A Lamb And A Priest: Why Adventism Matters



"In His word, God has revealed saving truths. As a people we should be earnest students of prophecy; we should not rest until we become intelligent in regard to the subject of the sanctuary, which is brought out in the visions of Daniel and John...



"This subject sheds great light on our present position and work, and gives us unmistakable proof that God has led us in our past experience...



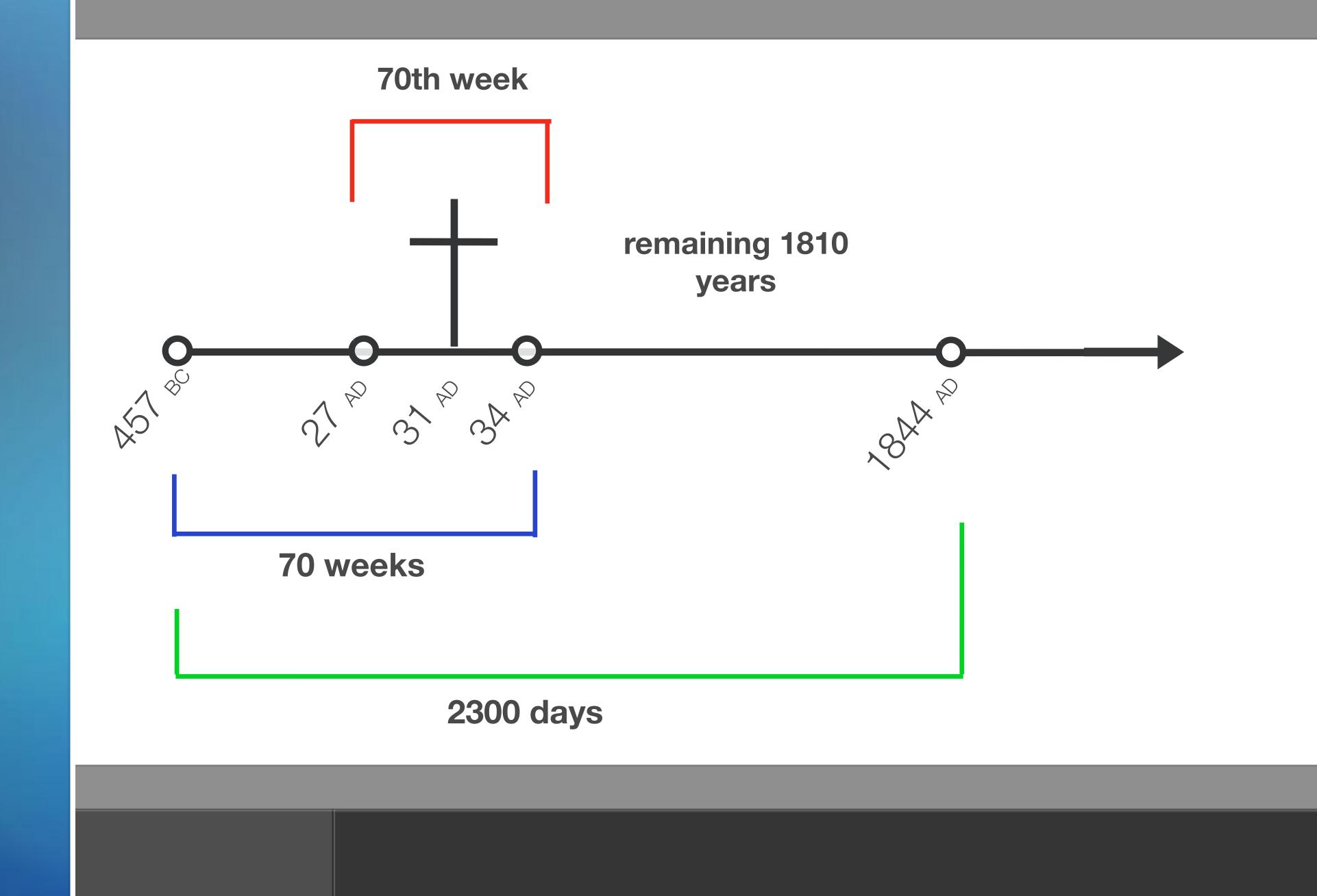
"It explains our disappointment in 1844, showing us that the sanctuary to be cleansed was not the earth, as we had supposed, but that Christ then entered into the most holy apartment of the heavenly sanctuary...



"and is there performing the closing work of His priestly office, in fulfillment of the words of the angel to the prophet Daniel, 'Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.' Daniel 8:14" Life Sketches 278.1



the 70 weeks and 2300 days



The daily service involved sin being transferred IN to the sanctuary This is where Jesus' ministry as a lamb is represented He also as priest administers this sacrifice on your behalf



The yearly service was the transference of that sin OUT of the sanctuary and a complete removal of all record of the sin that was covered This is the second phase of atonement and again where Jesus' priestly role is necessary



Day of Atonement/Investigative Judgment Exodus 25:9,40 Tabernacle made after pattern Leviticus 16 Type that explains antitype Daniel 7:10 Books opened, court seated, before 2nd coming Daniel 8:14 Unto 2300 days Daniel 9 70 weeks/When 2300 days begins



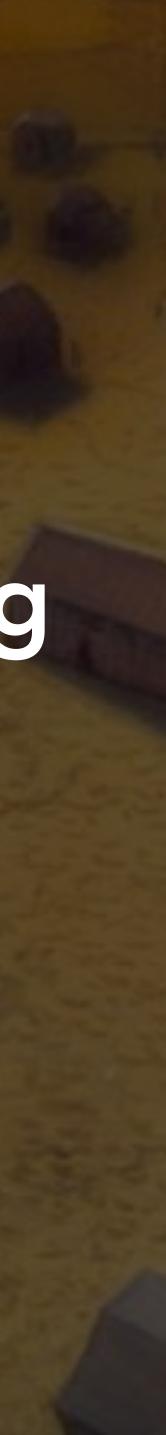
Day of Atonement/Investigative Judgment Hebrews 8:1-5 Jesus minister of true tabernacle in heaven/earthly temple is copy or shadow of this one Hebrews 9:11,23-24 Christ cleansing heavenly sanctuary Revelation 10 Bitter disappointment Oct 22, 1844/ Prophesy again



Day of Atonement/Investigative Judgment Revelation 11:18-19 Dead judged, ark seen Revelation 14:6-7 First angel's message Revelation 15:8 Probation closes Revelation 22:11-12 Let them remain



But even on the day of atonement the morning and evening sacrifice for unknown sins took place



"The daily services of the Tabernacle went on every day of the year without cessation, even on the weekly sabbath as well as during the pilgrim feasts. By God's specific command the tamid was never to be omitted. The sacrifices connected with these festive days were presented in addition...



"This was true also of the Day of Atonement. The constant morning and evening services embraced the special ceremonies of "the day" like two loving arms. The "daily" was thus the very foundation of the entire sacrificial system, and nothing was permitted to interfere with it...



"It pointed directly to the life and death of the Lord Jesus Christ. It would be as sensible to omit the "daily" from the worship of Israel as it would be to take the cross from that of Christians. The liturgy of the morning was repeated in the evening." -With Jesus in His Sanctuary, Leslie Hardinge P134



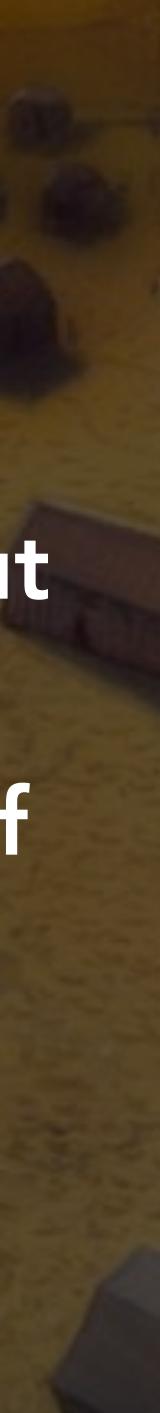
This is where our view of the atonement and the sanctuary sets us apart from any other protestants



The investigative judgment isn't just about the work of Jesus in cleansing the heavenly sanctuary, it's also a time in which the same High Priest is sanctifying you to ensure that you can stand without mediation



"Those who are living upon the earth when the intercession of Christ shall cease in the sanctuary above are to stand in the sight of a holy God without a mediator. Their robes must be spotless, their characters must be purified from sin by the blood of sprinkling." Great Controversy 425.1



"Through the grace of God and their own diligent effort they must be conquerors in the battle with evil. While the investigative judgment is going forward in heaven, while the sins of penitent believers are being removed from the sanctuary, there is to be a special work of purification, of putting away of sin, among God's people upon earth. This work is more clearly presented in the messages of **Revelation 14**" **Great Controversy 425.1**



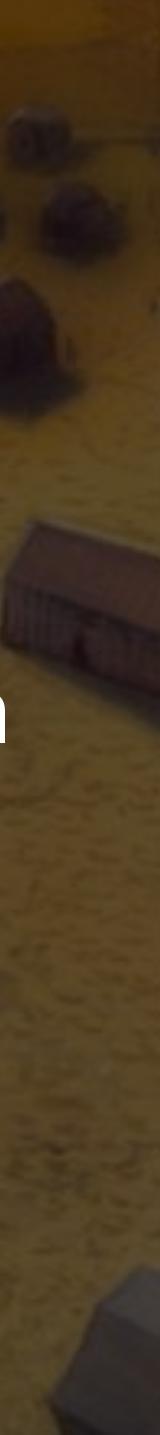
What is the role of a mediator? How do we exercise our diligent effort?



What is the role of a mediator? Remember last night we saw that God wants ALL to be saved, and does what it takes for ALL to be saved



What is the role of a mediator? The role of the priest was a mediatory role. They took the blood that represented your sin and brought it into the sanctuary to make atonement for you



What is the role of a mediator? In the context of EGW's statement it logically follows that if the sanctuary is being cleansed there will come a time when sin can't go in so that the cleansing can be finished



What is the role of a mediator? So the transferring role ceases, but Jesus doesn't cease to love you or be your Savior



How do we exercise our diligent effort? This is what we will be covering for a majority of this message



John 14:1-3 Jesus is preparing a place for us in heaven right now Not with a hammer and nails By preparing your heart



Jesus is preparing a kingdom FOR us by preparing a kingdom IN us



How does that work?



"Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you." John 16:7



"Through the ministration of the Holy Spirit souls are led to find forgiveness of sins." TSB 108.1



Jesus, in His High Priestly role, is cleansing the sanctuary above of any record of our confessed sins, and He is using the Spirit to cleanse the temple of our hearts here below so that we can be ready to live without Someone filling the mediatory role



"Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?" 1 Corinthians 3:16



A daily trip through the sanctuary





The end goal to press beyond the veil But the closer to God we get the more sinful we feel



How do we get there? How does this change happen?



For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find...O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Romans 7:18, 24



The answer to Paul's question is explained in Romans 8 the very next chapter, and in other texts we'll address as well



There are two functions that the Spirit serves to answer our question of how we get there: To Confirm-Attributing work of the Lamb To Conform-Attributing work of the Priest



To Confirm-Attributing work of the Lamb: **Ephesians** 1:13-14 After you heard the Gospel—> You believed—> You trusted in Christ—> Then you were sealed



This sealing serves the purpose of a guarantee (down payment, deposit) From the moment you say yes to Jesus, the Spirit is testifying in heaven that heaven is now your home, until Jesus comes to seal the deal at the second coming



Huge disclaimer: This is not teaching once saved always saved. This is all dependent upon us walking in that decision to accept Jesus, and to follow the promptings of His Spirit. If we turn from that decision the whole process begins again



This sealing in Ephesians 1 is what is referred to as imputed righteousness, and justification



Impute=attribute something (righteousness, guilt, etc) to someone by virtue of a similar quality in another Justification=the action of declaring or making righteous in the sight of God



The righteousness by which we are justified is imputed; the righteousness by which we are sanctified is imparted. The first is our title to heaven, the second is our fitness for heaven.— The Review and Herald, June 4, 1895.



To Confirm-Attributing work of the Lamb: Romans 8:14-16 When you become a believer the Spirit confirms that you are a child of God



Adoption We are accepted into a new family Not brought into bondage to fear The Spirit testifies that this is a child of God



When someone is adopted into a family, how much do they know regarding the expectations of the family they are joining? Nothing. This is what makes the next ministry of the Holy Spirit so amazing



To Conform-Attributing work of the Priest: Romans 8:3-8 The law could not save us, because our flesh is incapable of keeping it. So God sent Jesus, in flesh like ours, to overcome sin in the flesh.



Paul said that Jesus did this so that the law could be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit



To Conform-Attributing work of the Priest: Hebrews 10:15-17 God promises to write His law in our hearts and in our minds. He also promises to remember our sins no more



This is the second time Paul quotes Jeremiah 31 in the book of Hebrews. This passage is the new covenant that many are talking about in Christendom today



So the Holy Spirit seals us when we believe the Gospel, thereby confirming that we are children of God and that heaven is our home. This is how He attributes Christ's work as the Lamb to us



Then He begins to teach us how to live like children of God by writing His law in our hearts and in our minds This is how He attributes the work of the Priest to us



Ezekiel 36:24-27 God's extravagant promise to transform our lives through the work of the Spirit



You're dirty? —> I'll cleanse you Got idols? —> I can get rid of them Have a stony heart? ---> I'll give you a new one Cold & indifferent? —> I'll help you feel again Can't obey? —> I'll empower you to obey



By accepting the Gospel, this grants the Holy Spirit access to begin His work of sealing us (Lamb), and transforming us into Christ's image (Priest).



He immediately imputes Christ's righteousness to us, thereby justifying us before the Father.



Then He begins the process of imparting Christ's righteousness to us, by empowering us to receive, and to live Christ's perfect life.



This is sanctification. Every step of the way we stand justified before the Father if we continue to follow the prompting of the Spirit Our confessed sin is covered and inside the sanctuary, and He is purging us of remaining sin to be able to stand without mediation



The righteousness by which we are justified is imputed; the righteousness by which we are sanctified is imparted. The first is our title to heaven, the second is our fitness for heaven.— The Review and Herald, June 4, 1895.



The germination of the seed represents the beginning of spiritual life, and the development of the plant is a beautiful figure of Christian growth. As in nature, so in grace; there can be no life without growth. The plant must either grow or die. As its growth is silent and imperceptible, but continuous, so is the development of the Christian life. COL 65.2



<u>At every stage of development our life may be</u> perfect; yet if God's purpose for us is fulfilled, there will be continual advancement. Sanctification is the work of a lifetime. As our opportunities multiply, our experience will enlarge, and our knowledge increase. We shall become strong to bear responsibility, and our maturity will be in proportion to our privileges. COL 65.2



Romans 5:8-10 fleshes out the completeness of the life and death of Jesus Jesus' death cancels out our debt (Lamb) Jesus' life gives us our fitness for heaven (Priest)



If all I had was the death of Jesus, I would have no hope of eternal life. My past debt would be cleared with no hope of living a victorious life going forward.



This is exactly the reason that we need a two phased atonement



So God does desire us to have lives that are free from sin. He does intend for us to overcome. If He didn't, why did He send Jesus to suffer, to overcome, to die, and to rise again?



He has provided the means necessary for us to overcome by sending Jesus to live a perfect life that we have not lived, and empowering us to live Christ's life through His Spirit



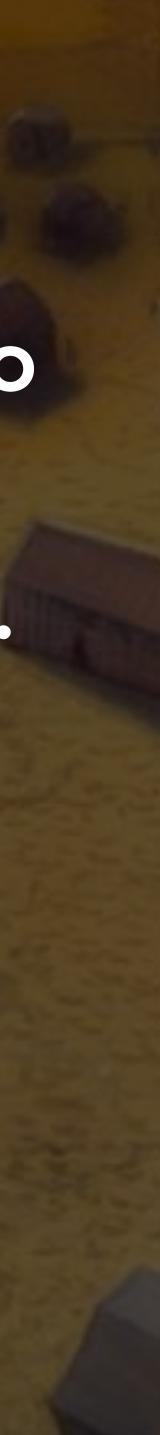
How does that happen? 1 Corinthians 10:12-13 Philippians 2:13



When tempted, we are to ask for Christ's spirit of surrender to the will of God, Who then enables our will to carry out God's will



The plant grows by receiving that which God has provided to sustain its life. It sends down its roots into the earth. It drinks in the sunshine, the dew, and the rain. It receives the life-giving properties from the air. So the Christian is to grow by co-operating with the divine agencies. Feeling our helplessness, we are to improve all the opportunities granted us to gain a fuller experience. COL 66.1



As the plant takes root in the soil, so we are to take deep root in Christ. As the plant receives the sunshine, the dew, and the rain, we are to open our hearts to the Holy Spirit. The work is to be done "not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts." Zechariah 4:6. COL 66.1



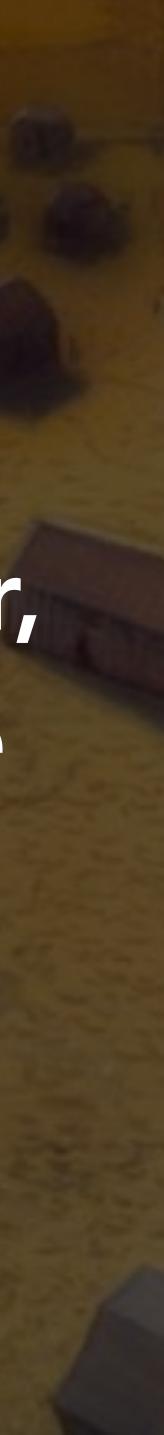
If we keep our minds stayed upon Christ, He will come unto us "as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth." Hosea 6:3. As the Sun of Righteousness, He will arise upon us "with healing in His wings." Malachi 4:2. We shall "grow as the lily." We shall "revive as the corn, and grow as the vine." Hosea 14:5, 7. By constantly relying upon Christ as our personal Saviour, we shall grow up into Him in all things who is our head. COL 66.1



So the Holy Spirit allows us to receive everything that Christ achieved and overcame on our behalf. We can cry out in any moment of need to receive from God what Christ has already procured.



Christ continually yielded His will to His Father, He continually abided in God. We can receive that spirit of surrender



Romans 8:11 The very Spirit that rose Christ from the dead can bring life to our mortal bodies. It can raise us from our spiritual death



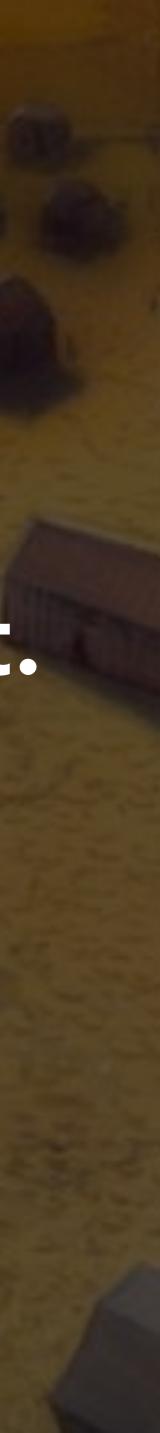
Romans 8:32 If God didn't hold back anything, but was willing to give all of heaven in one gift, why wouldn't He supply what is needed in our experience?



Romans 8:26 The Spirit helps us in our weakness. Even if we don't know how to pray He'll provide that too



Every deficiency in our experience has been accounted for in the ministry of the Holy Spirit. The question then is what will we do with the pleadings of Jesus through His Spirit?



Revelation 3:20 How is Jesus knocking on the door of our hearts? Through His Spirit



So we are God's at every step of our growth according to the imputed, and imparted righteousness of Christ. We can have assurance that we are in God and heaven bound when we remain in Christ. 1 John 3:24

1 John 4:13



This robe, woven in the loom of heaven, has in it not one thread of human devising. Christ in His humanity wrought out a perfect character, and this character He offers to impart to us. "All our righteousnesses are as filthy rags." Isaiah 64:6. Everything that we of ourselves can do is defiled by sin. But the Son of God "was manifested to take away our sins; and in Him is no sin." Sin is defined to be "the transgression of the law." 1 John 3:5, 4. COL 311.4



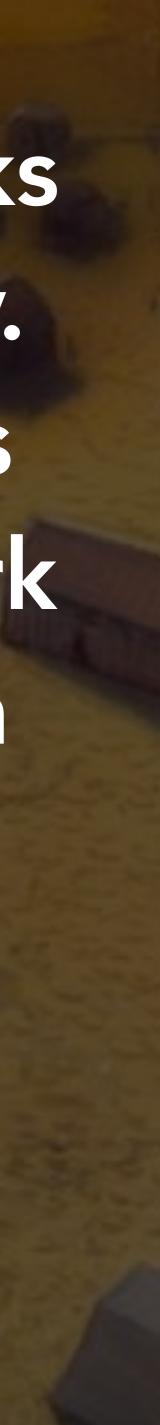
But Christ was obedient to every requirement of the law. He said of Himself, "I delight to do Thy will, O My God; yea, Thy law is within My heart." Psalm 40:8. When on earth, He said to His disciples, "I have kept My Father's commandments." John 15:10. By His perfect obedience He has made it possible for every human being to obey God's commandments. COL 311.4



When we submit ourselves to Christ, the heart is united with His heart, the will is merged in His will, the mind becomes one with His mind, the thoughts are brought into captivity to Him; we live His life. This is what it means to be clothed with the garment of His righteousness. Then as the Lord looks upon us He sees, not the fig-leaf garment, not the nakedness and deformity of sin, but His own robe of righteousness, which is perfect obedience to the law of Jehovah. COL 311.4



He who is trying to reach heaven by his own works in keeping the law, is attempting an impossibility. Man cannot be saved without obedience, but his works should not be of himself; Christ should work in him to will and to do of his good pleasure. If a man could save himself by his own works, he might have something in himself in which to bice. rejo RH July 1, 1890, par. 11



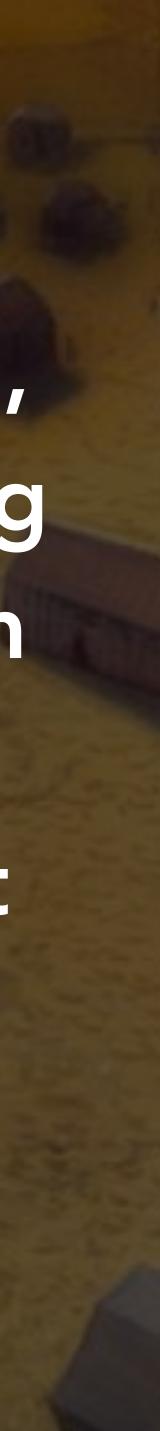
The effort that man makes in his own strength to obtain salvation, is represented by the offering of Cain. All that man can do without Christ is polluted with selfishness and sin; but that which is wrought through faith is acceptable to God. When we seek to gain heaven through the merits of Christ, the soul makes progress. Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, we may go on from strength, from victory to victory; for through Christ the grace of God has worked out our complete salvation. RH July 1, 1890, par. 11



Romans 8:1 "There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are <u>in Christ Jesus</u>, who do not walk according to the flesh, but <u>according to the</u> <u>Spirit."</u>



Walking according to the Spirit is confessing our sin, and walking in continual obedience to the prompting of the Spirit. So of course this would deliver us from any form of condemnation. And since we are receiving Christ's spirit of surrender we are doing it "in Christ"



End time ramifications



"What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?" Romans 8:31-32



"Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us." Romans 8:33-34



"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?" Romans 8:35



"Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:37-39

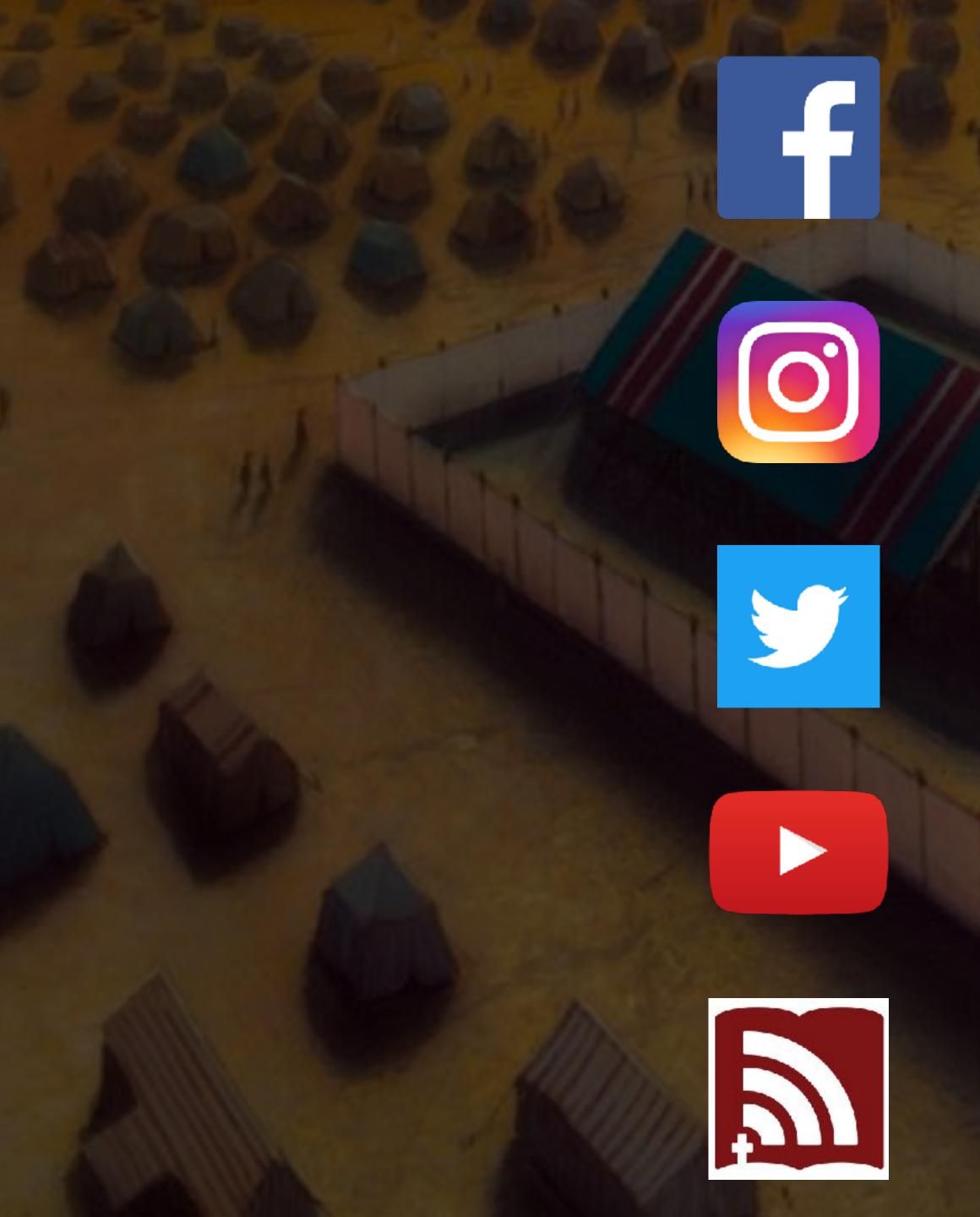


Your decisions may separate you from the presence of God But never from the love of God You have a Lamb and a Priest at your service But He's left the choice with you



Remember last nights topic? God sees things in you that you don't see in you He wouldn't have you living in this stage of earth's history unless He knew that He could sustain you But will you take hold of His belief in you, and in response to the faith OF Jesus, exercise your faith **NJesus**?





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