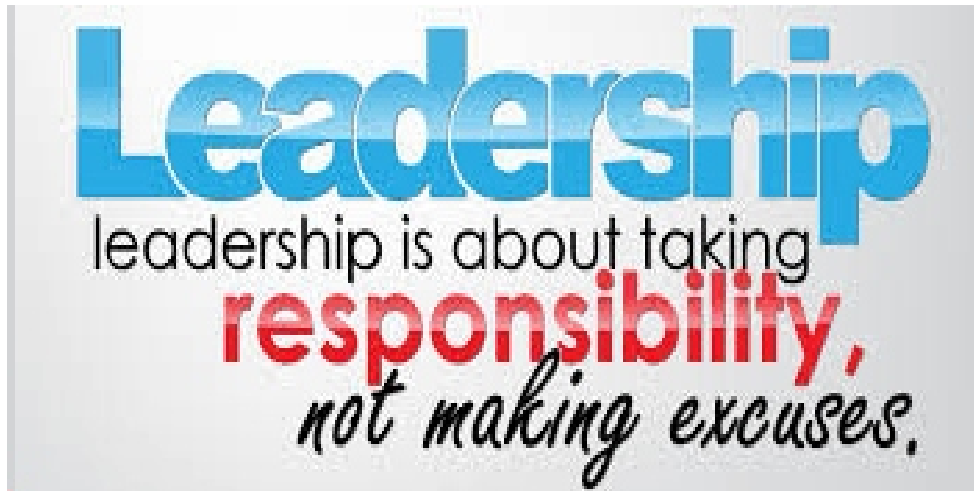


# INHERITED RESPONSIBILITY



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As the end of this age draws near, does history show us any purpose for being called and chosen? Have we been given any physical or spiritual responsibilities? Why did Christ tell His disciples, His learners, in Matthew 5: 20, “ ..... that except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and pharisees, you shall in no case enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.” The significance of this verse is seen in the fact that the Jews of Jesus day considered the scribes and pharisees to be the most religious in all Israel. However their religion was largely an outward show of self– righteousness.

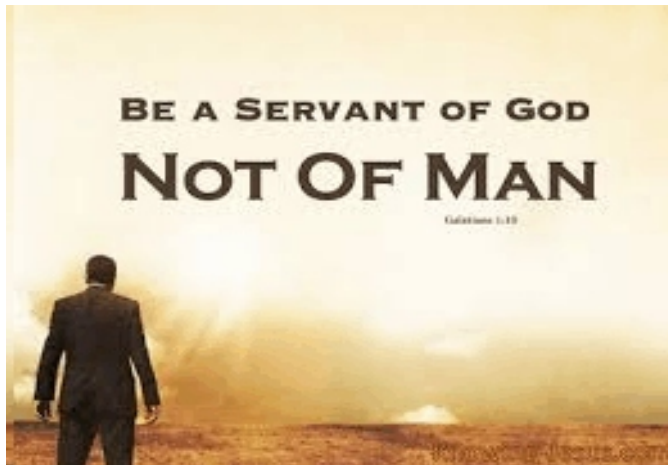
Christ, in communicating the depth of His message used a series of comparisons between the outward behavior demanded by the law and the inner attitude of the heart, desired by God. **Example:** In the Old Testament God choose Abraham and his seed to carry out certain assigned tasks – responsibilities.

In Genesis 18– the first book in the Bible, we will begin to see, that it was God's purpose to establish a righteous nation of people. God selected Abraham and his descendants. Acknowledge this with me in Gen 18: 17-19, “The Lord said, shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do; seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him For I know him,

(In other words, Abraham could be trusted), For I know him that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment; that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which He has spoken of him.” God recognized Abraham would not delegate his responsibilities to other custodians or teachers, when it came to training up his children, teaching them of God’s laws and ways. When reading the story of Abraham, we find God found a man ready to yield with qualified obedience, to His divine will. God also recognized Abraham excelled all others in rearing up his children, as well as cultivating a godly spirit in all his family. Abraham instructed them in both the law of the land, and the obedience of God's spiritual righteous laws. Abraham, had a extremely good understanding and was not used in a matter of superiority. He recognized his special gift and talent were from God.

Keeping the Old Testament in mind, we find in Isaiah 41, evidence of how Abraham's seed was being passed on to Isaac and Jacob to fulfil God's will. Keep in mind, Israel was selected and certified to be God's chosen people, **His servant race**. Notice Isa 41: 8 - 9. “But you, Israel, art My servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham My friend. You whom I have taken from the ends of the earth, and called you

from the chief men thereof, and said unto you, you art **My servant**; I have chosen you, and not cast you away." The term "**My servant**" is a Hebrew word-"ebed", Strong's # 5650. In the broad sense, it simply means: 1. One that serves others; 2. A servant of God; 3. meaning: one who loves, obeys fully; 4. To serve God .



There are those who object to being informed that God selected a specific race to be His servants. They insist that He shows no favoritism. They eventually will need to come to realize, He made one physical family of people, for His special care and they are called "**The whole house Israel.**" Israel's-Lord of host in Zechariah informs us, "For he that touches you [attacks you or harms you], touches the apple of God's eye" (Zech 2: 8). Every harmful attack that's aimed at God's servants assaults the Lord.

In Isaiah 43:10, we find it clearly stated, God choose Israel to be His servants. "You are My witnesses, saith the Lord, and My servant whom I have chosen: that you may know and believe Me." Back in verses 3 to 5, God declares Himself to be "the Holy one of Israel. "For I am the Lord your God, the Holy one of Israel, your Saviour: since you were precious in My sight, you have been honorable, and I have loved you: therefore will I give men for you, and people for your life. Fear not: for I am with you: I will bring your seed from the east, and gather you from the west." **God is addressing the whole physical house of Israel here.**

These blessings that we are reminded of, places the whole house of Israel over all other people and races. This protection from God is guaranteed to His servant race. Why am I bringing this up? Because now it has become **the spiritual house of Israel**, no longer

the physical house of Israel. Note, Eph 3:3-6, the Apostle Paul said, "... By revelation He made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words. Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ). Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto His holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of is promise in Christ by the gospel."

Today, spiritual Israel's responsibility is to carry out God's will, God's gospel to other people and nations! Without the English printed Bible, and English speaking people, God's saving word would not have gone out to the world. God's truth, the true gospel would not have been preached to this world.

We had a thousand "Postponements, Another Mystery of the Ages" booklets printed in Spanish 20 years ago, an most were never requested. Speaking or writing in a foreign language has never been the major door opener for God's gospel and truth, to be preached around the world.

We are on our fourth edition of the English "Postponements Another Mystery of the Ages" booklet. This booklet has been requested in more than 50 nations. We are told in Matt 21, that Christ rejected the house of Judah from sending forth His good news to the world.

**Why?** Because they refused to submit to Jesus, the Christ as their Messiah and their God. In Matthew 21, Christ took the Kingdom of God from the Jews. "Therefore say I unto you, the Kingdom of God shall be taken from you, [those who were in the house of Judah] and be given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof" (Matt 21 43). What does this verse from Christ tell us? It tells us, that in the future His plan to save the world would no longer be dependent on the Jewish speaking nation or the Judaism religion, but on the nations that speak clearly God's word in English. English is the most dominate language in the world. God did not bless the house of Judah for preaching His good news to the world, but God did bless the house of Israel to preach His gospel to the world.

Before the "Split up "of these two households God selected one family, Abraham and his wife Sarah and their seed to serve Him and fulfill His purpose. The work and responsibility assigned to Abraham's seed through Isaac and his seed (Israel) was for the establishment of national righteousness and the

execution of judgment and justice for all mankind.

The facts in history has shown that the Anglo-Saxon-Celtic people excelled all other races, because it is in their desire to establish peace and righteousness, (not self righteousness), but God's righteousness! The United State, Britain, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand, are all the Anglo-Saxon nations, and have been involved in peaceable talks. in one way or another. **Why is that ?** Because Israel has been committed through Abraham's seed to strongly emphasize, what God requires of us, spiritual Israel, His servant people.

Abraham and his descendants were called to fulfill a purpose in this plan of God. We today, as Abrahams descendants and inheritors of the promise and covenants of God, are given the job of carrying out an assigned part in God's plan for this age. We do this, not as a superior race, but as God's chosen servant nations, charged with a responsibility that cannot be evaded.

When reading Genesis 26, Abraham covenant was confirmed to Isaac, God tells him, "And I will be with you, and will bless you; for unto you, and unto your seed, I will give all these countries, and I will perform the oath which I swear unto Abraham your father; and I will make your seed to multiply as the stars of heaven, And will give unto your seed all these countries; and in your Seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because that Abraham obeyed My

voice, and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws" (Gen 26:3-5). The blessings of Abraham were passed on in their entirety to both Isaac and Jacob. In blessing Jacob's

family each son received his individual portion of the covenant blessings. Jacob's son Joseph inherited the birthright. The material blessings of greatness, were not given to Judah, but to Joseph, and through him to his two sons Ephraim and Manasseh. Evidence to this fact is found in 1 Chron. 5: 1, 'Now the sons of Reuben the firstborn of Israel, (for he was the firstborn; but, for as much as he defiled his father's bed, his Birthright was given unto the sons of Joseph

the son of Israel: and the genealogy is not to be reckoned after the birthright."

Reuben the firstborn should have appeared first in the genealogical list, but that place went to Joseph, because of Reuben's sin. This clear evidence shows the birthright promises went to Joseph and his two sons. All the material possessions of wealth and this included



territorial expansion went to Ephraim and Manasseh. Judah never inherited these same type of blessings nor do the Jew today posses these types of blessings!

Looking at the history of the state of Israel confirms that! Continuing to follow this history: Jacob and his sons emerged as a great company of people known as the children of Israel, under the leadership of Moses, in the 19th and 20th chapters of Exodus. God established His government with Israel at Mount Sinai. He delivered to them His commandments, statutes and judgments, to which they agreed to obey and do!! Exo 19: 5-8 confirms this. "Now therefore, if you will obey My voice indeed, and keep My Covenant, then you shall be a peculiar treasure unto Me above all people: for all the earth is Mine: and you shall be unto Me a kingdom of priests, and an holy Nation. These are the words which you shalt speak unto the Children of Israel. And Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before their faces all these words which the Lord commanded him. And all the **people answered together, and said, all that the Lord had spoken we will do.** And Moses returned the words of the people unto the Lord." This confirmed a marriage covenant that was made with God and physical Israel.

The importance of this marriage vow or oath cannot be overlooked! We read in Deut 23, where instruction are given about vows. "When you shalt vow a vow unto the Lord your God, you shalt not slack to pay it: for the Lord your God will surely require it of you; and it would be sin in you. But if you shalt forbear



to vow, it shall be no sin in you. That which is gone out of your lips you shalt keep and perform; even a freewill offering, according as you have vowed unto the Lord your God, which you have promised with your mouth”(Deut 23:21-23).

As the nation Israel made a vow to the Lord their God, and as a nation God will require performance of that oath. Psalms 50: 14-15 speaks of this: “Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay your vows unto the Most High: And call upon Me in the day of trouble: I will deliver you, and you shalt glorify Me.” These words should make a deep penetrating impression on our minds and in our hearts.

Israel has failed to perform the oath of their fore fathers and this has been the cause of Israel's national sin today. Spiritual Israelites today, who have God's Holy Spirit, and that have this knowledge will not be held guiltless if they fail to warn those who are breaking God's laws—commandments—statutes and judgments.

Through the prophet Ezekiel, God has warned us, you and me, of the churches responsibilities and our individual responsibilities. We are seen as God's called ambassadors.



God addresses us as “**son of man**” in Ezekiel 3, “**Son of man**, I have made you a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at My mouth, and give them warning from Me. When I say unto the wicked, you shalt surely die; and you give him not warning, nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; But his blood will I require at your hand. Yet if you warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your soul” (Eze 3: 17 - 19).

This is a life saving warning and responsibility that all of us spiritual Israelites have to take seriously! Ezekiel's message is national and personal in scope and

contains three important clauses: **One**, it warns the house of Israel that tribulation and trouble are the results of disobedience and rebellion; **Two**, it declares nationally and personally that man is to turn from their evil ways; **Three**, it summons the nation and its people to repent and make restitution, fulfilling its solemn vow made at Mount Sinai.

The preaching of the gospel and the obeying of God's laws for salvation is personal! And the call to righteous administration is national! We are given another clear warning in the pages of Isaiah. “Thus saith the Lord, keep you judgment, and do justice: for My salvation is near to come, and My righteousness to be revealed. Blessed is the man that does this, and the **son of man** that lays hold on it; that keeps the Sabbath from polluting it, and keep his hand from doing any evil” (Isa 56:1-2). God's Sabbath is no less important today than it was back then!

We find in Deut 30, Moses set two ways before Israel, the way of **life** and the way of **death**. “See, I have set before you this day life and good, and death and evil; in that I command you this day to love the Lord your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments and His statutes and His judgments, that you may live and multiply: and the Lord your God shall bless you in the land whither you go to possess it. But if your heart turn away, so that you wilt not hear, but shalt be drawn away, and worship other gods, and serve them; I denounce unto you this day, that you shall surely perish, and that you shall not prolong your days upon the land, whither you pass over Jordan to go to possess it. I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: Therefore choose life, that both you and your seed may live: that you may love the Lord your God, and that you may obey His voice, and that you may cleave unto Him for He is your Life, and the length of your days: that you may dwell in the land which the Lord swear unto your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them” (Deut 30, 15 - 20).

This personal responsibility of a watchman has to be in tune with **God's truth**, that can only happen through fasting, prayer, study, meditating and obeying God's life giving words.

Solomon recognized that God in His wisdom conceals many things in His word, when he said: “It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of Kings is to search out a matter” (Prov 25 :2). The mysteries of the Bible which are beyond our full

comprehension are proofs that it is indeed the word of God!

The pity of all this is that today men of scholarly attainment are more interested in destructive criticism of scriptures, than in intensified application,



in research that they may discover— hidden new truth! A skeptical approach to the word of God is a sure bar against discovery of its great life giving truth, concealed from the mind and is lacking spiritual discernment.

The Bible computes a multitude of blessings which will be showered upon the house of Judah when they turns to God with their whole heart. **The Eternal relates to Judah in Jer 29**, “For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Then shall you call upon Me, and you shall go and pray unto Me, and I will hearken unto you. And you shall seek Me, and find Me, when you shall search for Me with all your heart” (Jer 29:11-13).

God’s deafness to Judah’s cry was ample evidence of their sin. Not only had Judah broken God’s covenant, but they had gone off into corrupt paganism, therefore their fellowship with God was broken so He would not hear their prayer request.

Where there is godless living, lack of concern for others who are in need and carelessness with regard to the clear instructions of the word of God, God cannot honor their prayers. Such a one stands in danger of divine judgment, however God answers the call of His own.

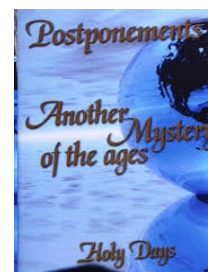
If we are to be more righteous than the scribes and pharisees, than we need to search out God's truth with our whole heart and put it into our daily character building!

As ambassadors and watchmen for the house of Israel, we must proclaim God's requirements! We are to “cry aloud, spare not, lift up your voice like a trumpet, and show my people Israel their transgression, and the House of Jacob their sins”(Isa 58: 1). 📖

James Russell

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## Deut 5:6-21 GOD’S COMMANDS !!

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6 “I am the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage. 7 Thou shalt have none other gods before me. 8 Thou shalt not make thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the waters beneath the earth: 9 Thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate Me, 10 And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love Me and keep My commandments. 11 Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain: for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh His name in vain. 12 Keep the Sabbath day to sanctify it, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee. 13 Six days thou shalt labour, and do all thy work: 14 But the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thine ox, nor thine ass, nor any of thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates; that thy manservant and thy maidservant may rest as well as thou. 15 And remember that thou wast a servant in the land of Egypt, and that the LORD thy God brought thee out thence through a mighty hand and by a stretched out arm: therefore the LORD thy God commanded thee to keep the Sabbath day. 16 Honour thy father and thy mother, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee; that thy days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with thee, in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee. 17 Thou shalt not kill. 18 Neither shalt thou commit adultery. 19 Neither shalt thou steal. 20 Neither shalt thou bear false witness against thy neighbour. 21 Neither shalt thou desire thy neighbour's wife, neither shalt thou covet thy neighbour's house, his field, or his manservant, or his maidservant, his ox, or his ass, or any thing that is thy neighbour's.”