SERMON 7

"Moreoever 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" Isaiah 30:26.

This text may be divided into two parts: the first is, "The light of the moon shall be as the light of the sun". The light of the moon is as inferior to the light of the sun, as the light and knowledge of man is unto God. His Spirit has visited man in every age that is past, even to the present, speaking in parables of things that were to be done. "All these things spake Jesus unto the multitude in parables; and without a parable spake he not unto them" Matthew 13:34. And he said, "Therefore speak I to them in parables; because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, by hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive" Matthew 13:13,14.

"The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened" Matthew 13:33. Which is, hid among the six churches during the six thousand years, of which the churches in Asia were a figure – till the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled of which Jesus speaks (Luke 21:24). Then, at the end of the six thousand years, will God raise Israel up above the man of sin.

"The remnant of Jacob shall be in the midst of many people as dew from the Lord, as the showers upon the grass, that tarrieth not for man, nor waiteth for the sons of men. And the remnant of Jacob shall be among the Gentiles in the midst of many people, as a lion among the beasts of the forest, as a young lion among the flocks of sheep: who, if he go through, both treadeth down, and teareth to pieces, and none can deliver" Micah 5:7,8. Then he will no more speak unto Israel in parables: for he says "The time cometh when I shall no more speak unto you in proverbs, but I shall shew you plainly of the Father" John 16:25. They unto whom he was then

speaking being the fathers of the children of the kingdom. "The children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth" Romans 9:11. Jesus being the true Israelite in whom was no guile (John 1:47), his blood not having need of being cleansed, and the Israelites to whom pertaineth the adoption (Romans 9:4) being those whose blood will be cleansed like his, according to the promise of God, "I will cleanse their blood that I have not cleansed" Joel 3:21. For when the Lord, who gave his words to the prophets, explains it, the moon will appear as the light of the sun, compared with what it appeared before, according to the text.

And Paul testifies that the disciples had not the fullness of the Spirit: "We know in part, and we prophecy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. For now we see through a glass darkly; but then face to face; now I know in part: but then shall I know even as also I am known" 1st Corinthians 13:9.10.12.

That which is perfect, signifying the fullness of God's Spirit, when he shall send it for man to dwell in, that at the fullness of times man would no more look through a glass but see clearly, that the door of the visitation of his testimony would be thrown open, and they would dwell in his Spirit, until it had fulfilled the righteousness of the law in those whom the law justifies.

The way in which the blind man was healed by Jesus Christ stands as a figure of the light of the sun, which is to become sevenfold. For when he first received his sight his vision was imperfect, and he said I see men as trees walking; but after Jesus had put his hands on him the second time he was restored, and saw every man clearly – showing that when the Spirit came on the disciples, after the ascension of Jesus, it only gave them an imperfect view of the truth. But when that Spirit comes the second time, "The light of the sun shall be as the light of seven days": that is, all the different lights or revelations which God has given unto the sons of men during the seven thousand years will all shine in his kingdom.

"Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing: for they shall see eye to eye (the mortal and immortal

Spirits being the eyes), when the Lord shall bring again Zion" Isaiah 52:8. "And in that day shall the deaf hear the words of the book, and the eyes of the blind shall see out of obscurity, and out of darkness" Isaiah 29:18. "The Lord hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation (being the great salvation - Hebrews 2:3) of our God" Isaiah 52:10.

"The judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and destroy it unto the end (Satan's kingdom). And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him" Daniel 7:26,27. The saints being those who have been martyrs for the testimony which they held of the faith of the immortality of their mortal bodies; and the people of the saints, being the heirs of their forefathers' inheritance, being the fourth generation.

"And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ" Revelation 11:15. Being the bodies of men when redeemed. "Neither shall they say, Lo here! Or, lo there! For, behold, the kingdom of God is within you" Luke 17:12.

"And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him" Revelation 12:9. "And he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea" Isaiah 27:1. The sea being as the heart. "And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night" Revelation 12:10.

"And after that I looked, and, behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened" Revelation 15:5. They having entered into the Spirit, which is the other Comforter, which is Christ, that Jesus promised to send them, which is the partial redemption.

He will make their vile bodies like his own glorious body (Philippians 3:21), by his Spirit in which they dwell being put within them. "Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular" 1st Corinthians 12:27. So their natural mortal bodies will put on immortality without seeing corruption.

Then will the third part of the text be accomplished, "That the Lord bindeth up the breach of his people, and healeth the stroke of their wound".

Which day is it in which this will be done? It will bein the third day, which is the last dispensation of the six thousand years, and third watch of that day, there being six hundred and sixty six years, and eight months in each watch, showing that man is living in the third watch. "And if he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants" Luke 12:38.

Now the fullness of times being come, the door is thrown open for the ingathering of Israel, that they may enter into his Spirit. Afterwards, their spirits, which attracted their blood, to be their mortal life, will enter with the Spirit of God into their temples, and give them immortality, their blood being washed away (Ezekiel 16:9). "And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed" Genesis 32:29.

As it is written, "A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you; and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh" Ezekiel 36:26.

This is the way that the mortal life will be swallowed up of immortality. "Turn you at my reproof; behold I will pour out my Spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you" Proverbs 1:23.

And his Spirit will unite them together, and make them the true Israel of himself, bone to his bone; and as the bones in the vision came together with the flesh and sinews (Ezekiel 37), so will the bones of the whole house of Israel come together, and form one body.

"The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the Lord of Hosts" Haggai 2:9.

For the first house, which is the earthly body of man, of which blood is the life (through the attraction of the Spirit) is compared to the light of the moon, whose light has not been clear, and has been a vessel of dishonour; but the latter house is the new body, which is to be made out of the same lump as the old one, to become as the sun.

It is a natural body, that can be handled, the same as the former, but greater (having an immortal life), the former being only mortal. Do not the teachers of men say this means no such thing, but a spiritual house, which cannot be handled, and that all men must die?

Now, how can these things be like Jesus' words, when he said "Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side" John 20:27. "A spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have" Luke 24:39. And further Mary Magdalene, and the other Mary held him by the feet (Matthew 28:9).

And the Scriptures say, "We which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent htem which are asleep. Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord" 1st Thessalonians 4:15,17.

But what, may be asked, is the air? It is the spirit of life which is put within their temples, which brings their breath to be their wings, which fulfils the words, "There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body" 1st Corinthians 15:44; which meaneth a natural immortal body, with the Spirit of God, with their spirits, dwelling within their temples.

And when the bones of the house of Israel are gathered, and the Spirit has done the work in them, they, by abiding in it, as promised in the Scriptures, will be united bone to bone as joint-heirs with Christ. Though it is said in the Scriptures, "But of that day and hour knoweth no man" Matthew 14:36 (the man of sin).

"But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief" 1st Thessalonians 5:4.