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precious birthright—all for some momentary gratification.

We need to ponder two outstanding points:—

(1) We have the birthright as surely as Esau had it; Christ's sacrifice has bestowed upon all the "judicial ... verdict of acquittal" (Romans 5:15-18, New English Bible). For ignorant folly we are forgiven just like those who crucified Christ (Luke 23:34).

(2) If we indulge our natural born "enmity against God" (we all have it; Romans 8:7), we are still forgiven.

The entire burden of Peter's second epistle is to assure the Church that, however many may be saying, "where is the promise of Christ's coming," the day of the Lord shall come. Peter assures us that the glory then to be revealed is no cunningly devised fable, he having himself seen a prefigurative specimen of it in the Transfiguration. He exhorts us, seeing we look for such things, to be diligent, that we may be found of Christ in peace, without spot, and blameless. Peter confirms all that he has said by the testimony of Paul, who, he remarks, "in all his epistles, speaks of these things." James exhorts the Church to be patient unto the coming of the Lord; not to expect it previous to the latter rain; and yet to feel that it draweth nigh. Jude, in his prophetic epistle, warns us against the mockers of the last time, telling us that even Enoch, thousands of years before, prophesied of these, saying, "Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousand of His saints, to execute judgment upon all." John writes, "Beloved, it doth not yet appear what we shall be; but we know that when He shall appear, we shall be like Him for we shall see Him as He is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as He is pure." And again, "Little children, abide in Him; that when He shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before Him at His coming," adding, in the Revelation, "Behold He cometh with clouds: and every eye shall see Him, and they also which pierced Him."

Joshua V. Himes; *Signs of the Times*, Sept. 6, 1843

MAY 2017

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sabbath
	1	2	3	4 BIBLE STUDY 5:30PM	5	6 SS -Joyce Kimbel Sermon - Leslie Walper
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 SS - Joyce Kimbel Sermon - Tory Kimbel
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 SS - Jerry Vogt Sermon - Leslie Walper
21	22	23	24	25 BIBLE STUDY 5:30PM	26	27 SS - David Steen Sermon - Leslie Walper
28	29	30	31	Camp Meeting May 26-June 2		

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Bread from on High

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Elijah's Gospel and Ours

by E.J. Waggoner
Part II

A careful reading of the thirteenth and fourteenth chapters of Revelation will show that it is describing a time when worship is being directed to some other than the true God (Revelation 13:4, 8, 12, 15; chap. 14:9-10), and just then "the everlasting Gospel" is preached "with a loud voice," just as in the time of Elijah and of John the Baptist, urging the worship of the true God.

That the issue at stake now is the same as of old, is shown from the fact that those who receive this special message of "the everlasting Gospel" are described in verse 12 as following: "Here are they that keep the commandments of God." In Elijah's time they forsook the commandments of God and followed Baal; in the time of John the Baptist they "reject the commandment of God" and follow the "tradition of the elder."

In our time there is "the form of godliness" without the power, and the same putting of the authority of man in the place of the plain Word of God. In all three cases God sends forth His

Gospel message of warning, with a revealing of His power, in order that men may be "without excuse."

But there is a special force in the fact that the Gospel message now calls upon all men to "worship Him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters." This demands a recognition of God as the Creator all things, and the "worship" which He requires is the worship of obedience. "This is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not grievous." 1 John 5:3. But which commandment reveals God as Creator? The fourth, in which He says, "the seventh [not the first] day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God. ... For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is [compare Revelation 14:7], and rested the seventh day; wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it." Exodus 20:10, 11. God thus reveals Himself as the Creator of all things, and commands us to "remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy," because our only hope of salvation is in



His creative and redemptive power.

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." Ephesians 2:8-10.

"For thus saith the Lord that created the heavens; God Himself that formed the earth and made it: ... I am the Lord; and there is none else. ... Assemble yourselves and come; draw near together, ye that are escaped of the nations: they have no

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knowledge that set up the wood of their graven image, and pray unto a god that cannot save. ... Look unto Me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is none else.” Isaiah 45:18-22.

He alone can save Who can create, and that we may know Him as the Creator, and so know Him as “God of Israel, the Saviour;” He has given us His Sabbath. “And hallow My Sabbaths and they shall be a sign between Me and you, that ye may know that I am the Lord your God.” Ezekiel 20:20. To know Him as the One who creates is to know Him as the One who sanctifies, and so the Lord says further: “Moreover also I gave them My Sabbaths, to be a sign between Me and them, that they might know that I am the Lord that doth sanctify them.” Ezekiel 20:12.

“The Lord Jehovah’s Sabbath” is the seventh day of the week (Saturday) and not the first day of the week (Sunday). And the observance of the seventh day of the week as God’s holy day (Saturday) is our recognition of the one true God, “who created all things by Jesus Christ.” Sabbath-keeping is our open acknowledgment of our dependence upon, and our complete and abiding faith in Him for salvation.

Sabbath-keeping is the outward sign of our having

Some Things to Ponder

Just because the gospel is “Good News” doesn’t mean it doesn’t warn us against sin. Hebrews is the only book in the New Testament that is permeated with special Good News of our Savior as the Lamb of God, as the sacrifice for the sins of the whole world, as our faithful High Priest.

In Hebrews our attention is focused on the love of Christ who “tasted death [the second death] for everyone” (Hebrews 2:9). With the “shedding” of His own blood is “remission” of sin (9:22). The sacrifice of the Son of God is infinite in its power to save “to the uttermost” all who come to Him (7:25).

However, the word “love” or agape is nowhere in Hebrews, but, by the drama of massive understatement, His blood-sacrifice on His cross permeates Hebrews as the eloquent revelation of the love (agape) of Christ.

Suppose Christ’s brilliant light of salvation from sin (Matthew 1:21) shines on someone’s pathway, only to be ridiculed and forsaken. What then?—the rejecter brings on himself the abhorrent judgment not only of God, but

entered into His rest through the faith of Jesus (Romans 3:22 Galatians 2:16, 20; and 3:22; Revelation 14:12). If truly honored, Sabbath evidences our having ceased from our own attempts to work righteousness into our lives, as He did from His “works” of creation (Hebrews 4:9, 10).

The observance of Sunday as a sacred day, or as being of any significance in the religion of Jesus Christ, rests upon no Scriptural authority and is a forsaking of the commandment of God, and a following of the traditions of men, just as truly as was the worship of Baal in Elijah’s time, or “the washing of pots and cups” by the Pharisees.

But the Elijah message is also going forth, saying now as of old, “If the Lord be God, follow Him: but if Baal, then follow him.” “By their fruits ye shall know them. Not everyone that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of My Father which is in heaven.” Matthew 7:20, 21.

Oh, that each one who reads these lines would say as did Joshua of old: “As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”



of the universe of God (hence, the dire warnings in Hebrews 6:4-8; 10:26-29).

There is one more: Hebrews 12:14-17, the story of Esau. He “fell short of the grace of God.” A “root of bitterness” sprang up in his young heart; he became “defiled.”

Like too many today, he steeled his heart against the solemn worship of God and resented Isaac’s and Rebekah’s calls to family worship. He hated Sabbath study, chose to be worldly in spirit, “profane,” and rebellious.

But all this while he still “had” the glorious “birthright,” given him when he was born. God would not wrest it from him; Esau had to “despise it” and throw it away. Jacob marveled that his brother could be so nonchalant, so irreverent, so lacking in appreciation for the trust that was given him from his birth.

And then the time came when Esau “sold” that

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BLUEBERRIES AND LEMON CREAM



- 4 ounces Neufchâtel cheese
- 2 teaspoons freshly grated lemon zest
- ¾ cup vanilla yogurt
- 2 cups fresh blueberries
- 1 teaspoon honey

1. Using a fork, break up cream cheese in a medium bowl. Drain off any liquid from the yogurt; add yogurt to the bowl along with honey. Using an electric mixer, beat at high speed until light and creamy. Stir in lemon zest.

2. Layer the lemon cream and blueberries in dessert dishes. If not serving immediately, cover and refrigerate for up to 8 hours.

Serving size is 1/2 cup: 144 calories; 5 g fat; 2 g fiber; 21 g carbohydrates; 5 g protein; 18 mg cholesterol; 17 g sugars; 5 g added sugars; 217 IU vitamin A; 9 mg vitamin C; 126 mg calcium; 133 mg sodium; 230 mg potassium

Organic Grown? Maybe Not

While most food sold as “USDA Organic” is grown in the United States, at least half of some organic corn and soybeans come from overseas, from as many as 100 different countries.

A shipment of 36 million pounds of soybeans sailed late last year from Ukraine to Turkey to California. Along the way, it underwent an amazing transformation.

The imported corn and soybean shipments were destined to become animal feed and enter the supply chain for some of the largest organic food industries producing organic eggs, milk, chicken and beef. By the time the problem was discovered, about 21 million pounds of the soybeans had already been distributed to customers.

However, the cargo began as ordinary soybeans, according to documents obtained by *The Washington Post*. Like ordinary soybeans, they were fumigated with a pesticide. They were originally priced like ordinary soybeans, too.

But by the time the 600-foot cargo ship carrying them to Stockton, Calif., arrived in December, the soybeans had been labeled “organic,” according to receipts, invoices and other shipping records. That switch—the addition of the “USDA Organic” designation—boosted their value by approximately \$4 million.

In recent years, the amount of organic corn and soybeans imported to the United States has more than tripled (most coming through Turkey). But the USDA claims of strict regulation have fallen short, making the U.S. market an easy target for potentially fraudulent organic products to penetrate into the U.S. organic food market. The reason?—the chances of getting caught here are not very high.

Another source of contaminated foods comes directly from China in the form of ginger and

tumeric root, and herbal teas. China is the leading source of organic tea and ginger in the United States, and its food exports have drawn repeated scrutiny. Once source stated, “In China, farmers have trouble following their own laws, so how can Americans expect Chinese farmers will follow U.S. organic rules?”

In some tests the pesticide results showed very high levels of pesticide residue on some “organic” Chinese products, with 37 percent of that which got tested showing more than traces of pesticide residue. Most of the problem arises from contamination from China’s heavily polluted soil and water.

Even when the product is grown organically, the water available in China for washing the product after harvesting is so polluted that it leaves pesticide residue on the surface of the product.

Support American farmers, buy American!

Did You Know?

More microbial cells live in our guts than the total number of cells in our entire body, meaning that only about 10% of the DNA in our body is actually human DNA. Don’t say, YUK! We are dependent upon this vast army of microscopic critters (our microbiome) to stay alive. Our microbiome protects us against infectious germs, breaks down food to release energy, and produces vitamins. These microbial cells are our first-line defense against environmental contaminants that we ingest with food and water that we take in every day. The use of antibiotics heavily disrupts the ecology of the human microbiome, preventing it from carrying out its function in digestion and disease resistance.