

# The Cutting of the Covenant

The failure to understand our covenant with God and subsequently our covenant with each other and the covenant a man has with his wife and family has hindered our comprehension of many other things and kept us from achieving all that we should.

To begin to understand the blood covenant let's first state many cultures have had a blood covenant and it is usually considered the strongest bond made between people.

The true Blood Covenant is that covenant made between God and man. It can be seen in types and shadows in the covering of Adam and Eve.

Abel's offering of the firstling of his flock is a second type of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, who is the Lamb of God.

Nevertheless one place where we can begin to understand God's covenant with us is in the covenant God made with Abraham.

The Hebrew word for Covenant is Beriyth "(in the sense of cutting) a compact (because made by passing between pieces of flesh) confederacy, covenant, league" according to Strong's concordance.

So a covenant is a contract or agreement made in blood.

In Genesis 15 we see God making his covenant with Abraham. The passage begins by saying, "After these things the word of the LORD came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram, I am thy shield, and they exceeding great reward."

So as we covenant with God and become confederate with Him He promises to be a shield and protection for us against our enemies.

In verse 6 it says "He believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness."

In verse 9, 10 it says "And he said unto him, take me an heifer of three years old, and a she goat of three years old, and a ram of three yours old and a turtle dove, and a young pigeon. And he took unto him all these; and divided them in the midst, and laid each piece one against another; but the birds he divided not."

Verses 11-16 “And when the fowls came down upon the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

And when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and, lo, an horror of great darkness fell upon him.

And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land *that is* not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years;

And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge; and afterward shall they come out with a great substance.

And thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace; thou shalt be buried in a good old age. But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites *is* not yet full.”

Verse 17 says “And it came to pass, that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passed between those pieces.”

This obviously represents the Lord moving through the midst of the pieces Himself. In Exodus they follow a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. The cloud and fire stood over the ark of the covenant.

In Genesis 17:9, it reads “And God said unto Abraham, Thou shalt keep my covenant therefore, thou, and thy seed after thee in their generations. This *is* my covenant, which ye shall keep, between me and you and thy seed after thee; Every man child among you shall be circumcised.”

Each male child, eight days after his birth, was to have his flesh cut and shed blood as a sign of his entering into the Covenant with God.

Verses 11-14 say

“And ye shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a token of the covenant betwixt me and you.

And he that is eight days old shall be circumcised among you, every man child in your generations, he that is born in the house, or bought with money, of any stranger, which *is* not of thy seed.

He that is born in thy house, and he that is bought with thy money, must needs be circumcised: and my covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant.

And the uncircumcised man child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he hath broken my covenant.”

Why the eighth day as it say in verse 12? Eight is the number of new beginnings. There were eight people on Noah’s ark.

So the covenant between Abraham and his seed was cut in the flesh. It was made

with the shedding of blood. In Hebrews we read “Without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins.”

The covenant between God and Abraham extends down to Isaac, and then Jacob and then the children of Israel and finally to those of us who are not natural Israelites through Jesus Christ.

Galatians 3:7-11

“Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham.

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

So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham.

For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed *is* every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.

But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, *it is* evident: for, The just shall live by faith.”

Galatians 3:13, 14

“Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree.

That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.”

# The Confederacy

The Blood covenant that we cut with God is a confederacy. It is a contract written

in blood joining two or more entities together to fight a common enemy.

The enemy of the one is the enemy of the other.

Similar to the confederacy of the civil war, only in this case with God, it is not a joining of equals but a joining of a superior, who is God, with an inferior man.

The terms of the confederacy include man's submission to God and in return God's protection of man as his shield and buckler.

Abraham believed God and God counted it to him as righteousness. So God formed a blood covenant with Abraham and his seed. The children of Abraham and his descendants could enter the blood covenant by having the male children circumcised on the eighth day after their birth. Outsiders who came in wanting to be a part of the covenant also had to be circumcised. This was such a firm rule going all the way back before God gave the law to Moses that even after Moses had spoken to God in the burning bush and was sent by God to go set the children of Israel free, the Lord sought to kill him, because he had failed to circumcise his son. See Exodus 4:24-26.

Later after Jesus came and the Church was formed and Gentiles began to come into the Church it was assumed by some of the Jews that they first had to be circumcised and become a part of Israel's covenant to get in to the Church.

Paul argued that there was no such requirement for them. James determined that it would not be required and the other apostles came into agreement with him.

Later in the book of Colossians Paul explains that a believer's covenant is based on a circumcision made without hands, as the believer is immersed (baptized) in water.

So the New Testament believer who has been immersed has a blood covenant with God. One that Jesus Christ shed his blood for. He or she enters into that covenant as they identify with Christ by going down in to water and coming up again. This shows his death and burial and resurrection.

We are then confederate with God and have a common enemy, Satan. We are expected to fight the enemy, for the scripture says in 2 Corinthians 10:4 "For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal . . ."

If we have weapons of warfare, it is because we are at war.

Now we must point out that the devil is no match for God. We war against the devil and his fallen angels, not because God can not defeat them alone, but

because He desires that we grow in strength and power to be able to defeat them.

However, to defeat the enemy, we must know our weapons “which are mighty unto God to the pulling down of strongholds, casting down imaginations and every high thing that exults itself against the knowledge of God.”

We need to know our position . . . Our ranks before God and stand in our proper place to use the covenant on our behalf. If we rebel against the terms of the covenant, we will be devoured by the sword (see Isaiah 1:18, 19).

## Terms of the Covenant

“If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land. But if ye refuse and rebel ye shall be devoured with the sword.”

The passage from Isaiah 1:18, 19 places the concept of our covenant with God in very simple and direct terms.

Yes, God said it to Israel, but remember that every believer can be a part of spiritual Israel as we can be grafted into the tree, through Jesus Christ.

We should each ask ourselves the question, “Am I willing to eat the good of the land that God can provide?” When you can answer yes to that, then ask “Am I willing to be obedient in order to eat the good of the land?”

Some people are willing to eat the good of the land but they are not willing to be obedient to eat the good of the land! They thus find themselves refusing to be obedient to God’s order and God’s plan and are then devoured by the sword.

As they step out from under “Gods umbrella of protection” so to speak they find that they get rained on by Satan.

As they remove themselves from behind God’s shield, they get hit by the fiery darts of the wicked one.

As they fail to allow God to be the shield and buckler that he desires to be as His part of the covenant, they find themselves naked to fend off overwhelming forces that come against them.

So you must ask yourself, Am I willing and obedient to be confederate with God. Am I willing to cut the covenant with Him and do my part to keep the covenant intact?

## Shield and Buckler

Notice that the word “buckler” in the Hebrew is described as a shield, a defense and a covering like the skin of an alligator.

Since it is in conjunction with the word buckler which also means shield, it tells us that this is something different.

It tells us that when we make covenant with God He provides a special protective covering for us that covers us entirely.

In Job 1:10 and in Ecclesiastes 10:8 it is described as a hedge. This protective covering, hedge or ring about us is actually made of light. It is an energy source placed about us as a protection.

In Psalms 104:2 it speaks of the clothing of light. The reason that it says in Exodus 21:10 that the man must provide “food, apparel and duty of marriage for his wife” is because these natural things are symbolic of the spiritual things that the Lord provides for his wife to be.

This spiritual apparel, or ring of light about us, protects us from the enemy’s attacks, just as natural clothing protects us from the elements such as cold or excessive heat.

The reason that the High Priest had pomegranates interspersed with bells on the hem of his robe was not only because the pomegranate represents fruit, but also because if we cut the pomegranate in half we can see a spiritual truth. It’s core is red and has red vines or extensions to the outer shell which is also red.

Red represents the blood. The scripture very clearly says in Leviticus 17:11 that the life the flesh is in the blood. When we make a blood covenant with God, Jesus’ life goes in the midst of us. This is why the animals were divided in the original covenant made with Abraham and the symbol of God went through the midst of them.

Yet from that center there are extensions to the surface and we are surrounded by this ring or covering of light that also serves as both a warning and a protection for the one who has covenanted to be His.

As a man is expected to protect his wife, so the Lord protects us.

## The Ring

When Abraham made his covenant with God, he and all the males with them were circumcised. A ring of flesh was removed from the forehead of the penis. In exchange he was given a ring or hedge about him as protection.

When Abraham sent his servant to get Isaac a wife he gave her a ring. The King James Bible says it was an ear ring. The Hebrew word *nezem* means it was a nose ring. In any case, there was a ring given to her in recognition of her agreement to become the wife of Isaac.

Today in the West and many other cultures, it is customary to give an engagement ring once a woman agrees to marriage and then another wedding band ring during the ceremony of marriage.

In the natural, when another man sees a woman wearing a wedding band ring, he will usually recognize that she belongs to another man and will not approach her. Only the most wicked of men will ignore the fact that she has taken another man's name by marriage and then approach her with an intent to have intimate relations with her in spite of it.

In the spiritual, when a demon sees the ring (or hedge) about a believer indicating that he belongs to Christ, most will back off, unless they can find a hole in the hedge.

The spiritual ring acts as a protection and as announcement that the one who has it has taken on a new name. The scripture speaks of those that name the name of Christ.

When we take on His name and wear his ring, we have a shield of protection. When the Egyptians were pursuing the Israelites as they were leaving Egypt, the Pillar of Fire which represents Christ and the Holy Spirit moved from in front of them to the rear and became a wall of protection that their enemy could not cross over.

When the disciples Peter, James, and John accompanied Jesus up on the Mount of Transfiguration their eyes were opened and they saw Jesus emanating glory like the sun. They also saw Moses and Elijah in glory as well.

Each believer has a degree of glory. The degree of brilliance of that glory and hence it's power is based on that believer's degree of growth in God. This glory is his ring of hedge of protection.

2 Corinthians 3:18 says "We all, with open face, beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, *even* as by the Spirit of the Lord."

We thank the Lord for the ring (hedge) of protection that He gives us and we must be careful not to break holes in it.

## Holes in the Hedge

So because of our covenant with God through Jesus Christ, we have an invisible, spiritual protection about us. It doesn't matter whether we call it a shield of light or spiritual clothing or a ring of protection or a hedge. It is there.

It can be strengthened or it can be weakened. The stronger it is, the stronger enemy we can stand against. The weaker it is, the easier it is for the enemy to get to us.

If we brake holes in a hedge, a serpent (unclean spirit or devil) will bite us. See Ecclesiastes 10:8.

How do we break a hole in the hedge?

SIN!

When we disobey God we begin to chip away (as it were) at the hedge of light. When it is thinned sufficiently holes begin to appear. As holes appear in the hedge, evil spirits attack us in ways that they otherwise couldn't.

If we look at two verses together we can see the truth of this.

1 Corinthians 3:18 indicates that we are to go from one degree of glory to another as we obey the Spirit of the Lord. Eventually we are to come into glory like Jesus, which is glory like the sun.

Romans 6:16 says "Know ye not to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom you obey. Whether of sin unto death . . ." (this means your glory gets dimmer as you sin) ". . . or obedience unto righteousness" (this means your glory gets brighter as you obey).

Paul says in 2 Timothy 4:7, 8

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness . . ."

What Paul calls a crown of righteousness, Peter calls a crown of glory (see 1 Peter 5:4). James calls it a crown of life (James 1:12).

If it is a crown of life it is also light because in the gospel of John chapter one it says in Him was life and the life was the LIGHT of men.

The degree of brilliance of light that we end with is the degree with which we will be resurrected. 1 Corinthians 15:41, 42 says "There is one glory of the sun, another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars, and one star differeth from another in glory. So is the resurrection of the dead . . ."

The devil gets to attack us when we break holes in our hedge through sin OR . . . When God sovereignly drops the hedge as he did with Job to prove a point to the devil.

## God is Sovereign

We must realize that our covenant is with God who is sovereign. Sovereign means that He reigns supreme. He can make the rules for us and He can break the rules. He is in eternity and can appear inside or outside of time as He chooses.

God is so big that there is no place in the universe that He is not present at any given moment. He is so knowledgeable that He can call each of the billions and billions of stars by name.

He is so powerful that He can create, not only our sun of our solar system, which is 864,000 miles in diameter, and will burn for eons of time, but the billions if not trillions of other suns throughout the universe. This He did by merely speaking a word!

The Bible says that in Him all things consist. Without Him we can do nothing.

There is an old joke or riddle that says “Where does a 500 pound gorilla sit?” The answer is “Anywhere he wants to!”

Why? Because what man can stop him.

What does God do? Anything He wants to!! Why? Who can challenge Him? Who can stop Him?

God in His sovereignty chose to remove Job’s hedge of protection and allow the devil to take his things. According to Scripture (read the book of Job) God thought so much of Job that He used him to make a point to the devil.

After the devil took his things and his family members he asked for permission from God to touch his flesh, saying that he could then make Job curse God to his face. Job, to his credit, said “Though He (God) slay me yet will I trust Him.”

Nevertheless, after Job’s friends came and began to proclaim that he must have sinned for so many bad things to happen to him, Job proclaimed his innocence. When he proclaimed his innocence to the degree of accusing God of being unrighteous, he crossed the line so to speak. NO ONE accuses God of unrighteousness!

After God speaks to Job and explains to him that he does not know everything and that He as God can do with him or anyone else what He likes, God restored to Job twice as much as he had previously.

It is important for us to understand the sovereignty of God because He sometimes makes rules for us that we don’t understand and some people decide to challenge God wrongly. Let us not be one of these people.

The Scripture says “It is appointed unto man once to die and after this the judgment.”

Yet Enoch did not die. And Elijah did not die. Why? Because God is sovereign and He can do what He wants!

Wives must submit to their husbands in everything (see Ephesians 5:22-24). Many women cry out, “Why that is no fair!” But God is sovereign, he makes the rules, we don’t.

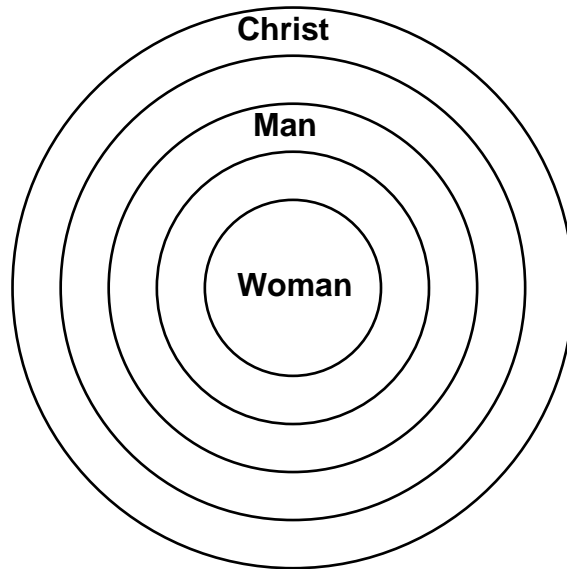
As we live by His rules we receive His favor. When we reject His rules we place ourselves in a position outside of His covering or at least we break holes in His

covenant hedge or ring of protection.

If women complied with Scripture rather than complaining and seeking to be equal with men, they would actually in most cases receive a double hedge or ring of protection.

## The Double Ring

In 1 Peter 3 we read that the woman is a weaker vessel.



Therefore, God has arranged for her to have a double ring of protection. It is obvious that women in general are weaker in the natural. This natural weakness, of course, shows what is true in the spiritual dimension. Remember that Romans 1:17-20 indicates that we can understand spiritual things by the things he has made.

The woman is a “type” of the Church. The man is a type of Christ. Once again refer to 1 Corinthians 11:1-3 and Ephesians 5:22-24:

“Be ye followers of me, even as I also *am* of Christ.

Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances, as I delivered *them* to you.

But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman *is* the man; and the head of Christ *is* God” (1 Cor. 11:1-30).

“Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.

For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the Church: and he is the savior of the body.

Therefore as the Church is subject unto Christ, so *let* the wives *be* to their own husbands in every thing” (Eph. 5:22-24).

The head of the woman is the man. The head of the man is Christ.

The man is a “covering” for his wife just as Christ is a covering for man.

The natural covering that the woman in biblical times wore was a physical type, pattern, or shadow of the spiritual covering they were under, meaning their father or husband.

So although each woman receives her own “circumcision” made without hands as Colossians 2 speaks of, as she is baptized in water, she also has an additional covenant and covering that protects her which is her father initially and later her husband.

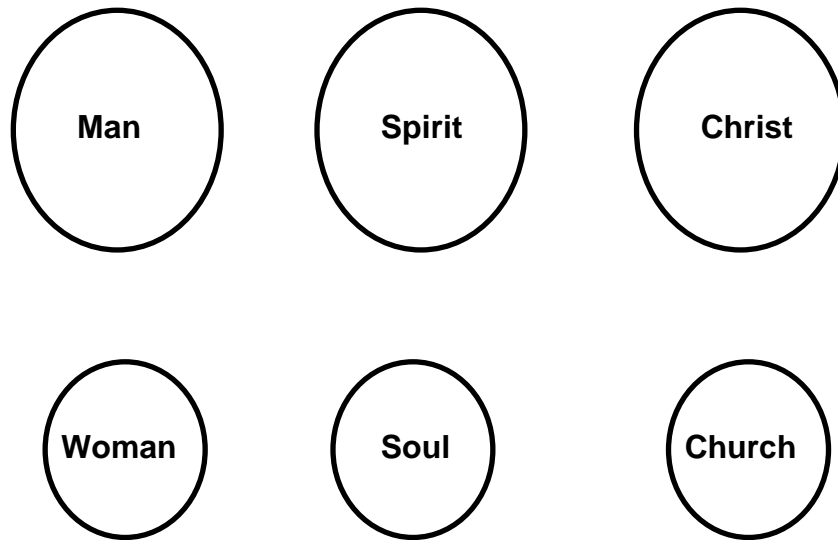
1 Corinthians 11:10 says “For this reason OUGHT the woman to have power [authority] on her head, because of the angels.”

Which angels?” the good ones like Michael and Gabriel or the bad ones like Satan and his followers? Obviously it is the bad angels from which she needs protection!

So God has given the woman a double ring in most cases. Can God provide protection by Himself? Yes, of course He can! He is God! He can do whatever He wants!

Nevertheless, He has chosen to operate in a particular manner for a type, pattern and picture of heavenly things.

## The Pattern

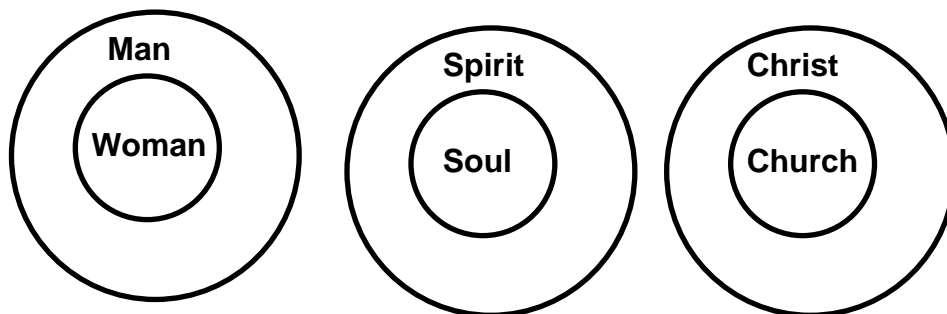


We have seen before that natural things are types, patterns or shadows of spiritual things. (See Romans 1:17-20 and Hebrews 8:5).

The woman is the weaker vessel, therefore in the chart above, her circle is smaller than the man's. The head of the woman is the man, therefore the woman is down under the man.

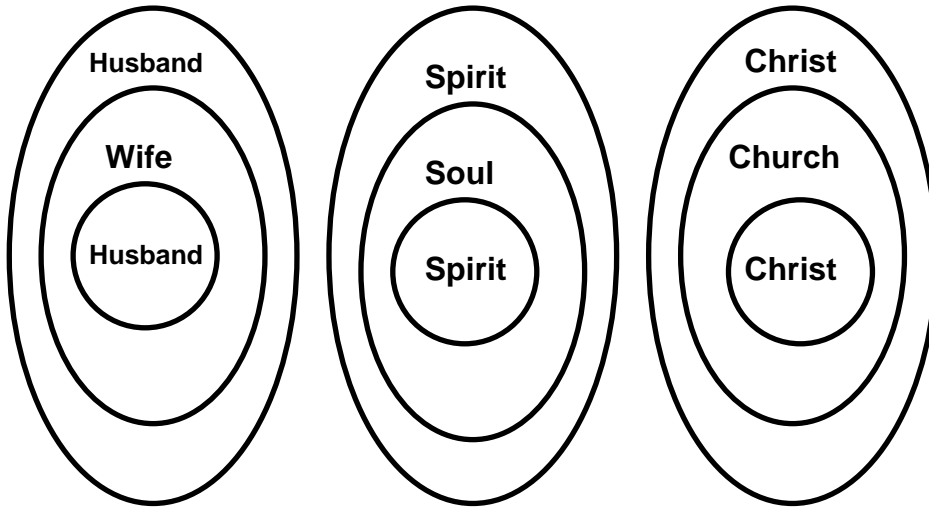
Likewise the soul is drawn smaller than the Spirit and the Church is drawn smaller than Christ's circle. The Church is to submit to Christ. The soul should submit to the Spirit (the spirit of man is the candle of the Lord, lighting all the inward parts of the belly (soul)). The woman (wife) submits to the man (husband).

Another way of drawing them to show the concepts we are sharing is below.



The man encompasses the woman, the spirit encompasses the soul, and Christ encompasses the Church.

Yet this is not all. It goes a step further. Jesus said, "I am in you and you in me (John 17:21:24).



Christ is in the Church and the Church is in Christ. The Spirit is in the soul and yet the soul is covered by the Spirit.

When the marriage is consummated in sexual intercourse, the man enters the woman and yet the woman is in his arms. Yet it goes further than this for the Bible says that it is a “great mystery.”

## The Great Mystery

“For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.” Ephesians 5:31,32.

A mystery is something that is hard to be found out. If the two became one flesh merely meant becoming one in the physical sense in sexual intercourse, that would be no mystery at all.

However, since it also says “but I speak concerning Christ and the Church,” it is obvious that it is not a physical union of which he is speaking but a spiritual union. The Church is not physically joined to Christ. However, it is spiritually joined to Christ.

This must mean that when two physical people come together in sexual intercourse it is not only a physical joining but a spiritual joining. Again we can learn about spiritual things by “the things He has made.”

When the sperm from the man and the ova (egg) from the woman join together the two become one and then a new and greater creation begins to come forth. A body begins to form which grows larger and larger.

The DNA of the mother and the DNA of the father join together and the fertilized egg carries the imprint of both. That Egg cell which had it's own DNA now has another set of chromosomes which change it's nature.

“The two become one flesh”

But flesh does not only mean physical as in the meat or muscle that hangs on our bones. Flesh also has the meaning of our soul. When Scripture speaks of the works of the flesh, such as envy, strife and division, it is not speaking of something that comes out of our muscles but a nature that comes out of the carnality of the soul. So flesh also applies to the soul of a man or a woman. When it says the two become one flesh it is implying that the souls are joining and changing the imprint.

Just as the eggs of a woman is changed when it is joined by the sperm of a man, so is the soul of a woman changed as it is joined by the soul of a man. This mystery happens during sexual intercourse.

The egg will normally only receive one sperm cell. All others will thereafter be rejected.

So it is meant to be that a woman is to receive only one man. This is to be the one to whom she is married. Only one spiritual imprint on her soul is meant to be. This is why adultery is such a horrible crime in the sight of God. To allow a woman to have more than one man without a serious punishment is to show a

wrong pattern.

The bride must bear only the imprint of her lord (see 1 Peter 3:6). She can not have two masters (see Matthew 6:24). The Church can only serve Jesus Christ. To try to serve God and mammon can not be, for one will either love one and hate the other, or cling to the one and despise the other.

Since the man and a wife are a picture of Christ and the Church, the woman must have only one man. When she takes another while the first is still living, it is called adultery. In the Old Testament the penalty was stoning. This shows the seriousness with which God views it.

Thank God, for mercy and grace in the New Testament. For where sin abounds, grace doth much more abound (see Romans 6:1, 2). Nevertheless, “shall we sin that grace may abound? God forbid!” Yet, we can learn more about the meaning of one flesh.

## One Flesh

In Matthew 19:3-6 it reads,

“The Pharisees also came unto him, tempting him, and saying unto him, Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause?”

(Notice that the subject matter is divorce).

“And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female.

And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife and **THEY TWAIN SHALL BE ONE FLESH?**

Wherefore they re no more twain but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together let no man put asunder.”

Some have said that this passage and others like it prohibit a man from marrying more than one wife. However, it would certainly be true that it prohibits unwarranted divorce but there is a much deeper meaning to “one flesh” than what many realize.

Jesus appears to be quoting from Genesis 2:21-24:

“And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;

And the rib, which the “” had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.

Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and **THEY SHALL BE ONE FLESH.**”

I believe that this passage is saying they are becoming one in substance. Their souls are joining, becoming one.

Moses was the one given to write the book of Genesis. Moses did not read this “one flesh” to mean that a man was prohibited from having another wife because when he came down the mountain from talking with God and he received the ten commandments which he gave in Exodus chapter 20, we read in the next chapter “If he take him another wife, her raiment and her duty of marriage, he shall not diminish.”

So if the “ONE FLESH” principle meant prohibiting a man from having a plural number of wives then God certainly wouldn’t have given rules for how it was to be done!

In addition we know that Moses had at least two wives and probably three. First he married Zipporah which was a Midianite (the Midianites were descendants of the line of Shem). Then he married an Ethiopian woman. The Ethiopians or Cushites were descendants of the line of Ham. Therefore it could not have been

the same woman spoken of in Numbers chapter 12 as was spoken of in Exodus chapters 2 and 3.

Since Moses had a father in law who was a Midianite, he potentially had a father in law who was a Cushite or Ethiopian and then in Judges chapter 4:11 it speaks of the father of Moses who was a Kenite.

So Moses had at least three wives himself. Some may argue that perhaps it was sequentially and that perhaps one died and then he married another, but that is mere conjecture for the Scripture does not say that!

To truly understand the “one flesh” principle one must be able to put on spiritual eye glasses as it were to see into the spiritual realm.

In 1 Corinthians 6:15-17 it says

“Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ, and make *them* the members of an harlot? God forbid. What? Know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? For two, saith he, shall be one flesh. But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.”

Fornication with a harlot is certainly a major sin before God! Nevertheless, if a man becomes one flesh with a harlot when he has sex with her and a man could have sex with several different harlots, then it shows that he could be one flesh with several different people. Without marriage this is prohibited and is sin.

But, the Scripture never says that it is sin within marriage.

In Ephesians 5:30-32 we read

“For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.”  
In Corinthians Paul said that he that was joined to the Lord was one spirit. Here it says they shall be one flesh . . . But I speak of Christ and the church. This shows that the oneness is a spiritual oneness that takes place.

Furthermore, Christ is not joined to only one person, but to many people who collectively make up the church. So in typology we see the one bridegroom (Jesus Christ) and his one bride (the church) in monogamy, where a man has only one wife.

Nevertheless, we also see in typology the one bridegroom (Jesus Christ) and his many membered bride (those that make up the church) in polygamy.\*

Jesus has a covenant with his bride collectively and with each of us individually. This may be why, David a man after God's own heart, who understood God's Covenant, was given many wives by God.

\* Technically we should say polygyny, which is one man with more than one wife.

## David's Covenant with God

As the young David, a mere shepherd boy looking out and up at the 9 foot 6 inch Giant called Goliath, he questioned, "Who is this uncircumcised Philistine to defy the armies of God?"

David, as a Jewish boy from the tribe of Judah, had been circumcised eight days after his birth as the Law required of all Israelites. As David grew up, he had learned of his heritage and what it meant to have a covenant with God.

As he referred to the Giant as uncircumcised, he was announcing that a being who had no covenant with God should not be able to stand against one who did have

such a covenant.

With faith in his covenant he had defeated the lion and the bear to protect his father's sheep. Now with faith in his covenant with God he was prepared to face Goliath.

As we all know, he went on to defeat the Giant enemy of Israel and cut off his head. We who have a covenant with God can defeat our enemies as well.

David's popularity skyrocketed, he was offered the king's daughter to marry. David, being poor compared to the king, felt he was unworthy. However, king Saul, thinking to make David fall in battle, said that the only bride price that David would have to pay was 100 foreskins of the Philistines. David killed 200 Philistines and brought in twice as much as the king required.

So David left his father and mother and cleaved to his wife Michal and the two became "one flesh." He, as we have seen, entered into a covenant relationship with the wife Michal. In this relationship he was obligated to provide her with food, clothing and duty of marriage according to the Law.

She, on the other hand, was obligated to submit to her husband and be faithful only to him.

David was called a man after God's own heart. As one reads through the books of First and Second Samuel, one is struck with the fact of how often it says that David inquired of the Lord.

Later as David is on the run from Saul, he marries a widow named Abigail and a girl named Ahinoam at almost the same time. (See 1 Samuel 25:42, 43). Although David has already become "one flesh" with Michal, he is not faulted by God or anyone else for marrying these two women.

Why?

It is never considered sinful by God or anyone else in Israel. Later he marries more women. Still there is no sin in it! After king Saul died, God gave him Saul's widows to marry. Yes that is right "God gave him more wives!"

If having more than one wife was sinful then certainly God would not participate in the sin by contributing to it! Those that claim that it is sinful have been brainwashed by Westernized Roman Catholic doctrine! (more on that later)

David is charged with two sins in Scripture. One is the matter regarding

Bathsheba and Uriah in which adultery and murder were involved. David was punished by God when God allowed his son by Bathsheba to die. The other time he sinned is when he counted Israel out of a sense of pride. God punished him as he allowed a plague to come on Israel.

These are the only two sins of David recorded. He was punished by God both times. He was never punished for any covenant that he made with any of his other twenty wives!

Why?

It was not a sin. It was not a sin then and it is not a sin now, as we will learn from the real David of whom king David was only a type and shadow.

## The Real David

The name David means “beloved.” The original shepherd boy who slew Goliath and was allowed to eat the shewbread in the temple that was only for the priests and who then went on to become king was merely a type and shadow of the true David.

The true David or “beloved” is Jesus Christ. It is He who is the author and finisher of our faith. It is Jesus Christ, the Word, the second person of the Godhead who cut a covenant with Abraham. It is He who spoke to Moses from the burning bush. It is He who met with Moses in Mount Sinai and wrote the commandments in stone.

He is the covenant maker with Israel and He is the one who was born of the virgin

Mary and lived a sinless life so that he could become the sacrificial lamb and shed his blood for us.

It is He who when he was baptized, heard the words from His Father in heaven, saying “This is my BELOVED Son, in whom I am well pleased.” This, our beloved Jesus Christ, of whom the Father said when He and Peter and James and John were on the Mount of Transfiguration “This is my BELOVED Son. Hear ye Him!”

He is the One by whom it is spoken in Jeremiah who was husband to Israel and Judah. These two were “wives” unto Him who were divorced because of their idolatry which was adultery in His eyes.

He is the One. Yes, the same Jesus Christ, is coming again as the bridegroom. He will receive those who have covenanted with Him and have been obedient to prepare themselves and make themselves ready.

He will be joined spiritually and intimately with this bride spoken of in Revelation 19 who had made herself ready and is clothed with a linen garment.

He will come at midnight and receive the five wise virgins, for they are ones who have oil (Holy Spirit anointing) in their lamps (spirits) and in their vessels (souls and bodies). These five wise virgins who are ready will go in and the door will be shut. (Notice this is a polygamous example of the many membered Bride. He would have never used such an example if polygamy was to be a sin in the Old or New Testaments). See Matthew 25:1-10.

This Jesus Christ is the real David, for He is truly the Beloved of God and our Beloved Master, if we will obey Him and not just call Him Lord but truly allow Him to be Lord in our lives.

The Covenant that a man makes with a woman in marriage is merely a reflection of this covenant with our God. We call Him Lord (See Romans 10:8,9,10). The wife should call her husband lord (See 1 Peter 3:6).

We submit to Him in everything. The wife should submit to her husband in everything (See Ephesians 5:22-24).

Christ loves the Church as His own flesh. The husband should love his wife as his own flesh (See Ephesians 5:25-28).

We can not have two masters (Matthew 6:24). A wife can not have two husbands (See Romans 7:3).

He left his home (heaven) to gain a wife and the two become one flesh. The man leaves father and mother to be joined to his wife (Genesis 2:24, Matthew 19:5, Ephesians 5:31).

There are many that will ultimately marry Jesus Christ.

A man may marry one wife or several.

For the Scripture says in Isaiah 4:1 “In that day seven women shall take hold of one man, saying, We will eat our own bread, and wear our own apparel: [This was the husband’s job to provide these things -- Exodus 21:10] only let us be called by thy name, to take away our reproach.”

Jesus Christ makes covenant with each of us. He did so by His shedding His Blood for us and paying the price for us. We enter that covenant through baptism (see Colossians 2:11-12). It is called a circumcision made without hands. A man makes covenant with each of his wives when he consummates the marriage with each of them.

It was never wrong. It is only because Satan, the god of this world, has blinded the eyes of men as he has sought over centuries to bring them into the mind and mark of a beast system that people have been indoctrinated to believe a lie.

But thank God that our Beloved Jesus Christ has made the mind of Christ available to us with which we can defeat the mark (mind) of the beast!

## The Mind of Christ

“Go ye therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” (Matthew 28:19, RSV).

As we have said before we make covenant with God when we are baptized when he performs a circumcision made without hands. That should be the beginning of a discipleship relationship that is meant to bring us into the mind of Christ.

“If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.” (John 8:31,32).

In 1 Corinthians chapters one and two we read of those types of men. There is the natural man who is unsaved. He can not receive the things of God because they are spiritually discerned. Then there is the carnal man. He is saved but is still a

babe in Christ. As a babe he still thinks like the natural man, and he is filled with envy, strife, and division.

Finally there is the spiritual man. This is one who is mature and has put on the mind of Christ.

If we are to fully understand our covenant rights and responsibilities then we must mature and put on the mind of Christ. Otherwise we are doomed to be influenced by the mark (mind) of the beast.

What is the mark (mind) of the beast? It is a world's way of thinking and reacting. This beast is spoken of in Revelation 13:1,2.

“And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.

And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as *the feet* of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion; and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.”

The lion, bear, leopard and beast are spoken of in Daniel chapter 7 as four kingdoms.<sup>1</sup> It is a combination of the sins and misdeeds of Babylon, Media-Persia, Greece and Rome.

It manifests itself today in idolatry, false religion, pride, love of money, compromise, worship of false gods and goddesses, the exultation of the woman over the man, worldly governmental systems, the denial of God-approved marriages, and the desire to place the entire world under an ungodly rule.

As we truly grow up in God and function within our covenant we will know the truth and the truth will make us free from the mind of the beast.

It is then incumbent on us to share with our brothers and sisters the truth about their covenant connection with God!

<sup>1</sup>See the book *The Mark of the Beast and the Mind of Christ* for more on this subject.