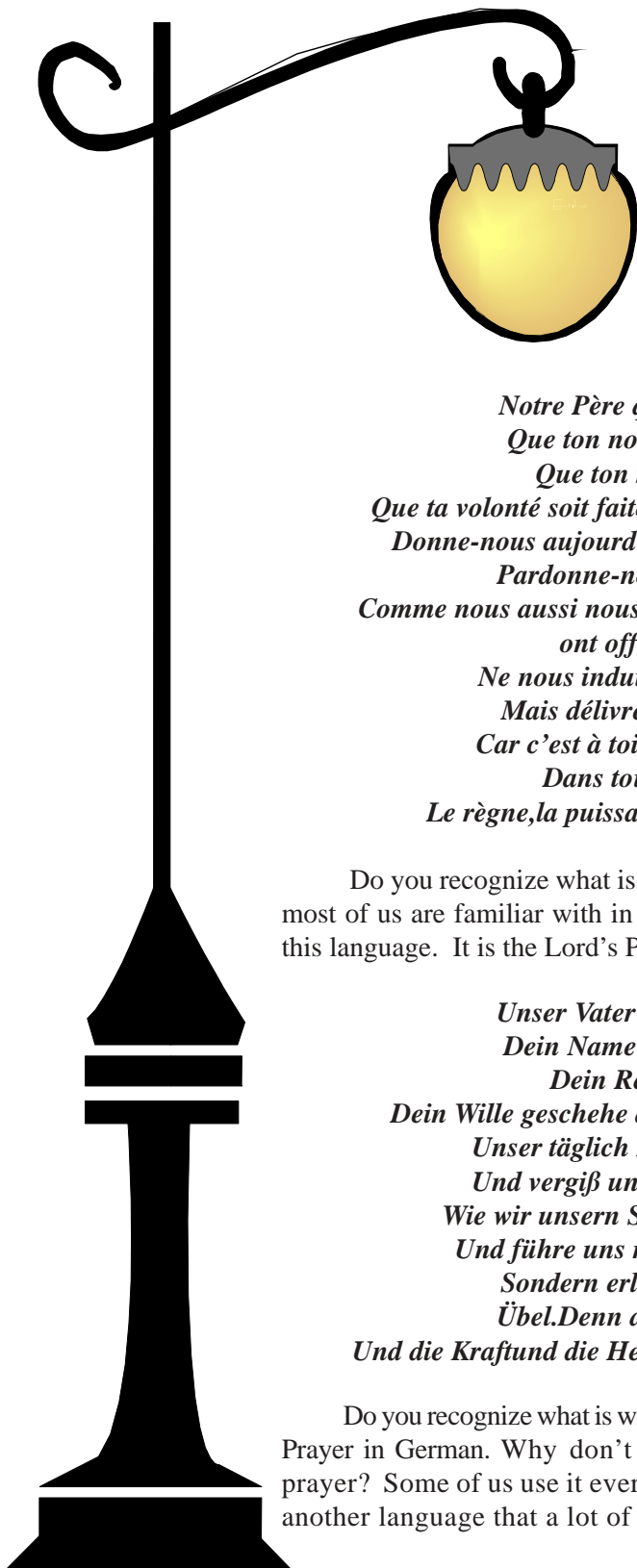
3:15), but this is not necessarily understood or accepted by Jew and Gentile. Israel believes that the power of Satan will be totally taken away from the woman by the Immortal Spirit returning to her so that the woman can become the tree of life to bring life to man, in opposition to the creation time when she at first brought death. There is a difference: those who die receive only the salvation of the soul (under the light of the night) but those whose bodies are redeemed from the fall have their souls preserved alive, dwelling in their bodies, possessing the light of the sun (Christ). Those under the light of the sun will not need the light of the moon. The light of the moon being only a borrowed light, the moon needs the sun to get its light.

### **The Glory of the Stars**

This glory is a figure of those who die unrepentant. During their mortal life they have sought neither the redemption of soul or body, thus making this group the greater debtor, *“There was a certain creditor which had two debtors: the one owed five hundred pence, and the other fifty. And when they had nothing to pay, he frankly forgave them both”* Luke 7:41,42. This group are often referred to as ‘wandering stars’, *“Raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever”* Jude 13.

At the first resurrection, this group will have their souls come forth to give an account of the deeds done in their mortal bodies, and they will be turned back into hell until the final resurrection.

Thus this shows that the greater glory is that of the sun, secondly of the moon and the lesser glory (which is also the lesser of the 3 lights) is the glory of the stars.📖



# Our Path to Light

*Notre Père qui es aux cieux!  
Que ton nom soit sanctifié;  
Que ton règne vienne;  
Que ta volonté soit faite sur la terre comme au ciel.  
Donne-nous aujourd'hui notre pain quotidien;  
Pardonne-nous nos offenses,  
Comme nous aussi nous pardonnons à ceux qui nous  
ont offensés;  
Ne nous induis pas en tentation,  
Mais délivre-nous du malin.  
Car c'est à toi qu'appartiennent,  
Dans tous les siècles,  
Le règne, la puissance et la gloire. Amen!*

Do you recognize what is written above? It is something most of us are familiar with in English, but not necessarily in this language. It is the Lord's Prayer in French.

*Unser Vater in dem Himmel!  
Dein Name werde geheiligt.  
Dein Reich komme.  
Dein Wille geschehe auf Erden wie in Himmel.  
Unser täglich Brot gib uns heute.  
Und vergiß uns unsere Schulden,  
Wie wir unsern Schuldigern vergeben.  
Und führe uns nicht in Versuchung,  
Sondern erlöse uns von dem  
Übel. Denn dein ist das Reich  
Und die Kraft und die Herrlichkeit in Ewigkeit. Amen.*

Do you recognize what is written above now? It is the Lord's Prayer in German. Why don't a lot of you recognize this prayer? Some of us use it everyday! Because it is written in another language that a lot of us don't know.



## **Have Light - But Cannot See**

The things of God can be like that with people who firstly do not know God, secondly have not had access to God's revelations, or thirdly have not sought God to give them understanding to believe what they are finding out. If we want to understand the things of God we need to study them and as we study, ask God to give us understanding. God knows what is happening in this world and He wants to share it with us, but we need to make ourselves available. Paul said in 1 Corinthians 1:18: "*For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God*". Sometimes we have to leave the 'wisdom' of this world behind us to be able to understand the things of another realm – the things of God.

## **Signposts in the Darkness.**

One of the ways God tries to give us an understanding of Himself is through the use of Parables. Parables draw on instances in every day life to show people how they should live. What is the most popular parable? I think one of the most well known may be 'The Good Samaritan' in Luke 10:30-37. This is the parable about the man who helped when he saw someone in distress. We all know the parable, a man was attacked by thieves who took his possessions and left him injured on the side of the road. The first man that came past was a priest. He went over, looked upon the man and kept going on his journey. The second man that came past was a Levite. He went over, looked upon the man and kept going on his journey. Finally a third man came past. He was a Samaritan, a citizen alien to the Jews, but when he saw the injured man he went to help him and then put him on his donkey and took him to where he could rest and get better. We can all relate to this sort of situation.

## **Further Light**

On the surface this parable is about showing compassion, and being willing to help others in need. However, through our Church teachings, John Wroe was shown that there is a quite different and deeper meaning. The first to go by the injured man was a priest. The priest was typical of Enoch. The second to go by the injured man was a Levite. The Levite was typical of Elijah. Enoch and Elijah were both taken up to heaven bodily to prove that mankind did not have to die physically. They were "*subject to like passions as we are*" James 5:17, and although they were faced with the decree that all men must die, they passed by on the other side of the grave – being redeemed from physical death. But their action was not able to do anything to improve the world or to help other people, and the rest of mankind continued to be subject to the power of death. Although God took them as examples that the covenant with physical death can be disannulled, they were not able to help others even though they may have wanted to.

The Samaritan was a type of Jesus, who went down into the grave, and gave His life on the cross so that mankind can have access through Him to God. Through Jesus shedding His blood for the forgiveness of sins and giving His life that we might not have to go through the grave, He has lifted mankind up from the wounds inflicted by Satan, the devil, as Satan causes us all to sin and become separated from God. Jesus carried the burden for each of us through His death as He has brought each of us back to 'the Inn', which is into the presence of God's Spirit.

## **Brighter Lights**

Take the verse in Isaiah 30:26, where it reads; "*Moreover the light of the moon shall be as the light of the sun, and the light*

*of the sun shall be sevenfold, as the light of seven days in the day that the Lord bindeth up the breach of His people, and healeth the stroke of their wound”*. This verse is a prophecy that will take place when Jesus returns and peace and order are restored to this world, the day the Lord healeth the stroke of their wound.

There are 3 levels of light described in this verse:

1. the moon, which gets its light from the Sun,
2. the Sun, which has a source of light within itself, and
3. then something greater still, the light to be sevenfold, as the light of seven days.

It is hard for us to imagine a light brighter than the sun, but the use of the symbol of sevenfold refers to perfection or completion – a perfect light brighter than anything we could imagine. We now know about the way in which concentrated light will burn up or destroy material in its path – such as the use of laser beams for cutting stones or metal, or medically, under strict control, for removing unwanted material from within the body – but the inference here is that only perfect material would be able to withstand the presence of this perfect light. Paul spoke about those who would be destroyed (or not able to stand) in the presence of the glory or light of Jesus when He returns (2nd Thessalonians 2:8). This will be those from whom the evil has not been removed, for if there is still evil within our physical body we would not be able to continue to physically exist in His presence.

In an analogy we can see that the Moon is like us in our present state. The Sun is like we would be if we were to have God’s Spirit dwelling upon us, referred to as the partial redemption. The light of seven days is when man has the knowledge

and life of God dwelling within, not only upon, our earthly physical body. And why? Because those people will have made themselves available to God, striving to do His will. The glory of any of these lights is wonderful, but what an aspiration to seek for the greatest light! God has promised that there will be a group, 144,000, who will aspire to and will achieve this great glory – a light of perfection.

### **Eyes To See**

Let us consider yet another parable from Mark 8:22-26. It is an account of a man who was born blind and Jesus anointed his eyes and they asked him if he could see. He said he saw men as trees walking. Jesus anointed his eyes again and he saw every man clearly. We could be inclined to think that it was a miracle that Jesus was doing that went wrong the first time! But no, we believe that there is a lesson here that God wants us to see and learn.

We are told that each one of us needs the help of the Spirit Christ and the Holy Ghost. These Two Immortal Spirits are needed, if we are to see clearly the ways of God. This is like two separate anointings. We do get understanding with one anointing, but we do not possess the Power of God to remain within us, and there are still things we do not understand; but after the second anointing we would be able to see all things clearly. Jesus said; “*I will pray the Father (Christ) and He shall give you another Comforter (the Holy Ghost) that He may abide with you forever*” John 14:16.

The light of the moon is like when we receive the reflected righteousness of Christ in us. The first anointing is like the light of the Sun. This is when we become obedient to God in our lives. And the second anointing is like the light of 7 days when God removes the evil from within us



and we see all things clearly.

We need both anointings if we are going to reach the fullness of God's promises. Jesus said, "*Abide in me, and I in you*" John 15:4. The first graft (or anointing) is when we dwell in God, and the second when God dwells within us – not just spiritually in our hearts and minds, but physically in our bodies as well.

### **Varying Brightness**

The Christian Israelite Church believes that there are a number of potential levels of brightness in our relationship with God. These are:

1. The Israelite (Jewish) Message of following the laws and commands of God and believing in sacrifices which are a type of Jesus, for soul salvation after death;
2. The Christian Message of soul salvation in the resurrection through acceptance of the sacrifice of Jesus, and
3. The Christian Israelite approach of combining belief in the sacrifice of Jesus with seeking to be obedient to God's laws and commands, to bring us to a fuller understanding of Biblical teachings, leading to the hope of physical life without death as exemplified by Enoch and Elijah.

One of the keys to our gaining a brighter relationship with God is concerned with our forgiveness of other people. Joseph, one of the greatest Bible examples, continued to let his light shine bright, even when humanly speaking, the light seemed to have gone out! He forgave his brothers for what they had done to him, saying that it was all part of God's plan. Consider the quote from John Wroe's Journal dated 27<sup>th</sup> May, 1849, "If ye forgive not one another where is your light? For where light is there is no malice?" God wants forgiveness from

us towards others which has no strings attached and is complete. Did Jesus ever show malice? This forgiveness of others comes from true repentance coupled with a desire to turn from doing wrong ourselves, and to fully follow the commands of God in our lives. This can only be achieved if we have the double anointing of God's Spirit as outlined above. "*For if ye forgive not one another, neither will your Heavenly Father forgive you*".

The Bible likens the relationship between God and His special People to that of a BRIDE (the Church) to a BRIDEGROOM (Jesus Christ). So we need to show our desire our strong desire to live as God wants us to live, by committing ourselves to Him so that He in return can help us to know and do His Will fully.

Let us summarise the points we have been making.

Firstly, we need to speak the same language if we are going to communicate with each other. We can get by with expressions, hand gestures, pointing, monosyllables, but we do not build a strong lasting relationship if we cannot communicate more effectively.

Secondly, in an endeavor to communicate with us and help us to understand, parables have been used, that is earthly stories with heavenly meanings. The parables we considered have been The Good Samaritan, the lights in the firmament and the double anointing. These three parables challenge us to think about a larger sphere of existence and focus on what needs to be done to bridge the gap between us and God.

Thirdly, conquering the evil is tied up with attitude – not the bold brazen attitude of temporal supremacy, but the submissive depth and control of inward character. We **Continued on page 24**

# You Need “Good” Light to Do A Jigsaw

Recently I was thinking about Christianity or more precisely, how one comes to a knowledge of Christ and the journey that is involved. It is a very individual journey, but unfortunately one which is not enjoyed to its fullest because of external influences.

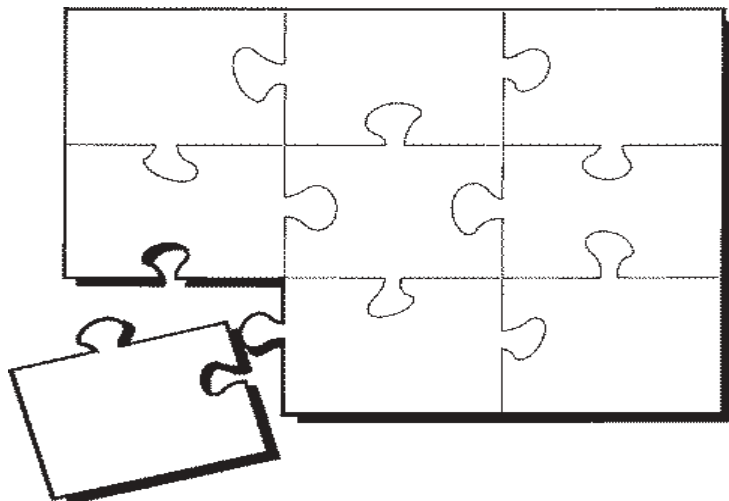
In this article I would like to look at this journey each believer makes in developing a relationship with their Creator and would like to draw the analogy of this journey being similar to how one attacks a jigsaw puzzle.

What do jigsaw puzzles have to do with light? Well you can't do one in the dark, can you? And the same with our Christian journey – it cannot be done in the dark. You need light to even start. Thus your Christian journey could be said to be like a jigsaw puzzle because people approach jigsaws in different ways, some like to put in the borders, or the pieces with straight lines and corners because they like to know the limits, others prefer to start in the centre, with the sky or on a particular side. Which ever it is everyone starts their jigsaw puzzle with a different piece – no two people would start with the same piece. The same with your Christian journey – no two believers start this journey with the same piece

and no two believers assemble their puzzle (their faith) in the same manner. We are all given a box with the pieces of the jigsaw in it (the heart with light given from Christ) when we come to a knowledge of Christ but it is what we do with the pieces (and they are without number) in this box that makes the difference between a Christ-focused journey or a self-focused journey. We have to stop the tendency to follow other people's lives closer than our own. Does it matter if someone doesn't understand things exactly as you do – they are not meant to!

Similarly with your Christian journey. Each person has a special and a unique puzzle given to them from God. Other Christians have to stop the tendency to fill in other people's puzzles for them. Other people's spiritual journeys are none of your business, so concentrate on your own puzzle and your own journey.

When you are doing a jigsaw puzzle, what are the biggest hassles you have?



1. Other people putting in the pieces.
2. Other people wrecking the pieces you have already placed in.
3. Other people packing the pieces away because it was in the way, or they thought you had finished with it.
4. Pieces being missing.
5. Trying to jam a piece in that doesn't fit or doesn't belong with this puzzle.

God communicates with each believer individually – not as a group – and He communicates through their hearts and through personal revelation through Bible study and prayer. He isn't going to communicate to everybody the same way and He knows what He has in His plan for you – nobody else knows. It would be just like God giving everyone who comes to a knowledge of Him a jigsaw puzzle in a box and tells them to enjoy, and go and put the puzzle together, with no picture, using as their only guide to completing the puzzle prayer, communion, Bible study, fellowship, etc to finish it.

If you prayerfully pursue an obedient life to God then nobody else needs to interfere in this journey – concentrate on your own journeys and you may achieve far more than you ever thought possible, as well as enjoying the journey more than you ever thought you would. **If you give God a humble and a contrite heart to work with, then the potter will mould your malleable heart for His purpose.**

More damage has been done by people commenting and watching other people's Christian journeys, without focusing at all on their own. And no it is not a modern day thing, but has been around in perpetuity, just look at the parable of the mote in the brother's eye: *"Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. And why*

*beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye"* **Matthew 7:1-5.**

Sounds ridiculous doesn't it – one brother with a speck of dust in his eye wants it removed, but the brother that tries to remove it doesn't have a little speck of dust in his eye, he has a log. How many of us are guilty of having logs in our own eyes, whilst condemning the speck of dust in other people's eyes. If we remove the log from our own eyes, and realize that the justice we mete out will be meted out against us, then I think we would all learn to do our own jigsaw and leave others to do their own as well and glory in the different puzzles put together, rather than criticise because they are not all the same puzzle.

Nobody has the right to tell anyone else that they are wrong in their opinion or belief. If they have prayerfully pursued a humble relationship with their Creator, then God will be communicating with them through their hearts guiding them in His ways. All believers are where God wants them to be at this time. The Book of Proverbs is full of advice towards a peaceful life and the importance of minding your own business: *"He that passeth by, and meddleth with strife belonging not to him, is like one that taketh a dog by the ears"* or in a modern version, *"Like one who seizes a dog by the ears is a passerby who meddles in a quarrel not his own"* **Proverbs 26:17.** *"For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil"* **Ecclesiastes 12:14.**

God does have his finger on the pulse so no one has to bother about watching anybody else to make sure they are 'doing it right'. It clearly states here that God will judge **every** work and the motive behind it – which we can't see. **How much fairer to be judged heartfully from the inside, rather than spitefully from the outside.** "*Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment*" John 7:24.

The warnings on judgment are many and clear: "*Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things*" Romans 2:1.

### **The Most Dangerous Wrong Pieces for any Christian's Jigsaw**

There are many ways believers become discouraged on their Christian journey, but the more tragic are the man-made obstacles placed in front of them by fellow believers. These obstacles are negative and dangerous. Frank Martin in his book "War in the Pews" cites the following as being the most damaging to congregations and individuals (their pertinence to every congregation cannot be ignored):

**Legalism** "*the manufacturing and manipulation of rules for the purpose of illegitimate control...legalism clings to law at the expense of grace, to the letter in place of the spirit*"(1). Legalism kills enthusiasm, cripples projects and hurts people. It is when we spend more time listing things we 'can't' do rather than the things we 'can'. Paul attacked the Galatians in chapter 3 of that book about this very issue. **Legalism makes us carry burdens that are unnecessary and heavy.**

**Pettiness is the arch enemy of unity.** Pettiness is a serious disease in most churches which results in terminal cases

of discord, disruption and destruction.

Frank Martin in his book "War in the Pews" gives a few clear and pertinent examples of the type of pettiness which cripples congregations and enthusiasm, he tells us that "Petty people are dangerous people because they appear to be only a nuisance instead of what they really are – a health hazard! Some of examples of pettiness:

"Pettiness is sitting with your arms crossed and your jaws tightened in protest when you don't like the song or the pitch at which they're sung.

Pettiness is firing off a heated letter to church leaders when a teenager's haircut doesn't meet with your approval or a young father shows up at church in tennis shorts because he didn't have time to change."

Pettiness is majoring in the minors and God's people should be above it."(1)

**Gossip** – "**nothing good ever comes of gossip and many a church conflict has been caused by this sin of the tongue**"(1). Just read the Epistle of James to learn the evils of the tongue and the damage that it does.

**When Tradition Becomes Doctrine** – "Traditions are an important part of the Christian faith, but when we lose sight of the point behind the tradition, when these traditions become a part of doctrine and just as sacred, we've burdened the Gospel and this creates a breeding ground for conflict in the church."(1)

**Miscommunication** - One person says one thing and the other person hears something completely different. Common problem but happens often. Be clear in your communications, the Bible even covers this contingency with the quote from James 5:12 which is repeated in Matthew 5:37, "*But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by*

*the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation*". Be clear in your communications.

**Power Politics** – everyone has different ideas on what is and isn't important. Everyone has the right to disagree but you can disagree gracefully rather than confrontationally. Power politics rears its ugly head in all churches. To some power means control over the physical functions of the church: the sanctuary, etc., to others it means controlling how the money is spent. Jesus Christ was the perfect example of how to deal with Power, but He also had Authority. **If we could emulate the servanthood and humility of Jesus Christ then we would learn to disagree gracefully rather than disgracefully and accept that all power comes from above – treat it humbly.** Anything to do with our Church life we should have the discipline to leave our egos at the door, pray for the Lord to guide you to do His will, not our own, and realize that you are not the focus, God is. *"The fruit of righteousness will be peace; the effect of righteousness will be quietness and confidence forever"* Isaiah 32:17.

While Satan is within your midst causing the above disruptions (bad jigsaw pieces) to happen within your church, nothing gets done, the focus is wrong – it is downward or level but definitely not upward where it should be. People within the organization wonder why the organization isn't growing, but with all the internal feuding going on, why should it grow? It is not a healthy environment for Christ-like attitudes to develop and this is what Satan wants. Satan does not want us

focusing on Christ-like things, but rather involved with the pettinesses of the world – we as Christians have to learn to see it for what it is and rise above it. We need to throw away the bad pieces of the jigsaw.

James was succinct when he wrote, *"Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up. Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge. There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou that judgest another?"* James 4:10-12. For Israel this should be ultra pertinent. We believe the Law was given by God for Israel to follow to preserve them in these latter days. But any member of Israel that judges another member of Israel is actually judging the law and thereby judging God. This Israel should never do. We have to accept that God is Omniscient and Omnipresent – He does know what is going on and He does have a plan that He doesn't have to inform us about and He does things in His time not ours.

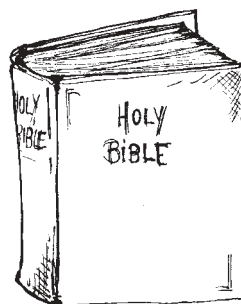
As you can see these are pieces of the jigsaw that don't belong in our Christian puzzles. They are far too damaging. We need to pray for God to guide us in His way and give us good light, and with the help of Jesus Christ (the good light) and the Comforter (another good light) come to a closer relationship with our Creator and make a beautiful jigsaw, unlike anyone else's, unique - and totally enjoy the experience and satisfaction of putting that jigsaw together. 📖

1. **"War in the Pews: A Foxhole Guide to Surviving Church Conflict"**, Frank Martin, Intervarsity Press, 1995.



# Debug Your Bible:

## *“The Light of God”*



The theme for Whitsuntide 2005 at The Christian Israelite Church in Singleton, Australia was based on the verse *“Christ shall give thee light”* Ephesians 5:14. But what is light? Like lots of things in this world – light is something all around us, something we use almost all the time, we can’t live without it, but yet we don’t really know what it is!

### **Light In The Bible**

John gave us that well known phrase *“God is love”*, but in the same Epistle he also tells us that *“God is light”* (1 John 1:5). John 1:4 says: *“In him was life; and the life was the light of men”*.

In the Bible illustrations about light are used to describe aspects of God’s Presence or Nature.

1. Physically, God is the light of shining glory,
2. Intellectually He is the light of truth, and
3. Morally He is the light of holiness.

He is also spoken of as the light of life – which light can bring us to physical perfection.

### **Manifestations of God as Light**

The following are some examples of God appearing as light in the Scriptures.

**Israel in the Wilderness** - God led Israel through the desert by a light – a pillar of fire. The Israelites actually believed the Light to be the Presence of God - Exodus 13:21.

**Moses sees God** – God appeared to Moses as a great light and even though he had his back to God and was hidden in a rock, the physical effect of God’s

brightness was such that Moses’ face shone afterwards - Exodus 33:18 and 34.

**Jesus in the transfiguration** – when Jesus showed Himself glorified *“...his raiment was white as the light...”* - Matthew 17:2

**Saul’s conversion** – Saul saw God’s Presence in a vision in the form of a light shining from heaven - Acts 9:3

God appeared in these examples as actual Light. Was He actually the light, or is the light a manifestation of His Presence?

### **The Glory of God**

In the Bible there are many references to God’s glory as light.

*“And the city had no need of the sun, neither the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof”* Revelation 21:23.

Isaiah 6:3 says *“The whole earth is full of his glory”*.

Numbers 14:21 says that *“..all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord”*.

### **LIGHT From a Scientific Background**

Is there, then, any scientific support for the concept that *“God is light”*? An examination of the nature of light from a



scientific perspective reinforces the Biblical teachings and shows further the hand of God in creation.

“God’s first recorded words were ‘*Let there be light*’ (Genesis 1:3). He is the ‘*Father of lights*’ James 1:17) but He did not create light, for ‘*God is light*’ (1 John 1:5) and is ‘*dwelling in the light*’ (1 Timothy 6:16). In fact, He had to ‘*create darkness*’ but only had to ‘*form the light*’ (Isaiah 45:7). Scientifically speaking, as far as the physical creation is concerned, all matter is essentially energy in motion, and light is the most basic form of energy.” (Note on James 1:17, *The Defender’s Study Bible*, World Publishing 1995.)

The author of a web page that can be found on the Internet(1) is an astrophysicist Bernard Haisch and he wrote at the beginning of his entry:

“*God said, Let there be light, and there was light*’. It is certainly a beautiful poetic statement. But

does it contain any science? A few years ago I would have dismissed that possibility. As an astrophysicist, I knew all too well the blatant contradictions between the sequence of events in Genesis and the physics of the Universe. Even after substituting eons for days, the order of events was obviously wrong. It made no sense to have light come first, and then to claim that the Sun, the moon and the stars — the obvious sources of light in the night sky of the ancient world — were created only subsequently, be it days or eons later. One could, of course, generalize light to mean simply energy, and thus claim a reference to the Big Bang, but that would, to me, be more of a stretch than a revelation.”

But then he goes on to say how recent research has been used to derive Newton’s well known formula  $F=ma$  (Force equals mass times acceleration) from more general considerations. “Science has managed to figure out that the universe is bathed in light, not the light from the big bang but other light that forms a uniform background to the universe, light we cannot directly see because it is so uniform.” According to Haish’s work and the work of others this light is what gives rise to the resistance you feel when you try and move something. Thus at the end of Haich’s article he says:

“As encouraged as I am it is still too early to say whether history will prove us right or wrong. But if we are right, then ‘*Let there be light*’ is indeed a very profound statement, as one might expect of its purported author. The solid, stable world of matter appears to be sustained at every instant by an underlying sea of quantum light.”

Remember Newton’s  
formula

$$F = ma$$

Force = mass x  
acceleration

### The Nature of Light

Science has yielded some very unusual discoveries about light(2). The energy of light is infinite. Light was pervasive at the beginning of the universe. All matter is light (electromagnetic radiation). Time stops at the speed of light(3) This means that if you could travel at the speed of light, you could travel anywhere in the universe and live forever (never age)(4). The speed of light is constant for all observers regardless of their relative speed or direction. Light particles can communicate with each other(5). Human observation transforms light waves

into light particles to experience reality. Humanity's scientific discovery of the nature of light is the cornerstone of modern physics and natural law.

Einstein's Theory of Relativity, discovered just on one hundred years ago (1905 AD), explains that mass (physical existence) and energy (power) are really the same thing, and now we are finding that thought processes are of a similar nature to radiation of energy. This is an important statement. It tells us a lot about the relationship between that which we perceive as solid hard objects today on a macro scale as compared to radiation observed in the (early) universe, and our process of understanding it.

Einstein's equation shows, as stated above, that if we were travelling at the speed of light, time would always be zero. That is we would be everywhere at once all the time – we would be Omnipresent.

The equation also shows that if we do have any weight (rest mass), then at the speed of light we would have infinite weight or embrace the whole energy in the Universe – we would be Omnipotent.

And now there is indication that light waves are also associated with consciousness – thoughts or knowledge. Thus a relationship would exist between light as matter (energy and physical substance) and also consciousness. Having this nature would make consciousness or thought present every where or all knowing – that is Omniscient.

An extract from another Web Site

says: "It appears that quantum theory is allowing new paradigms to take flight such as the theory that the basic building block of the universe is not matter but consciousness itself(6). This transcendent view of consciousness is found in ancient religious texts. It is also found in recent scientific studies on prayer which show that hospital patients benefit from the prayers of strangers even when they aren't aware that someone is praying for them(7). These studies have been interpreted by researchers to be an indication that consciousness behaves much like a

magnetic field which can be affected by other magnetic fields." It should be noted that magnetic fields are a component of electro-magnetic radiation which is the method of propagation of light.

#### Where Does This

#### Lead Us.

We are all familiar with the Triune Nature of God – Father, Son and Holy Ghost; One God, manifested in three persons. When we look at the nature of light, we find again three attributes:

**Omnipresence** – everywhere at the same time: time does not exist at the speed of light;

**Omnipotence** – all powerful: light and energy are inter-related, and all energy or power can be expressed in the form of light; and

**Omniscience** – knowing all things: knowledge or consciousness now being thought to have a nature which behaves like light.

Putting all this together we see a

**God is:**  
*Omnipresent*  
*Omnipotent*  
*Omniscient*

scenario in which God, as LIGHT could be:

Christ, the Light (John 1:7) - Omnipresent - time does not exist at the speed of light;


The Holy Ghost, who was to bring Power from above (Acts 1:8) - Omnipotent – light is energy; and God the Father - all knowing, the Word (Genesis 1:1) – Omniscient – being the light of consciousness that shines in every mind.

Thus the three aspects of The Trinity can be seen to be paralleled in the three aspects or manifestation of Light, supporting the statement that God is light. (1st John 1:5)

### Conclusion

In the Bible there are references to The City, or temple, in which God's Light will shine. The City can be thought of as our bodies in which we seek for God's Light or Glory to abide. If

God's Light were to abide physically within our mortal bodies, not limited to only the spiritual realm of being within our minds, then we would become physically immortal—for then we would manifest the Glory of God in our entire being – our whole spirit and soul and body as an entity being a temple in which God would dwell. As perfect Light we would be omnipotent, omniscient and omnipresent. We would appear not only as the light of the sun, but as Isaiah said in 30:26, “..the light of the sun shall be sevenfold (a symbol of perfection), as the light of seven days in the day that the Lord bindeth up the breach of His people, and healeth the stroke of their wound”.

So, “...when he shall appear, we shall be like him” (1st John 3:2). Those who become immortal could well appear as a ball of light in the firmament (Revelation 1:16) manifesting God's Presence, Power and Knowledge as the Light of Life. 

### References:

1. [http://twm.co.nz/zpf\\_haisch.htm](http://twm.co.nz/zpf_haisch.htm)
2. <http://www.amnh.org/exhibitions/einstein/energy/index.php>
3. <http://unmuseum.mus.pa.us/speed.htm>
4. <http://www.amnh.org/exhibitions/einstein/time/travel.php>
5. <http://www.earthportals.com/hologram.html>
6. <http://members.aol.com/Mszlajak/BOHM.html>
7. <http://dukemednews.duke.edu/news/article.php?id=5056>

## The Darkness

“Nahmanides explained that from Genesis 1:4, and thereafter in the biblical text, the terms ‘light’ and ‘darkness’ refer to the phenomena as perceived by mankind. That is, light is light and darkness is the absence of light. The darkness of verse 2 was not merely an absence of light. In these verses, it includes the meaning of the elemental source of energy. This very darkness, the sages say, contained the source of energy that was to power the forces that led to life. Furthermore, Isaiah 45:7 tells us that *hoshek* (hebrew for ‘dark’) is not merely the absence of light. It is a created, possibly **the** created, substance of the universe.; “*I (God) form the light, and create darkness (hoshek)*”. According to this verse, it is darkness, not light, that was created. The darkness was a black fire; a type of energy that emitted no light, just as the surface of the universe was black as long as photons and free electrons were mixed in a confused turmoil of energetic collision.”

**Genesis and the Big Bang**, Gerald, L. Schroeder, Ph.D. 1990, New Sciences.

# Eat Well! Play Well!

Adam was always eating sweets. Not just now and then - he was always eating them. Lollies and chips, cream cakes and chocolates - they seemed to be all he could think of. His mother and father tried to encourage him to eat more healthy food like fruit and vegetables and they told him that these good foods would help him to feel good and to grow up strong and healthy, but he just didn't listen. Instead he would hide his sweets and eat them when his parents weren't around. He never felt much like going out to play as he always seemed to be too full and too tired.

One day Adam went with his mother and father to visit a friend who was sick in the hospital. Mother worked at the hospital and when they had finished visiting their friend, mother asked Adam if he would like to visit some children his own age who were in the hospital. They went in to a big room where there were lots of

children who were very ill. Some of these children were not going to get better, mother explained to Adam. Adam felt very sad and yet the children seemed happy.

They were happy with what they had and wanted to make the most of their lives. Adam came away feeling a bit upset.

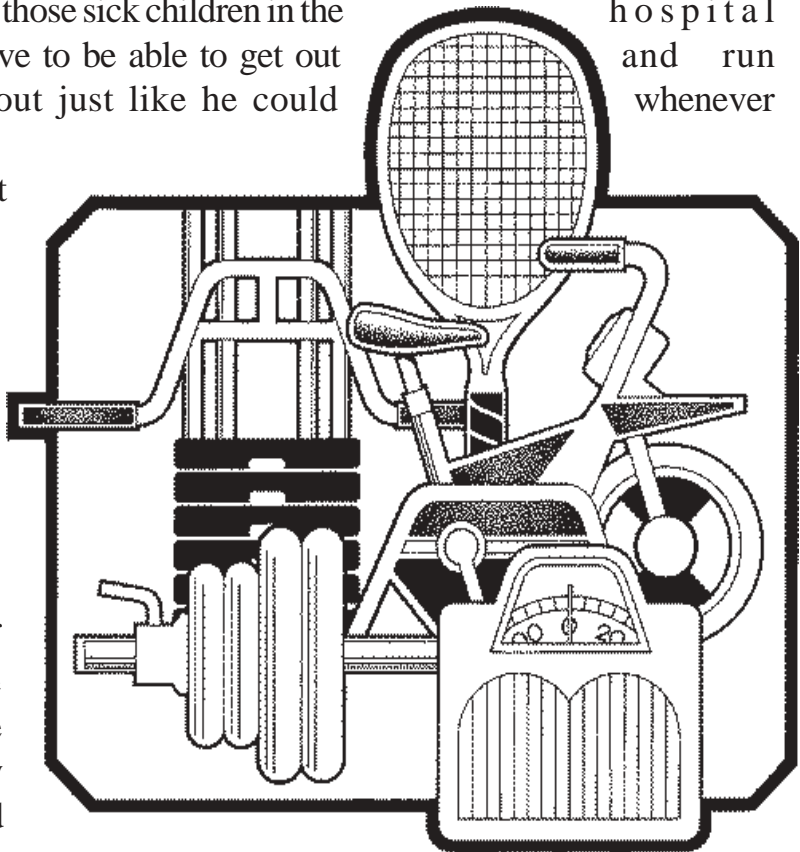


# Live Well! Be Well!

“Mummy, those children have so little to be thankful for and I have so much, yet they seem to enjoy life more than I do,” said Adam. “Yes Adam,” said Mummy, “you do have a lot to be thankful for. Your healthy body is a precious gift from God and you should be very thankful for it. You should feed it good food like fruit and vegetables and other good foods and not too many sweets and things that don’t build your body. You should also exercise your body to keep it healthy. Those little children would give anything to have a healthy body like yours, yet you don’t seem to appreciate it.”

That night Adam felt a bit uncomfortable whilst he slept, thinking about cream puffs and not exercising, and he kept thinking about those sick children in the hospital and run and jump about just like he could whenever he liked.

The next morning when Adam woke up he decided he would make some changes. So he got up and threw out his store of sweets. He knew he would enjoy them now and



then on special occasions with Mummy and Daddy, but it was no good eating them all the time. He also decided that he would eat more fruit and vegetables and other good things that would make his body grow.

“What will I do next,” he thought. “I know, I’ll go for a walk outside.” It was a lovely day when he went outside. Adam met his friend, Billy, who was climbing a tree. “That’s something I haven’t done for a while,” said Adam. Next thing he was climbing trees too. He felt a bit tired as he was a little out of condition, but, what a lot of fun he had. “What a lot of things I’ve been missing out on,” he thought.

Now there was just one problem left. The children in the

hospital. Adam kept thinking about them. What could he do for them? He talked to


Mummy and Daddy about it. “Just be their friends,” said Daddy, “just going to visit them would be what they would like most of all.” So he did and Billy came too. Some of his

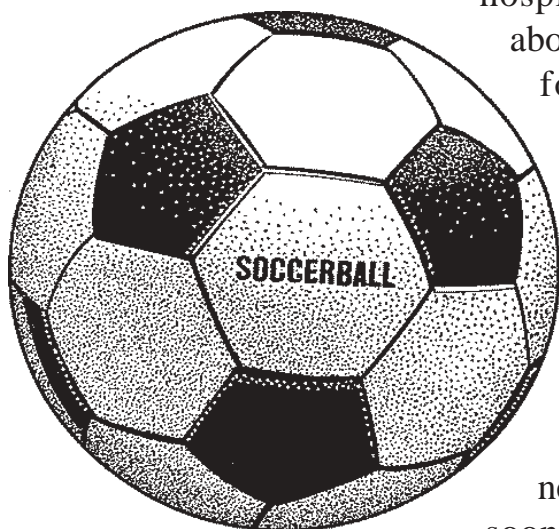
friends in the neighbourhood came too, and soon they were all mates. To

Adam’s surprise he found he didn’t

miss his sweets much at all. He liked them now and then but he found he was so much healthier and happier that he didn’t seem to need them or feel like them so much.

Yes, boys and girls, your bodies are a wonderful gift from God. Do you look after your body? If we can eat good food, exercise and sleep well, then we will be doing our best to look after the wonderful gift God has given to us.

*“But he answered and said, It is written, man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God”* Matthew 4:4. 





# The Brave Young Prince

Read 1 Samuel 14 to find out why Jonathan, Saul's son, is called a brave young prince.

The following words are taken from 1 Samuel 14. Fit them into the stack-a-word puzzle.

ARMOUR

DIE

DIPPED

EAT

ELI

ENEMIES

EPHOD

EYES

FAINT

FEARED

FELL

FOOD

GIBEAH

GOD

HONEY

ISRAEL

KISH

LOT

NER

OATH

ROCK

ROD

SAUL

SIN

SLAY

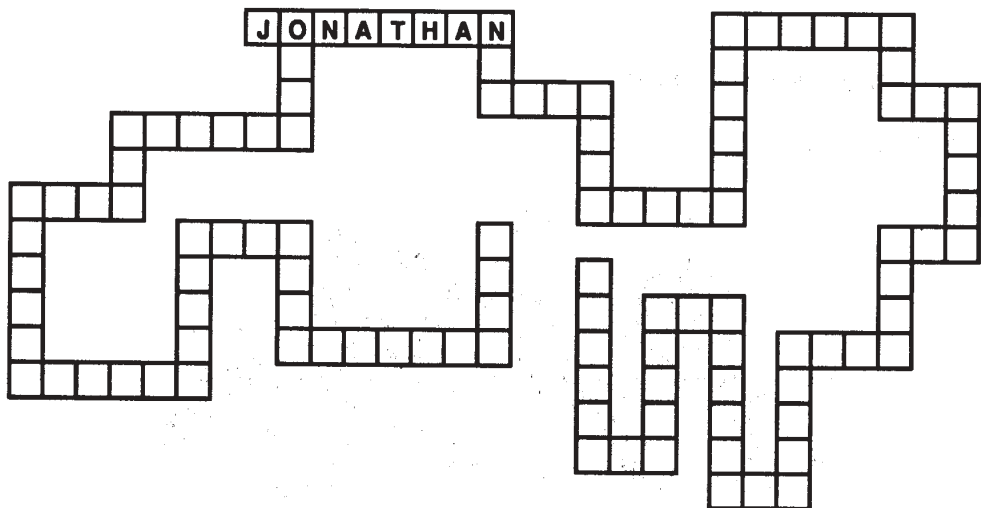
SWORD

TAKEN

TASTED

TWENTY

YOKE

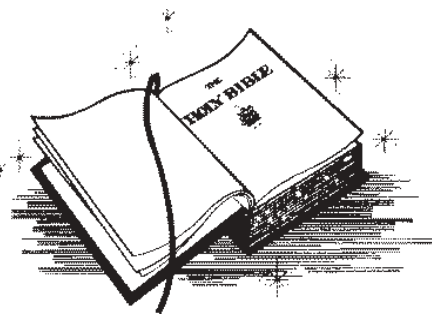


It may be that the LORD will work for us:  
for there is no restraint to the LORD  
to save us by many or by few.

1 Samuel 14:6b

# Expand Your Bible:

## An Amazing Victory



Among the stories of old – stories told of valiant men and women of faith and courage who had a close relationship with their God – there is one which has been quite outstanding. It shows the power and might of God and how complete obedience and faith are the keynotes to man achieving the seemingly impossible.

This story tells of how this man with a small army of 300 men conquered an army of thousands.

The Old Testament is made up of events showing how Israel were successful when they followed God's instructions but not so when they wandered away to other heathen beliefs.

At the time of this story, many of the Israelites had wandered to the worship of Baal and Ashterah. A confederacy of desert tribes carried out a trade in spices and incense from Mesopotamia to southern Arabia. These tribes, as they traveled, plundered the country through which they passed, raiding the villages, destroying and looting the crops, stealing their food and taking away their animals so that the people had nothing to live by. The Midianites were

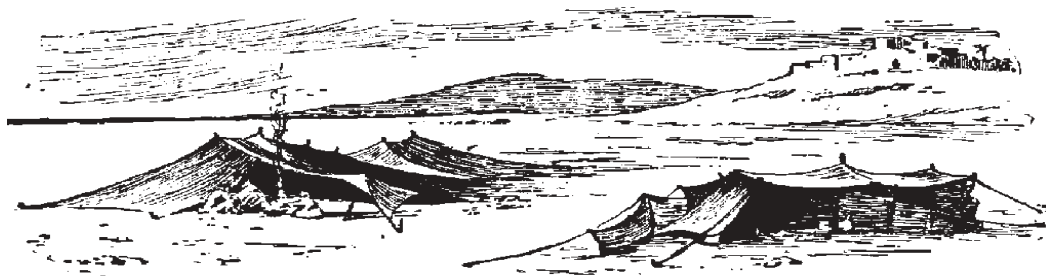
one of these tribes, and whenever there was anything to be taken, they were there, like locusts, ready to take it. To add to the terror of the Israelites, the main transport of the Midianites was the camel which to the Israelites was a large and terrifying beast.

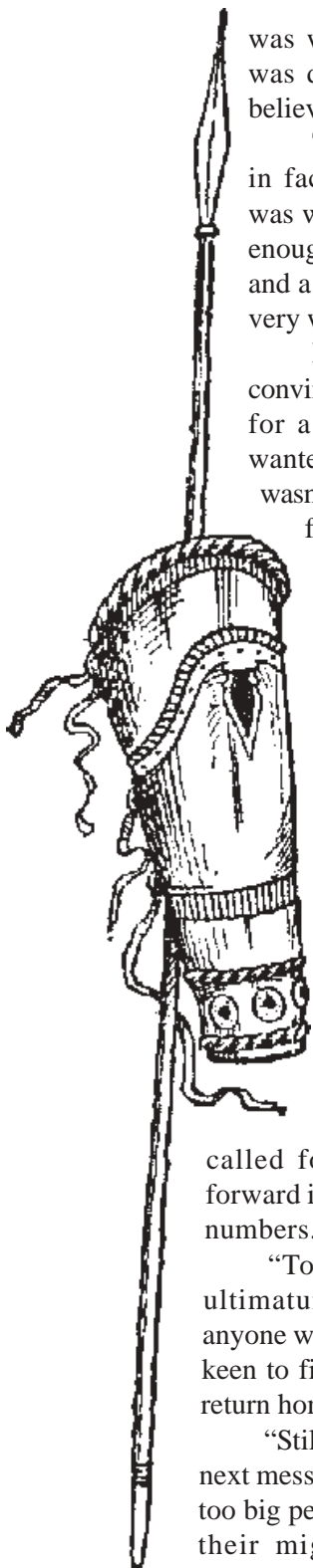
Occasionally the people managed to grow a small crop and harvest it evading the watchful eyes of the marauders, and thus we find Gideon threshing wheat in a hidden valley. In the guise of a traveler, an angel spoke to Gideon telling him that God had plans for him to be a deliverer of his people.

First of all Gideon was told to destroy the altar to Baal and cut down the sacred grove that his father had set up in dedication to Ashterah. What an uproar amongst the people! They traced the culprit to Gideon and demanded that his father hand him over to them to be punished. To their surprise the father replied, "If Baal is a god let him fend for himself".

Gideon was not readily convinced that the message was from God and asked several times that a sign be given to him to prove it.

First he asked that if he put a sheep fleece on the ground and in the morning it





was wet and all around was dry, then he would believe.

This happened and in fact when the fleece was wrung out there was enough water to fill one and a half basins – it was very wet!!

Not easily convinced, Gideon asked for a second sign. He wanted to make sure he wasn't letting himself in

for something he could not handle. This time he asked that the conditions were reversed and this time the fleece should remain dry while the ground was wet. This happened and Gideon decided that the message was from God and he asked instructions as to what he should do.

Volunteers to fight were called for and they came forward in (thousands) great numbers.

“Too many” was the ultimatum from God. So anyone who was afraid or not keen to fight was allowed to return home.

“Still too many” was the next message. “If the army is too big people will say it was their might that won the

victory and not God who fought the battle for them.”

Then came the final selection. The men in their thirst drank from a nearby stream. All those who “lapped with the tongue” –cupping water in the hand standing upright whilst drinking – were chosen. Only 300 men remained.

Obviously Gideon, although trusting in God, was still nervous but he obeyed the instructions given to him.

The plan was that each soldier would carry a pitcher or container within which was a light or lamp. Each soldier also was armed with a trumpet and a sword. At a specified signal the soldiers were to blow their trumpets and break the container revealing the light. At the same time they shouted out “the sword

### **Who were the Midianites?**

The Midianites were made up of 5 families. They were descendants of Abraham through Midian, son of Abraham and his concubine Keturah. Abraham sent Midian away with his other sons by concubines into the East (Genesis 25:1-6) thus they are living in the desert borders in Transjordan from Moab down past Edom.

They were desert dwellers associated with Ishmaelites and Medanites. The Midianites defeated by Gideon are said to have been Ishmaelites because of their use of gold ear or nose rings. Moses had a Midianite wife, Zipporah, father-in-law, Jethro and brother-in-law, Hobab. Hobab was the man asked by Moses to guide Israel in travelling through the wilderness (Numbers 10:29-32).

**The Illustrated Bible Dictionary, IVP**

of the Lord and of Gideon”.

In the darkness of the night, pandemonium broke out in the Midianite camp, each thinking his neighbour was his enemy and that they were being attacked by a huge army. Those who survived the attack fled and were pursued.

Can you visualize this story?

The Midianites in their tents – not sure of what was happening but with an uneasy air pervading the encampment. Suddenly, in the middle of the night – a blast of trumpets, a sudden appearance of lights from nowhere – a huge shout!! Confusion and pandemonium reigned.

What a victory God won for the Israelites. The enemy were pursued and those who didn't invade the camp helped to capture and overcome those who fled.

There is a hymn in the Christian Israelite Hymn Book which tells this story, likening our bodies to the pitcher which is filled with light. When the outside cover is removed the light shines out helping in

the victory over evil.

To quote Hymn 35:


*Behold Jehovah's ensign flies,  
The bearer doth invite  
Your mortal bodies to become  
As pitchers filled with light.*

*None need to fear the serpent's spear,  
Who wish with all the heart,  
Jehovah's kingdom to come here,  
And evil hence depart.*

*Tho' Gideon's host was great and strong,  
It after came to few;  
But all who lapped with the tongue  
Did to the battle go.*

*So all who learn Jehovah's will,  
And do the same perform,  
Will gain the day o'er death and hell,  
By His Almighty arm.*

This is a great ambition that our mortal bodies may become as pitchers filled with light.

This story can be found in the book of Judges, chapters 6-8. 


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**Continued from page 9**

are promised that spiritual strength of character and positive actions will follow for those who ask for the help God has offered through the Two Immortal Spirits (Christ and The Comforter).

Fourthly, this message of perfection and the supporting understanding and revelation, is found in a combination of Gospel and Law or Christian and Israelite teachings. We believe that this message has been expounded by the Spirit through the call given to John Wroe when the Christian Israelite Church was established.

In conclusion, not everyone does or will understand things the same. We each have a different **path to light**. Some people, for example, who live in Germany or France may

not understand the Lord's Prayer in English, just as we may not understand it in their language. In the same way different people will understand God's Plan in different ways, depending on the theology which they accept as being correct. However, as Christian Israelites, we believe that after becoming Christians, as we seek to gain greater light from God, we need the further stages of anointing firstly from Christ (The Spirit of the Father) and then from The Comforter (the Mother Spirit). The double anointing will be required if we are going to achieve the fullness of the promises made by God to His special people in the Bible, who will become as bright as the light of seven perfect days. 

# Statement of Belief

**The Christian Israelite Church beliefs can be fully supported by the Scriptures. Here is an outline:**

## **We Believe**

- \* In God Almighty creator of all things (Genesis 1:1).
- \* In the existence of Satan, the Devil, in whom God allowed iniquity to be placed (James 2:19; Ezekiel 28:14,15).
- \* That God created a spirit-existence in which the devil manifested evil and caused some of the spirits to rebel against God (Isaiah 14:12-14; Jude 6).
- \* That God created our physical world, to which each person comes with a body and a soul made alive by a spirit from the spiritual creation (Luke 9:55; Genesis 2:7).
- \* That God gave His people instructions on the way they should live, which instructions were "*for their good always*" (Deuteronomy 6:24).
- \* That all have sinned and come "*short of the glory of God*" (Romans 3:23; 2 Corinthians 5:19).
- \* That God has reconciled the (whole) world to Himself through the sacrifice of Jesus (John 3:16,17).
- \* That through belief in the sacrifice of Jesus believers are counted as righteous before God, and can be assured of the resurrection of their souls (a Spiritual body) at Jesus' return (1 Timothy 4:10; 1 Corinthians 15:44).
- \* That there will be a small number who will fully prove their faith by a work of true obedience to God's instructions and will thereby receive the prize of the highest calling of God, the redemption of spirit and soul and body - this living mortal Body made Immortal without seeing death (1 Thessalonians 5:23; Revelation 14:1-5; Hebrews 11:39,40).
- \* That Jesus Christ will return to this earth again, subdue the power of Satan and reign forever and ever (Revelation chapters 19 and 20).
- \* That the return of Jesus Christ is near and we are living in the period described in Scripture as the latter days (Matthew chapter 24; Mark chapter 13 and Luke chapter 21).
- \* That there are promises in the Scriptures especially to Israel - God's chosen people (1 Peter 2:9).
- \* That although Israel of old did not accept the challenge of spiritually being God's peculiar people, a remnant of their descendants will come forward in the latter days to fulfill the obligations and receive the promises (Revelation 7:1-8).
- \* That the Mission of the Christian Israelite Church is to awaken the lost ten tribes of Israel to this special inheritance to be the physical Immortal "Bride of the Lamb" and to be the vehicle for the task of bringing them all together at God's appointed time (Matthew 10:5,6; Revelation chapter 19).

**We believe that God is the absolute Judge and Arbiter and that we as His servants have an obligation to respond to what He puts in each heart, and that whilst we seek to proclaim and discuss our beliefs, we have no right to contend with other people about them.**

# The Victory over Evil & Sin – Death & the Grave

Although God passed the sentence upon mankind that they would return to dust whilst the evil of which Adam and Eve partook remained in the physical body (Genesis 3:19), Isaiah was inspired to amend that statement and he declared that “...*your covenant with death shall be disannulled, and your agreement with hell (the grave) shall not stand*” Isaiah 28:18.

## What is death?

When death takes place there is a separation of the three parts of the individual. The Book of Revelation records **two** deaths and **two** resurrections, namely, “*the first*” and “*the second*”.

## Does Mankind Suffer Loss by Death?

Yes, the physical body is lost. When the **first** death comes, the spirit returns to God and the repentant living soul lies in the grave with the dust of the irretrievably lost body awaiting the **first resurrection** when the soul will be raised and its “...*agreement with hell shall not stand*” any longer. The soul of the unrepentant suffers the **second** death in that it is separated from its spirit again, and delayed from rising to a resurrected life for a further one thousand years (called the **second** or **final** resurrection).

It is so very noticeable that when a person is faced with the possibility of death he shrinks from it, and “...*all that a man hath will he give for his life*” Job 2:4. When Hezekiah was told he was going to die, he prayed for an extension of life and declared that those who go down into the pit (grave) cannot hope for the fullness of God’s

promises that are to come, but those who are living can, and they will praise God for His Power in preserving them from the wiles of Satan. “*The living, the living, he shall praise thee, as I do this day*” Isaiah 38:19.

David declared, “*I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living*” Psalm 27:13, and he looked to the fulfillment of Isaiah’s amendment, “*For thou hast delivered my soul from death: wilt not thou deliver my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the LIGHT OF THE LIVING?*” Psalm 56:13 (capitals added).

## What is the Cause of Death?

Death is the penalty for evil. Evil came into man when he disobeyed God’s commands (Genesis 2:17). The evil in man is what Satan attracts, and when an evil thought is put into action, that is a sin for which the soul is chargeable.

## Can Anyone Hope to Live without Passing through Death?

Yes! Isaiah declares it is not a false hope when he definitely states, “*Your covenant with death shall be disannulled*” Isaiah 28:18. Satan has been given the power of death by permission of God and he works it by attracting the evil within the blood that is in varying degrees in each individual, thus causing them to **sin against God**. If his attraction of the evil is removed, he is rendered powerless and ineffective, so the obvious course for those who believe it can be done, and who desire to have it done, is to seek to **God to remove**



**the evil.** He has promised to do this for those who sincerely seek unto Him through the superior Power of Jesus Christ's two-fold sacrifice and resurrection.

Jesus Christ declares, "*I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the KEYS OF HELL (to release all souls from the grave), AND OF DEATH (to redeem living physical bodies cleansed from the evil to be made like His glorious body)*" Revelation 1:18 (capitals added).

God's greatest delight is in man's OBEDIENCE to His WILL. Time and time again He pleaded by His prophets for men and women to turn from the ways of the nations amongst whom they dwelt, and to follow His ways which are so much higher in ideals and aspirations (Isaiah 55:6-9). Unless we seek for the removal of the evil, we are not looking for the virtue provided through the Promise of God that mankind **can** become His Temple, **His** dwelling place.

God will not be mocked. He will not dwell in a body where there are still wrong thoughts and actions or any taint of evil. If we are truly aspiring to have our evil removed, God's Holy Spirits will draw close to us and overshadow us, just as a mother hen covers her brood when trouble looms. When the thoughts and actions of individuals are acceptable to Him, God will then make the CHANGE spoken of by Paul in 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians chapter 15, and they will pass from mortal to immortal life. In

humility of spirit, soul and body, the individual must present him or herself to submit to whatever the Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus requires, that they may be free from evil and death (Romans 8:2). "*In those days, and in that time, saith the Lord, the iniquity of Israel shall be sought for, and there shall be none; and the sins of Judah, and they shall not be found: for I will pardon them whom I reserve*" Jeremiah 50:20.

*"The Lord hath taken away thy judgments (against thee), he hath cast out thine enemy: the king of Israel, even the Lord, is in the midst of thee: thou shalt not see evil any more"* Zephaniah 3:15.

*"Thus saith the Lord, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? And where is the place of my rest? For all these things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the Lord: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word"* Isaiah 66:1,2.

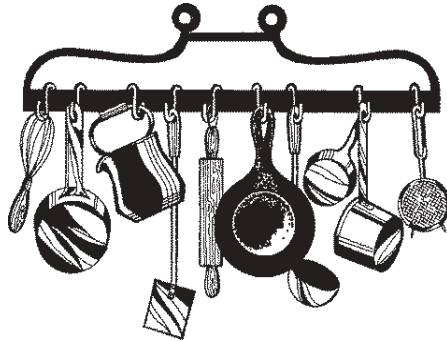
Therefore, "*...this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus...who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself*" Philippians 3:13,14,21.

## **The Sentence (Genesis 3:19), can be Rendered Ineffective (Isaiah 28:18).**

## Vegetarian Recipes

### Cheese & Vegetable Balls

**2 zucchini, grated**  
**1 parsnip, peeled & grated**  
**1 carrot, peeled & grated**  
**1 capsicum, seeds removed and diced**  
**½ cup grated Swiss cheese**  
**½ cup grated parmesan cheese**  
**1 tablespoon chopped parsley**  
**2 eggs, beaten lightly**  
**1 cup dry breadcrumbs or stuffing mix**  
**salt & pepper to taste**  
**butter or olive oil for frying**



Combine vegetables, cheeses, parsley, eggs, crumbs and seasoning.

Shape into small patties and fry for about 2 minutes on each side in oil.

Serves 4.

### Curried Spanakopita Triangles

**150g fresh spinach (cooked and drained) or frozen spinach, thawed & well drained**  
**60g crumbled Feta cheese**  
**60g chopped Mozzarella cheese**  
**4 chopped spring onions**  
**1-2 teaspoons curry powder (depending on taste)**  
**1 teaspoon dried mixed herbs**  
**salt & pepper to taste**  
**2 lightly beaten eggs**  
**4 sheets filo pastry**  
**½ cup low fat yoghurt**  
**poppy seeds as a garnish, if desired.**

Combine well the spinach, cheeses, spring onion, curry powder, herbs, seasonings and eggs. Brush the pastry with yoghurt and lay the sheets on top of each other. Cut pastry lengthwise into 4 long strips. Place ¼ cup of filling onto the corner of the strip of pastry and fold 3-4 times to form a triangle. Place on a buttered scone tray. Brush each pastry triangle with the remaining yoghurt and sprinkle with the poppy seeds. Bake at 220degC for 15-20 minutes or until golden brown. Serve hot or cold. Serves 4.