



Firstfruits

Christ, the Firstfruit

What dreams has the LORD placed in your heart? Are you still awaiting the manifestation of your dreams? Does it seem like you have been waiting for a long time for the appearance of those desires?

Whenever you discover any biblical truth and you apply it, blessings naturally follow. No bold step out into faith is ever left unrewarded!

Don't we have specific promises of becoming the Bride of Christ? Paul taught, "for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ" (2 Cor 11:2). We are the Bride of Christ!

Where are the promises of the bride? Isaiah taught of the church, "thy Maker is thine husband; the LORD of hosts is his name; and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel; The God of the whole earth shall he be called. For the LORD hath called thee as a woman forsaken and grieved in spirit, and a wife of youth, when thou wast refused, saith thy God" (Isa 54:5-6). The world little knows us today; it refuses to recognize us!

We shall be known in the in world; notice some of the promises which are given to this Bride of the Lord. We need to specifically recognize the timing of these promises as they begin to come about in us, "Sing, O barren (*The church is barren (no births) even until now; further, we are to singing before "Sons of God" appear on the earth! It is interesting to note that no barren woman in the bible ever prayed and was left without the issue of a child.*), thou that **didst not bear** (*this is speaking of the church today; or to those who have not yet borne any sons. Once we are born into the family of God there will be Sons of God!*); break forth into singing (*According to the timing, we are to sing now, we are to break forth into singing even now as we call into being those things which be not!*), and cry aloud, thou that didst not travail with child: for more are the children of the desolate than the children of the married wife, saith the LORD (*the children produced by the Church will be many, many more than the children produced by the nation of Israel*). Enlarge the place of thy tent (*The Church is to begin the process of enlarging its tents now!*), and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes; For **thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left**; and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles, and make the desolate cities to be inhabited" (Isa 54:1-3). Through the blessings of Abraham, we are going to inherit the gentiles!

When do all these blessings begin to spring forth? Let's review Israel's history for some insight into our question.



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Jericho – first city taken after crossing the Jordan river!

Let's get a complete picture of what was taking place in the nation of Israel during this milestone in her life. Israel had just setup a pile of stones to mark their crossing. They had just traversed the Jordan river, "When your children shall ask their fathers in time to come, saying, What mean these stones? Then ye shall let your children know, saying, Israel came over this Jordan on dry land. For the LORD **your God dried up the waters of Jordan from before you**, until ye were passed over" (Josh 4:21-23). However, Israel had been subsisting entirely from the hand of God. They had been eating manna (*what is it*) for an entire generation! However, the winds of change were now powerfully blowing across the face of the nation of Israel.

Joshua realized that his nation was at a major milestone as he observed their passage through a key landmark event. Joshua realized that they needed to begin to observe all of the law of God, "Now all the people that came out were circumcised: but all the people that were born in the wilderness by the way as they came forth out of Egypt, them they had not circumcised" (Josh 5:5).

Along with the circumcision performed on males, God too made some changes in his manifestation among the people. The nation of Israel camped and pondered their future; "the children of Israel encamped in Gilgal, and kept the passover on the fourteenth day of the month at even in the plains of Jericho. And they did eat of the old corn of the land on the morrow after the passover, unleavened cakes, and parched corn in the selfsame day. And the manna ceased on the morrow after they had eaten of the old corn of the land; **neither had the children of Israel manna any more**; but they did eat of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year" (Josh 5:10-12). Their generation-long method of miraculous sustenance from God was now over. They had been living under a form of welfare while in the wilderness. However, now they were moving into a new form of sustenance. There are naturally more blessings through work than through welfare!

The people were taught to expect wonderful prosperity in this Promised Land, "And **it shall be**, when the LORD thy God shall have brought thee into the land which he swore unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, **to give thee great and goodly cities, which thou buildest not, And houses full of all good things, which thou filledst not, and wells digged, which thou diggedst not, vineyards and olive trees, which thou plantedst not**; when thou shalt have eaten and be full; Then beware lest thou forget the LORD" (Deut 6:10-12). The people expected to overtake cities and obtain great wealth!

Now let's realize, Israel's supernatural provision (*manna*) had recently been shut down. The cloud (shekina Glory) of the Lord is not specifically mentioned again until the temple is constructed. We should notice the reaction of the people who lived in the in the plain of Jericho. They were aware of how the entire nation of Israel had crossed the Jordan. They knew that Israel did not build a bridge; instead they knew that Israel walked through the river on dry land! This shook up the inhabitants of Jericho! Notice their reaction, "Now Jericho was straitly shut up because of the children of Israel: none went out, and none came in" (Josh 6:1).



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The spies earlier had gone into the city and Rahab made them aware of the morale of the people in Jericho, “And she said unto the men, I know that the LORD hath given you the land, and that **your terror is fallen upon us**, and that **all the inhabitants of the land faint because of you**. For we have heard how **the LORD dried up the water of the Red sea** for you, when ye came out of Egypt; and what ye did unto the two kings of the Amorites, that were on the other side Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom ye utterly destroyed. And **as soon as we had heard these things, our hearts did melt**, neither did there remain any more courage in any man, because of you: for the LORD your God, he is God in heaven above, and in earth beneath” (Josh 2:9-11).

Beyond the fear that the heathen had in their hearts because of the God of Israel, the Children of Israel drew upon additional supernatural help, “And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, **Art thou for us, or for our adversaries?** And he said, **Nay; but as captain of the host of the LORD am I now come**. And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and did worship, and said unto him, What saith my lord unto his servant? And the captain of the LORD's host said unto Joshua, Loose thy shoe from off thy foot; for the place whereon thou standest is holy. And Joshua did so” (Josh 5:13-15).

Notice that the Captain of the Lord's host never did completely answer Joshua's question, “**Art thou for us, or for our adversaries?** And he said, **Nay; but as captain of the host of the LORD am I now come.**” In essence because the Captain of the Lord's host neither claimed to be **for** or **against** the nation of Israel, he (the Captain of the Lord's host) must have been there to act in both capacities! We will observe this “**for or against**” dual capacity of (the Captain of the Lord's host) more closely a little later.

First let's realize that Israel was not a nation of warriors! They were sons of bricklayers and stonemasons and monument builders. These people were not a warring people; rather they were the offspring of the working class (*slaves*). The Captain of the Lord's Host was there to give them battle strategy! But realize that they needed to battle against themselves:

- their opinions;
- their emotions;
- their own negativism;
- and their negative words!

It would have been easy for them to begin to speak wrong words of discouragement: “you know Joshua is pretty good; but after all, he is no Moses!” “I don't know about you but I'm not going to walk around that city seven times; do you know how early we will have to get up to do that?” etc... Joshua surely remembered that 40 years earlier ten of his fellow spies had given bad reports and the hearts of the people fainted regarding the giants in the land. Joshua was smart and he commanded the people to keep quiet, “Ye shall not shout, nor make any noise with your voice, **neither shall any word proceed out of your mouth**, until the day I bid you shout; then shall ye shout” (Josh 6:10).

Joshua's instructions reveal that Israel first had to win their own personal warfare. Likewise, when we win the battle against ourselves; only then we are competent to defeat



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the enemy! Just like Israel at Jericho we are involved in a spiritual warfare of which we have no experience. We are battling against the spiritual world and we have no physical experience from which to draw upon. Therefore, we need to learn to make war in a fashion completely foreign to our physical experience and familiarity.

We all know that the battle against the mightily fortified city of Jericho ended up being a complete success which magnified Israel in the eyes of their enemies, “And Joshua adjured them at that time, saying, Cursed be the man before the LORD, that riseth up and buildeth this city Jericho: he shall lay the foundation thereof in his firstborn, and in his youngest son shall he set up the gates of it. So the LORD was with Joshua; and **his fame was noised throughout all the country.**” (Josh 6:26-27).

Paradoxically, Jericho notwithstanding, Israel’s very next battle against the city of Ai was a complete failure! Why? What happened that the next battle ended in failure? What was the secret to their disastrous battle? There is a very important hint given in the previous passage from Joshua chapter six. Reread Joshua 6:26-27 to see if you get the hint.

Proverbs teaches that one who rules his spirit can prevail against a city, “He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city” (Prov 16:32). The problem of Israel losing in battle to the city Ai was related to just one individual who could not rule his own spirit, “But the children of Israel committed a trespass in the **accursed thing**: for Achan, the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took of the **accursed thing**: and the anger of the LORD was kindled against the children of Israel” (Josh 7:1). We need to remember the “**for or against**” dual capacity of (the Captain of the Lord’s host), “Behold, I send an Angel (*Notiace capital letter A*) before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared. **Beware of him, and obey his voice, provoke him not; for he will not pardon your transgressions** (*this Angel does not pardon sins!*): for my name is in him. But if thou shalt indeed obey his voice, and do all that I speak; then I will be an enemy unto thine enemies, and an adversary unto thine adversaries. For mine Angel shall go before thee, and bring thee in unto the Amorites, and the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Canaanites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites: and I will cut them off” (Ex 23:20-23).

We better discover what this “accursed thing” is that caused the Angel to be provoked? The “accursed thing” comes from the Hebrew word, “*cherem*” which means a dedicated thing, or things which should have been utterly destroyed. These things are appointed to utter destruction. A secondary English word translated in the King James Authorized Version identifies “*cherem*” as a “devoted thing.” What are these “devoted things” or “accursed things?” These devoted things exist in a very unique category unto the LORD, “Notwithstanding no **devoted thing**, that a man shall devote unto the LORD of all that he hath, both of man and beast, and of the field of his possession, shall be sold or redeemed: every **devoted thing** is **most holy unto the LORD**. None **devoted**, which shall be **devoted** of men, shall be redeemed; but shall surely be put to death” (Lev 27:28-29). These devoted things or accursed things **must be put to death!** Notice that they fall in a very special category, “Every thing **devoted** in Israel shall be thine. Every thing that **openeth the matrix in all flesh** (*firstborn*), which they bring unto the LORD, whether it be



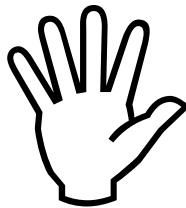
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of men or beasts, shall be thine: nevertheless the **firstborn** of man shalt thou surely redeem, and the **firstling** of unclean beasts shalt thou redeem” (Num 18:14-15). Here the topic is referencing firstlings or firstfruits. These things are **always to remain devoted to God!** Only when it comes to the firstborn of man and the unclean thing are the devoted things redeemable!

God demands the firstfruits the Hebrew word, “*bekowrah*” the firstling of man or beast; the primogeniture (*first in order of birth or generation*). “*Bekowrah*” is translated as birthright, first(born). God’s word teaches that these “*bekowrah*” belong to HIM as “*cherem*” or “devoted things!” The very first time that we observe God expressing respect or disrespect toward human activity is with regard to the offerings of Abel and Cain, “And Abel, he also brought of the **firstlings** of his flock and of the fat thereof. And **the LORD had respect** unto Abel and to his offering: But unto Cain and to his offering **he had not respect**. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell” (Gen 4:4-5). After this initial usage of the word “*bekowrah*;” can you guess when we see next see the word “*bekowrah*” used in the Bible?

Now, steel yourself and do not read forward; you should place your hand over the next paragraph; then, try to guess when the word “*bekowrah*” is next used in the Bible . . .



Before reading, place your hand

over paragraph below:

If you guessed that the word “*bekowrah*” next shows up regarding the story of the birthright with respect to Jacob and Esau, then go to the head of the class! We find Esau indifferently expressing the following, “what profit shall this **birthright** “*bekowrah*” do to me?” (Gen 25:32). Esau who was walking in “the way of Cain” demonstrated absolutely no reverence for the **birthright**, “Lest there be any fornicator, or **profane person, as Esau**, who for one morsel of meat sold his **birthright**” (Heb 12:16). God considered it a profane act of character to despise the “*bekowrah!*” The firstfruit is especially important to God!

Lest we find ourselves ignorant of the importance of the Firstfruit, let us make a working definition of the “The Firstfruit!” It is that thing whether human, animal, or inanimate goods, which are **first**, obtained from God’s bounty. In Biblical parlance these first of things belong to God!

Let’s investigate a passage where a righteous man shows respect to the “*bekowrah*,” and is thereby greatly blessed! You’re probably ahead of me one more time; whenever we think of blessings our minds naturally gravitate toward Abraham! However, since we have not been aware of what to look for, almost everyone has missed this specific reference to the “*bekowrah!*” We find Abraham reacting to a war, “And they (*Chedorlaomer the king of Elam, Tidal king of nations (Goiim or Gentiles), Amraphel king of Shinar (ancient Hebrew*



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oral tradition states that Amraphel is Nimrod), and Arioch king of Ellasar (Gen 14:9)) **took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah**, and all their victuals, and went their way.

And they took Lot, Abram's brother's son, who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed” (Gen 14:11-12). Here we find Abraham mostly concerned with recovering his nephew Lot!

Now let’s read and analyze how the story ended, “And he (*Abraham*) brought back all the goods, and also brought again his brother Lot, and his goods, and the women also, and the people. And the king of Sodom (*all of whose goods had been taken see 14:9*) went out to meet him after his return from the slaughter of Chedorlaomer, and of the kings that were with him, at the valley of Shaveh, which is the king's dale. (*Here at the end to this great war we find the introduction of a new individual*) And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God. And he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth: And **blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand**. And he gave him tithes of all. (*Here we find Abraham receiving blessings and giving tithes probably in the presence of a worldly King!*) And the king of Sodom said unto Abram, Give me the persons, and **take the goods to thyself** (*Notice that the King’s goods are now given to Abraham*). And Abram said to the king of Sodom, I have lift up mine hand unto the LORD, the most high God, the possessor of heaven and earth, That I will not take from a thread even to a shoelatchet, and that I will not take any thing that is thine, lest thou shouldest say, I have made Abram rich (*At this point most people believe that Abraham simply returned this stuff back to the King of Sodom. However, this concept is not complete, the king told Abraham “take the goods to thyself!” Abraham would not take the goods to himself. If we look carefully, there is much more going on here than first meets the eye! This was Abraham’s first victory in battle! Just like Jericho, anything that Abraham would obtain as spoils of war through the Hand Of God would be firstfruits and therefore belonging to God! Abraham answered, “I have lift up mine hand unto the LORD, the most high God the possessor of heaven and earth” in effect, I have devoted any spoils of my first war unto God! In effect, Abraham claimed those things as devoted and therefore belonging to God! The point is that if Abraham ever gets rich it will be only because of God’s favor in his life!*): Save only that which the young men have eaten, and the portion of the men which went with me, Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre; let them take their portion” (Gen 14:16-24).

After the “*bekowrah*” **firstfruit** offering by Abel ten chapters earlier in Genesis, this is the next time that we recognize a “*bekowrah*” **firstfruit** offering! Melchizedek king of Salem and the priest of the Most High God received both tithes and **firstfruit** offerings from the hand of Abraham! Just an interesting note here, the Jewish oral tradition describes this priest as Shem, the Son of Noah and therefore the world’s oldest living man at the time!

We have observed the special significance of the “Trinity Structure.” If you are not aware of its importance you need to get the Rivkah Ministries Bible Study entitled, “Trinity Structure.” The point here is that the Almighty expresses Himself through the Godhead in structures composed of three items, “a threefold cord is not quickly broken” (Eccl 4:12). For example, there were three forms of lights placed in the heavens: (1) Sun; (2) Moon and (3) Stars. Indeed, there were three different heavens, “I knew a man in Christ above



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fourteen years ago . . . such an one caught up to the **third heaven**" (2 Cor 12:2); the word "third" as used here implies two other heavens. Notice the three-ness of the

following Biblical elements:

- Both the tabernacle and the temple had three major sections
 - The Court
 - The Holy Place
 - The Sanctuary (Most Holy Place)
- The Old Testament is divided into three divine sections:
 - The Law
 - The Prophets
 - The Writings (Psalms)
- Three marks completeness of groupings of people:
 - Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob
 - Shem, Ham, and Japheth
 - Gershom, Kohath, and Merari
 - Saul, David, and Solomon
 - Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego
 - Peter, James, and John
- The three gifts of Grace are mentioned five (*grace*) times:
 - Faith
 - Hope
 - Love
- There is a three-fold nature of temptation (1 John 2:16):
 - "the lust of the flesh"
 - "the lust of the eyes"
 - "and the pride of life"
- Humanity battles three great enemies:
 - The world
 - The flesh
 - The devil
- There is a three-fold nature of man, (1 Thess 5:23)
 - Spirit
 - Soul
 - Body

It is interesting that those highest quality humanly devised structures also express a threefold nature. for example The Government of the Unites States of America is composed of:

- Executive branch;
- Legislative branch;
- Judicial branch

In like fashion, God designed worshipful giving around three specific areas, "there will I accept them, and there will I require your (1) offerings, and (2) the firstfruits of your oblations, with all your (3) holy things" (Ezek 20:40). (*Concerning #3 the Bible teaches, "the tenth shall be holy unto the LORD" (Lev 27:32).* We discover three types of giving:

- Tithes;
- Freewill Offerings;
- Firstfruit Offerings.



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Notice that apart from tithes, there are two different types of offerings! Those which are Freewill Offerings which are given based upon the self-determination of the giver, “And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, “Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring me an offering: **of every man that giveth it willingly with his heart** ye shall take my offering. And this is the offering which ye shall take of them; gold, and silver, and brass, And blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen, and goats' hair, And rams' skins dyed red, and badgers' skins, and shittim wood, Oil for the light, spices for anointing oil, and for sweet incense, Onyx stones, and stones to be set in the ephod, and in the breastplate. And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them” (Ex 25:1-8).

Notice, the Firstfruit Offerings are not independently determined; they are fixed by God Almighty, “Every thing **devoted** in Israel shall be thine. Every thing that **openeth the matrix in all flesh** (*firstborn*), which they bring unto the LORD, whether it be of men or beasts, shall be thine: nevertheless the **firstborn** of man shalt thou surely redeem, and the **firstling** of unclean beasts shalt thou redeem” (Num 18:14-15). However, we have already observed through the Fathers, who lived before the law of Moses, both Ab(*father*)el and Ab(*father*)raham gave firstfruit offerings!

The entire nation of Israel knew but really never did fulfill their awareness of the firstfruit offerings. Since their time, God has kept secret the knowledge of His firstfruit offerings until a time when He was inclined to greatly bless a people like He did unto Abraham!

The firstfruit is holy unto God! The firstborn or firstfruits of things are special unto God! We can see examples of God's handling of the firstfruits. For example, notice when the real power of God was released in Egypt. It was not after the miracles of blood or of frogs or of lice; rather, it appeared after the destruction of the firstborn of the Egyptians! Further, after the firstborn of the Egyptians were sacrificed, then the Israelites obtained all of the wealth of Egypt! This is a key point! The giving of the firstfruit is not like the giving of an offering which is seed and produces a natural harvest. We have all been aware of the giving of the seed offering. However, most of us have been blinded to the giving of the firstfruit which results in supernatural wealth from God!

To help understand the three types of giving to God please consult the following table. For those reading this Bible Study, you may need to obtain an audio copy of this Bible Study from Rivkah.org in order to have the following “Table of Giving to God” explained!



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The Table of Giving to God

| Tithes (for the Church) | Freewill Offerings (for the Gospel) | Firstfruit Offerings (for the Increase of the Giver) |
|---|--|---|
| (Giver gets not wealth but the power to get wealth) | (Giver plants as seed for his/her future harvest) | (Giver gets increase and receives sanctification) |
| <p>“for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth” (Deut 8:18)</p> <p>“And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD's: it is holy unto the LORD” (Lev 27:30)</p> <p>“Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house (spiritual understanding), and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it” (Mal 3:10)</p> | <p>God receives offering from a cheerful giver and He multiplies it back in like measure, “He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver”(2Cor 9:6-7)</p> | <p>Those who are Holy recognize that which is Holy, “Sanctify (<i>make Holy unto God</i>) unto me all the firstborn, whatsoever openeth the womb among the children of Israel, both of man and of beast: it is mine.” (Ex 13:2)</p> <p>Firstfruits Honor God, “Honour the LORD with thy substance (<i>offerings</i>), <u>and</u> with the firstfruits of all thine increase” (Prov 3:9)</p> |
| <p>Tithing is not about obtaining money; it is about obedience and the power to get future wealth, “that there shall not be room enough to receive it” (Mal 3:10) Abraham’s children are still getting the results of his obedience to tithing. He was not able to receive it all in his lifetime!</p> | <p>God even gives the seed and He multiplies it, “. . . Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness” (2 Cor 9:10)</p> | <p>Confusion of Tithe and first tenth being equivalent to the Firstfruit. The first tenth is not the tithe; in fact the <u>last</u> tenth is the tithe! The rod was used for counting, “And concerning the tithe of the herd, or of the flock, even of whatsoever passeth under the rod, the tenth shall be holy unto the LORD” (Lev 27:32).</p> |
| <p>Tithing is not law keeping as we observe that Abraham long before the law of Moses gave tithes, “For this Melchisedec, king of Salem, priest of the most high God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings, and blessed him; To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all” (Heb 7:1-2)</p> | <p>The multiplication of seed is not increase (<i>as firstfruits are</i>); it is merely getting back what was originally given by God to all mankind, “for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust” (Matt 5:45)</p> | <p>The firstfruit is merely the first thing, “Only the firstling of the beasts, which should be the LORD's firstling, no man shall sanctify it; whether it be ox, or sheep: it is the LORD's” (Lev 27:26).</p> |
| <p>Tithing keeps the giver safe from disaster, “Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse . . . And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts”</p> | <p>Seed & Word associated, “as the rain cometh down . . . that it may give seed to the sower . . . So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void” (Isa 55:10-11)</p> | <p>The first ensures that the rest is Holy too! “For if the firstfruit be holy, the lump is also holy: and if the root be holy, so are the branches” (Rom 11:16). The first ensures there will be more!</p> |



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God views the firstfruit with such a close affection to his heart because the Father offered Christ as His own Firstfruit offering! Jesus is the first Son of God to be born from the dead, “But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept” (1 Cor 15:20). This is awesome because Jesus is Holy, “For if the firstfruit be holy, the lump is also holy: and if the root be holy, so are the branches” (Rom 11:16). Jesus’ Holiness ensures our Holiness unto God! His resurrection ensures our position in God, “These were redeemed from among men, being the **firstfruits** unto God and to the Lamb” (Rev 14:4).

Likewise, Israel will become the firstfruit among the whole family of nations unto God unto, “Thus saith the LORD, Israel is my son, even my firstborn” (Ex 4:22). The term first in (first)fruits ensures that there will be other fruits unto God in the future! The term firstfruits *implies something will be left over*, “And Elisha came again to Gilgal: and there was a dearth in the land; and the sons of the prophets were sitting before him: and he said unto his servant, Set on the great pot, and seethe pottage for the sons of the prophets. And one went out into the field to gather herbs, and found a wild vine, and gathered thereof wild gourds his lap full, and came and shred them into the pot of pottage: for they knew them not. So they poured out for the men to eat. And it came to pass, as they were eating of the pottage, that they cried out, and said, O thou man of God, there is death in the pot. And they could not eat thereof. But he said, Then bring meal. And he cast it into the pot; and he said, Pour out for the people, that they may eat. And there was no harm in the pot. And there came a man from Baal-shalisha, and brought the man of God bread of the **firstfruits**, twenty loaves of barley, and full ears of corn in the husk thereof. And he said, Give unto the people, that they may eat. And his servitor said, What, should I set this before an hundred men? He said again, Give the people, that they may eat: for thus saith the LORD, **They shall eat, and shall leave thereof**” (2 Kings 4:38-43). Here we see that something is left over when a firstfruit is offered!

Firstfruits is not legalism! Firstfruits is purely spiritual! The sons of Abraham will be involved in the offering of firstfruits, “If ye were Abraham's children, **ye would do the works of Abraham** (*this includes firstfruit offerings!*)” (John 8:39).

Firstfruits offered keep us from experiencing a spiritual Ai!

When you want to offer a firstfruit offering to God, ask Him about it! He will speak to you concerning the firstfruit offering!

Your heart is tied to your treasure, “But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness! No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon” (Matt 6:20-24)!

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