

This is the story of *One Who*, neither *long ago* nor in a place *far away*, always *was* and always *was what He was*, and *caused* all things to come into being as His thoughts and intents emanated from His nature, the utterances of His lips turning them into substance. Without the essence and dimension of anything known to us, He is unattached to time. He is set apart. He is unlike any *thing* or *place* or *person* that we know. He is perfectly good. No impurity exists within Him and no sin or impurity stands in His presence. He lives in unapproachable light. He is enthroned and encircled by those who will worship Him and no other. In His Presence His will and desire alone is carried out and brought to pass. Those who surround Him take no attention or glory for themselves, rather they abhor attention and glory that is directed to anyone or anything other than Him. They fall down in humility before Him. They worship Him as God. They value Him more highly than anything or anyone can be valued. He is their Treasure, their Gold, their Pearl of Great Price, their glorious Clothing, their Hope and Expectation, their Life. They love Him for Who He is. They exist to worship Him alone. He alone has always existed from everlasting to everlasting. He alone is God. He IS that He IS. In Him alone eternity has meaning. Apart from Him forever has no meaning. To be with Him is to be caught up into unending meaningful existence. In His Presence are joys for evermore. To be apart from Him is to suffer the death of existence without Him. And for men, who have been created in His image, who are purposed to live for eternity with Him, there is no greater loss than the loss of connectedness to and meaning in Him. That loss is a never-ending loss.

Thus Love cries aloud, echoing through untold expanses in the material universe. The heavens themselves are a declaration of His Love for His Family, extravagant and demonstrative signs. God is searching for any who would acquiesce to His *Love of loves* that He may exchange the wounds of their lost loves for the Joys of His Love unending. A heavenly trade: Love for loss, Life for death, Substance for shadow, Eternity for finality. The arms of LOVE preeminent are extended. From ages without end to ages without end His tender embrace will enfold those who accept the Invitation.

And men, who have been in the mind of God from before the foundation of the world, walk in the shadows of His thoughts. Shadows stretch out before them, yet they seldom turn to investigate the light source. They are aware and yet unaware ("without excuse", as Scripture says). They have seen, but have not fully perceived. Men embrace shadowy form as substance and presume to know enough to reject substance as myth. Men know that they are passing through this place; that they are not meant to stay in the world, that they are all dying. To exist in the exquisite splendor and animation of life and then one day to merely pass out of this world and cease existing does not feel right or settle well in the hearts of men. Why exist at all if only to exist for a mere *breath of a moment* and then *not exist*? Where is the meaning in it? Why expend the effort to climb to the heights of human joy and endure the depths of human suffering -- all for a final destination of permanent nothingness?

Unseeing and unknowing, many have concluded that there is no meaning, other than to satiate physical and emotional desire and need; "*eating, drinking, making merry, for tomorrow we die*". We, like an unwitting ship's captain, have disregarded the small outline of ice floating out in front of the ship, having waived the possibility that a great ice mountain may be expanding into the depths inches from our bow. It is said that the peak of an iceberg is only a tenth of the ice mountain that lies below the water. It is a beacon of wisdom and warning, small but visible. Oh what knowledge we have lost! So many, asleep at the helm, have given up the pursuit of the substance that lies below the surface, just out of sight. From the depths of those seemingly dark waters, an unimaginably wide and deep mountain is lifting up a subtle but clarion message: "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believed."

IN THE BEGINNING

In the beginning there was nothing. All that exists came from nothing. God created everything by speaking it into existence.

Let all the earth fear the LORD: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him. **For he spoke, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast.** (Psalms 33:8-9 KJV)

By faith we understand the ages to have been framed by the Word of God, so that **the things seen should not come into being out of things that appear.** (Hebrews 11:3 LITV)

So when did we come into the thoughts and intentions of God? How shall we say it? Shall we say, “Long ago?” or “In the fullness of time?” Time did not exist. God did not begin. We try to articulate Him and His movement, but we cannot find the words. With childlike enthusiasm we say, “With Him a day is as a thousand years and a thousand years as a day”. This appeals to us because, being created in the image of God, we have an innate curiosity about eternity.

He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, **He has set eternity in their heart, without which man cannot find out the work that God makes from the beginning even to the end.** (Ecclesiastes 3:11 LITV)

And yet because we subject to *time*, we cannot imagine or picture what it is like to have *never not existed*. I suspect that many stop there and go back and get on with “real” life, assuming that such thoughts are too deep and intangible for practical application. Yet, God the Father, maker of heaven and earth is not unreal or intangible. God the Son is real and has always been the Father’s Son. God the Holy Spirit is real and has always known the deep things of God. The things that Father God has set in motion are “of” His very nature and fabric as Father. They are more real and tangible than anything on earth because, like Himself, the things of God are lasting. Father God neither *discovered* His Plan to have a Family, nor *created* it. He is Who He is. Always existent.

And God said to Moses, **I AM THAT I AM;** and He said, You shall say this to the sons of Israel, **I AM has sent me to you.** (Exodus 3:14 LITV)

Father God is in motion, having certain desires and intentions that are *from* and *of* and *emanating out of*: **Who He Is**. As surely as an olive tree will generate olives, an *Eternal Father* will generate an *Eternal Family*. As surely as a bird will build a nest, Father God will make a House for His Family. As surely as light emanates from the sun, the glory of Father God emanates from the face of His Son Jesus *and* will emanate from the faces of His children.

Because it is God who said, ‘Out of darkness Light shall shine,’ who shone in our hearts to give the brightness of the knowledge of the **glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.** (2 Corinthians 4:6 LITV)

But we all with **our face having been unveiled,** having **beheld the glory of the Lord** in a mirror, are being changed into the same image from glory to glory, as from the Lord Spirit. (2 Corinthians 3:18 LITV)

They looked to Him and were filled with light; and their faces were not ashamed. (Psalms 34:5 LITV)

When the heavens and the earth were spoken into existence, time came into being. And thus, for us, there is a *beginning* to a Story that, in reality, subsists in One Who has no beginning or end. God who is I AM can know the end of a thing from the beginning and the beginning from the end because there is no limitation or parameter known as *time* imposed upon Him.

Remember former things from forever, for I am God, and no one else is God, even none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from the past those things which were not done, saying, My counsel shall rise; and, I will do all My desire (Isaiah 46:9-10 LITV)

This document is a feeble attempt to refer to the wonder and glory of a Story that God Himself is telling into eternal existence. Just as my life is a work in progress, my understanding of such things is a work in

progress. I feel overwhelmed by the glory of this Story and inadequate to communicate these things. Yet God Himself has beautifully communicated to us all so many of His thoughts and intentions in Scripture and with the help of the Holy Spirit, He will lead us into all truth. We can love and appreciate the things that God has breathed and revealed in Scripture, even if we know we still have much to learn. Father God, please give us a glimpse of YOU and YOUR Love Story: past, present, and future.

OUR QUESTIONS, HIS ANSWERS

As creatures with finite days and limited understanding, caught up in time and space, we can't help but wonder about what is to come when this life ends. What will it be like after we die and leave this present world? What happens to us? Where will we go? What has God prepared for us? It cannot be wrong to ask such questions, and surely God knows and intends for us to ask them, for He has made us in His image and given us many insights along these lines in Scripture.

Even so, sometimes the best way God can respond to our questions is to answer *another question*. For example, a woman may look into the mirror and ask God, "Do others think I am beautiful?" Perhaps God, Who looks on the heart and knows the deepest motivations and eternal needs, sees a deeper need than physical attraction, and answers: "I love you." Because that is really what she needed to know: to know that God loves her, and that He desires for her to see past fleeting physicality and fall in love with HIM for eternity. "Come away with Me My love."

The answers to questions about what will happen to us after we die, and what it will be like, may require answers to other questions. For example, to wonder about the "place" where we will spend eternity is a valid question. But it may be that God's answer to our question is the answer to *another question* that is burning in the heart of God: "Who will you spend eternity WITH?"

Let's begin walking through some basics about heaven and earth and the nature of God...

HEAVEN

There are a couple of different ways to define heaven. In a physical sense, people often refer to "heaven" or the "heavens" as the physical sky and/or the stars. Another way to define heaven is the place where God dwells.

Currently there is a place called Heaven which is the Throne of God. God dwells there. Heaven is the Throne of God, the place where God lives. As creator of all things, God transcends the physical and *no physical structure* can contain Him.

So says Jehovah: **Heaven is My throne**, and earth the footstool of My feet. Where then is the house that you build for Me? And where then is the place of My rest? (Isaiah 66:1 LITV)

But the Most High does **not dwell in temples made by hand**, as the prophet says, "Heaven is My throne, and the earth a footstool of My feet; what house will you build Me," "says the Lord," "or what the place of My rest?" "Did not My hands make all these things?" (Acts 7:48-50 LITV)

The One having come from above is above all. The one being of the earth is earthy, and speaks of the earth. The **One coming out of Heaven** is above all. (John 3:31 LITV)

EARTH AND SKY

Right now we are in a certain *place*. We live on a physical planet known as *earth*. Sometimes the sky and the physical stars and galaxies are referred to as "heaven" or "heavens". So in Scripture, we find lots of references to the physical heavens, heaven, sky. (Hebrew 8064; Greek 3772)

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth (Genesis 1:1 LITV)

ETERNAL INTENTION

Why did God create the heavens and the earth? What is He getting at? Where is He taking us? I'd like to give some background in an attempt to illustrate what God has desired from the beginning of His dealings with men. We could go all the way back to Adam, but for now, I'll just go back to Moses and his initial encounter with God. Then we'll work our way through to Jesus, and some of the things that God says about eternity and a new heaven and earth.

MOSES AND THE MOUNTAIN

In the Scripture we find a man named Moses. Moses comes into the picture when Israel had been in captivity for 430 years in Egypt. God raised Moses up to deliver His people from oppression and slavery in Egypt. After leaving Egypt, God gave Moses the Ten Commandments. You may remember that Moses went up into a mountain and began to speak with God face to face, so to speak. At one point, Moses even asked God to show him the glory of God. God allowed Moses to see His backside, saying that, "no man can see My Face and live."

On that mountain, Moses was in a very close relationship with God. This was a shadow of something that is in God's heart: God longs to be in relationship with all of His people. After God spoke to Moses on the mountain, God decided to *directly* speak to all the people from the mountain. Unfortunately, this did not go over well with the people. To the people, the mountain was untouchable, fearful, loud, burning, terrifying. The people heard the Voice of God coming from that mountain and were so fearful that they "begged that the word should not be spoken to them anymore" (Hebrews 12.19).

And **God spoke** all these words, saying, I am Jehovah your God, who has brought you out from the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage. (Exodus 20:1-2 LITV)

And all the people saw the thunders, and the lightnings, and the sound of the ram's horn, and the smoking mountain. And the people looked, and they trembled, and they stood from a distance. **And they said to Moses, You speak with us, and we will hear. And let us not speak with God, that we not die.** And Moses said to the people, Do not be afraid, for God has come in order to test you, and so that His fear may be on your faces, that you may not sin. And the people stood from a distance, and Moses went near the thick darkness where God was. And Jehovah said to Moses, You shall say this to the sons of Israel, You have seen that I have spoken with you from the heavens. (Exodus 20:18-22 LITV)

Thus began a time when God only spoke to the people through a series of mediators, and seldom spoke to them directly. This sets the stage for a long history of mediators/priests and physical things that are referred to as the "copy and shadow" in Hebrews 8.5.

those priests offering gifts according to the Law, who serve the **pattern/copy and shadow of heavenly** things (Hebrews 8:4-5 LITV)

More on the "Substance" later.

COPY AND SHADOW

God dwells in *heaven*, on the *Throne of God*. He cannot be contained in or by physical structures. However, God can *manifest His Presence* here on earth. Perhaps this is somewhat like a human hand reaching down into a bowl full of goldfish. The goldfish may be startled at the sudden presence of a hand, knowing that the hand is not a native thing in the water. And yet, even though the hand is not

“of” the water and is attached to a being outside of the water -- a being that that cannot fully fit into the fish bowl -- the hand has no trouble entering into the bowl with the fish.

In a similar way, God can reach down into this physical world even though He is not “of” the world, and cannot be fully contained by the world, being its Creator. God is “in” the world, but not “of” the world. This idea of God coming into the world to be *with us* has been God’s intention from the beginning: to dwell with His children during their sojourn on earth, and for eternity. The way He has chosen to make His Presence manifest has been a progression from a physical architectural (a) tabernacle and (b) temple where God once dwelt -- a temple made with human hands -- to a temple that God *Himself* made, perfectly designed and created *by Him for His Own dwelling place* in this present world and beyond.

Now a summary over the things being said: We have such a High Priest [Jesus], who sat down on the right of the throne of the Majesty in Heaven, (Psa. 110:1) Minister of the Holy of Holies, and of the true tabernacle which the Lord pitched, and not man. (Hebrews 8:1-2 LITV)

TABERNACLE

On earth, there used to be a place called the Tabernacle, or “temporary habitation”, where God initially chose to manifest His Presence. This was essentially a Tent. For hundreds of years, from the time when God rescued Israel from captivity in Egypt until the time of Solomon, a Tent was used to house the Presence of God and the Ark of the Covenant.

And let them make a sanctuary for Me, that I may dwell in their midst. (Exodus 25:8 LITV)

And you shall make the tabernacle with ten curtains. You shall make them with cherubs, the work of a skilled workman, of twined linen, and blue and purple and crimson. (Exodus 26:1 LITV)

And it happened, as David sat in his house, that David said to Nathan the prophet, Behold, I am living in a house of cedars, and the ark of the covenant of the LORD is under curtains. (1 Chronicles 17:1 LITV)

for I have not dwelt in a house from the day that I brought Israel up until this day, but I have gone from tent to tent, and from one tabernacle to another. (1 Chronicles 17:5 LITV)

And it came to pass in the four hundred and eightieth year after the children of Israel were come out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month Zif, which is the second month, that he began to build the house [physical architectural Temple] of the LORD.
(1 Kings 6:1 KJV)

TEMPLE

Eventually, a physical architectural structure was built known as the Temple of God, and inside that Temple were several rooms. One of the rooms was a special place called the “Holy of Holies”, the place where the actual Presence of God manifested. The general public could not enter that room. Only *one man*, known as the high priest, could enter the Holy of Holies into the Presence of God, bringing the blood of sacrificial animals to cover over the sins of the people. This was done perpetually, year after year. The Temple, as the dwelling place of God on earth, was also referred to as the “house of God”.

And the lamp of God had not yet gone out. And Samuel was lying down in the Temple of the Lord, where the ark of God rested. (1 Samuel 3:3 LITV)

And, behold, I purpose to build a house unto the name of the LORD my God, as the LORD spoke unto David my father, saying, Your son, whom I will set upon your throne in your room, he shall build a house unto My Name. (1 Kings 5:5 KJV)

the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud; for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of God. (2 Chronicles 5:14 LITV)

HOLY OF HOLIES

Within the Temple was a room like no other room. It was known by several names: “the Holy of Holies”, “the Holiest of All”, “the Holiest”, “the Most Holy Place”.

And you shall bring the ark of the testimony there inside to the veil. And the veil shall divide for you between the sanctuary and the Holy of Holies. (Exodus 26:33 LITV)

But behind the second veil is a tabernacle, being called Holy of Holies, (Hebrews 9:3 LITV)

THE ARK

Within the Holy of Holies resided the Ark of the Covenant. It was from the midst of the Ark of the Covenant, between the outstretched wings of the two creatures known as Cherubs, that God chose to manifest His Presence. Inside the Ark were the stone tablets upon which God Himself transcribed the Ten Commandments (also called *the Testimony*).

And I will meet you there, and will speak with you, above the mercyseat, from between the two cherubs which are on the ark of testimony, all which I shall command you concerning the sons of Israel. (Exodus 25:22 LITV)

And when Moses went into the tabernacle of the congregation to speak with Him, he heard the Voice speaking to him from the mercy-seat which is on the ark of the testimony, from between the two cherubs; and He spoke to him. (Numbers 7:89 LITV)

And the people sent to Shiloh, and they took from there the ark of the covenant of LORD of Hosts, who dwells between the cherubs. (1 Samuel 4:4 LITV)

And you shall put the Testimony [stone tablets with the Ten Commandments] into the ark, which I shall give to you. (Exodus 25:16 LITV)

At that time Jehovah said to me, Cut out for yourself two tablets of stone like the first, and come up to Me, into the mountain, and you shall make for yourself an ark of wood; and I shall write on the tablets the words which were on the first tablets, which you have broken, and you shall place them in the ark. (Deuteronomy 10:1-2 LITV)

JERUSALEM, THE CITY OF GOD

The Temple was built by Solomon in the city Jerusalem, sometimes referred to as the city of God. This Jerusalem is the physical city on this present earth.

...Jerusalem, the city which Jehovah chose out of all the tribes of Israel, to put his name there. (1 Kings 14:21 LITV)

There is a river, its channels gladden the city of God, the holy tabernacles of the Most High. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be shaken; God will help her at the turning of the morning. (Psalms 46:4-5 LITV)

Let us go into the house of the LORD. Our feet shall stand within your gates, O Jerusalem. Jerusalem is built like a city that is joined to itself, together. There the tribes go up, the tribes of Jehovah; to the testimony of Israel; to give thanks to the name of Jehovah. (Psalms 122:1-5 LITV)

PRESENCE OF GOD ON EARTH

I would like to reiterate that God was reaching out to men, attempting to show His interest and love to them. When God rescued Israel from captivity in Egypt, He revealed His Presence to them. Why did He do that? What was He getting at? Was it just something that happened in the moment? By revealing Himself, I believe Father God was demonstrating His longing to embrace and envelope a Family. I

believe He was trying to show that, for His part, He wanted to draw near to men and that He was not a distant, far away, disinterested God. Father God was longing to show Himself mighty on behalf of His loved ones. It's just what a Father does. He wants to be involved. He wants to go with His loved ones.

And He [God] said, My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest. And they said to Him, If Your presence does not go, do not cause us to go up from here. (Exodus 33:14-15 LITV)

Like a father pities his children, so the LORD pities them that fear him. For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust. (Psalms 103:13-14 KJV)

When God met with Moses on the mountain, His Presence and his Voice was manifested to all the people. He was reaching out to them.

Jehovah spoke these Words to all your assembly on the Mount, out of the midst of the fire of the cloud and out of the thick darkness with a great Voice. And He added no more; and He wrote them on two tablets of stone, and gave them to me. And it happened, when you heard the Voice out of the midst of the darkness, while the mountain burned with fire, you came near to me, all the rulers of your tribes, and your elders, and you said, Behold! Jehovah your God has made us see His glory and His greatness to us, and we have heard His voice out of the midst of the fire; we have seen today that God speaks with man, and he lives. (Deuteronomy 5:22-24 LITV)

When the physical Temple was built God allowed His Presence to fill it.

And it happened as the priests went out from the Holy of Holies, that the cloud filled the house of the LORD, and the priests were not able to stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of the LORD. And Solomon said, Jehovah has said that He would dwell in the thick darkness. (1 Kings 8:10-12 LITV)

ONE MAN APPROACH

As mentioned earlier, only one man was allowed to approach God directly in the Holy of Holies. This man was known as the high priest. The high priest would enter once a year with the blood of animals, interceding for the sins of the people for that year, offering blood as atonement on behalf of all the people.

But into the second the high priest goes alone once in the year, not without blood, which he offers for himself and the ignorances of the people; (Hebrews 9:7 LITV)

In the end, God was not pleased with this system. It did not solve the problem of sin and kept all but one man at a distance from the very Presence of God Himself. Because sin was ongoing, sacrifice was ongoing, with no end in sight and no permanent solution. This system was incomplete and merely a copy and shadow of Something yet to come.

who serve that which is a copy and shadow of the heavenly things (Hebrews 8:5 RV)

For the Law had a shadow of the coming good things, not the image itself of those things. Appearing year by year with the same sacrifices, which they offer continually, they never are able to perfect the ones drawing near. Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered? Because those serving did not still have conscience of sins, having once been cleansed. But in these there is a remembrance of sins year by year, for it is not possible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. For this reason, coming into the world, He says, "Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, but You prepared a body for Me. You did not delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices concerning sins." (Hebrews 10:1-6 LITV)

LONGING FOR SUBSTANCE

There has to be more. This clearly was not what Father God ultimately had in mind. Consider an earthly father who has many children. What earthly father in only allow one of his children to actually interact

him on behalf of all the others. What earthly father has not delighted in the joy of taking each of his children up into his arms and holding them and kissing them and talking with them directly? Where do earthly fathers get this propensity to delight in their children? Do they have something inside of them that God does not? We must know and never doubt that Father God longs to *delight in* and *embrace* and *know* His children personally, to be in direct living and active relationship with them, to dwell with them for eternity.

In that day you will ask in My name, and I do not tell you that I will petition the Father about you; for **the Father Himself loves you**, because you have loved Me, and have believed that I came out from God. (John 16:26-27 LITV)

Father God has made a New and Living Way for men to access the depths of His very Being, His Presence, His Holy Spirit.

And what father of you, if the son asks for bread, will he give him a stone? And if a fish, will he give him a snake instead of a fish? And if he should ask an egg, will he give him a scorpion? Then if you being evil know to give good gifts to your children, how much more the Father out of Heaven will give the Holy Spirit to those asking Him. (Luke 11:11-13 LITV)

Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters into that within the veil; Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek. (Hebrews 6:19-20 KJV)

HEAVENLY THINGS (Heb 8.5)

Finite men and finite animals could not eternally eliminate sin and restore men to the knowledge of God. So God Himself intervened. God Himself came to work an *infinite work* that no one else could do. God sent *His Son Jesus* and anointed Him to become both sacrificial Lamb and High Priest.

And indeed every priest stands day by day ministering, and often offering the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. **But He [Jesus]**, offering but **one sacrifice for sins**, sat down in perpetuity at the right hand of God, from then on expecting "until His enemies are placed as a footstool" of His feet. For by **one offering** He has **perfected in perpetuity** the ones being sanctified. And the Holy Spirit witnesses to us also. For after having said before, "This is the covenant which I will covenant to them after those days, says the Lord: Giving My Laws on their hearts, and I will write them on their minds;" also He adds, "I will not at all still remember their sins" and their lawlessnesses. But where remission of these is, there is no longer offering concerning sins. Therefore, brothers, having **confidence for the entering of the Holy of Holies by the blood of Jesus**, which He consecrated for us, a new and living way through the veil; that is, His flesh; and having a Great Priest over the house of God, **let us draw near** with a true heart in full assurance of faith, our hearts having been sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our body having been washed in pure water; let us hold fast the confession of the hope unyielding, for He who has promised is faithful. (Hebrews 10:11-23 LITV)

Because Jesus is God, His life is infinite and indestructible, and His sacrifice is once and for all.

And this is still more abundantly clear when we read that it is as belonging to the order of Melchizedek that a priest of a different kind is to arise, and hold His office not in obedience to any temporary Law, but by **virtue of an indestructible Life**. For the words are in evidence, "THOU ART A PRIEST FOR EVER, BELONGING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK." On the one hand we have here the abrogation of an earlier code because it was weak and ineffective-- for the Law brought no perfect blessing--but on the other hand we have **the bringing in of a new and better hope** by means of which **we draw near to God**. And since it was not without an oath being taken-- for these men hold office without any oath having been taken, but He holds it attested by an oath from Him who said to Him, "THE LORD HAS SWORN AND WILL NOT RECALL HIS WORDS, THOU ART A PRIEST FOR EVER" -- **so much the more also is the Covenant of which Jesus has become the guarantor, a better covenant**. And they have been appointed priests many in number, because death prevents their continuance in office: **but He, because He continues for ever, has a priesthood which does not pass to any successor**. (Hebrews 7:15-24 WNT)

Thus the power of Jesus' Blood -- infinitely more powerful than the blood of animals -- can permanently and eternally take away sin once and for all.

with His [Jesus] own blood, He entered **once for all** into the **Holy of Holies**, having procured **everlasting** redemption. (Hebrews 9:12 LITV)

But this Man [Jesus], after he had offered **one sacrifice for sins for ever**, sat down on the right hand of God; From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool. For by one offering he hath **perfected for ever** them that are sanctified. (Hebrews 10:12-14 KJV)

to **Jesus the Mediator of a new covenant**, and to blood of sprinkling speaking better things than that of Abel. (Hebrews 12:24 LITV)

And because Jesus is **God the Son** and pleasing to **God the Father**, Jesus is welcome to enter the Most Holy Place, as God's eternal High Priest. Jesus entered the actual Presence of God in heavenly places.

For **Christ** did not enter into the Holy of Holies made by hands, types of the true things, but **into Heaven itself**, now to **appear in the presence of God on our behalf** (Hebrews 9:24 LITV)

For we do not have a high priest not being able to sympathize with our weaknesses but One having been tried in all respects according to our likeness, apart from sin. **Therefore, let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace**, that we may receive mercy, and we may find grace for timely help. (Hebrews 4:15-16 LITV)

God showed Jeremiah that a *new covenant* would replace an *old covenant*. The Son of God has become both Sacrificial Lamb and High Priest. The series of mortal human mediators with their animal blood has ended with the revelation of **Jesus**. **Jesus** become Mediator for all men for all time with his Own Blood.

For God is one, also there is one **Mediator of God and of men, the Man Christ Jesus**, the One having given Himself a ransom on behalf of all, the testimony to be given in its own time (1 Timothy 2:5-6 LITV)

And because of this He is **Mediator of a new covenant**, so that, death having occurred for redemption of transgressions under the first covenant, those being called might receive the promise of the everlasting inheritance. (Hebrews 9:15 LITV)

Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a **new covenant** with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD: But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for **they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD**: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more. (Jeremiah 31:31-34 KJV)

When Jesus was crucified, He offered His own blood to God. The veil that covered the entrance to the physical room (the Holy of Holies) in the physical Temple in the physical Jerusalem was "rent" or torn from top to bottom.

And letting out a great cry, **Jesus expired**. And **the veil of the Holy Place was torn into two**, from top to bottom. (Mark 15:37-38 LITV)

The tearing of the veil that covered the Holy of Holies was a sign that Jesus had succeeded in making a "new and living way" **through the veil** into the very Presence of God in heavenly places.

For Christ did not enter into the Holy of Holies made by hands, types of the true things, but **into Heaven itself**, now to appear **in the presence of God on our behalf** (Hebrews 9:24 LITV)

But their thoughts were hardened, for until the present time the same veil remains on the reading of the Old Covenant, not being unveiled, that it is being **done away in Christ**. But until today, when Moses is being read, a veil lies on their heart. But whenever it turns to the Lord, **the veil is taken away**. And the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. But **we all with our face having been unveiled**, having beheld the glory of the

Lord in a mirror, are being changed into the same image from glory to glory, as from the Lord Spirit. (2 Corinthians 3:14-18 LITV)

Men are no longer barred from entering the very Presence of God if they will enter through **God's Way**. Jesus "entered in" and became the "Way". The Way is open to all who will go with Jesus through His death, burial and resurrection.

Jesus said to him, **I am the Way**, and the Truth, and the Life. **No one comes to the Father except through Me**. (John 14:6 LITV)

Which **hope** we have as an anchor of the soul, **both sure and steadfast**, and **which enters into that within the veil**; Whither the forerunner is for us entered, **even Jesus, made an High Priest** for ever after the order of Melchizedek. (Hebrews 6:19-20 KJV)

Jesus is now seated at the right hand of God, reclining in the bosom of the Father.

No one has seen God at any time; **the only begotten Son [Jesus], who is in the bosom of the Father**, that One declares Him. (John 1:18 LITV)

Bosom BO'SOM, n. s as z. The breast, as inclosing the heart; or the interior of the breast, considered as the seat of the passions. The breast, or its interior, considered as a close place, the receptacle of secrets. Bosom, in composition, implies intimacy, affection and confidence; as a bosom-friend, an intimate or confidential friend; bosom-lover, bosom-interest, bosom-secret, &c. In such phrases, bosom may be considered as an attribute equivalent to intimate, confidential, dear. [selected definitions]

OLD HAS GONE, NEW HAS COME

A shift in focus has now taken place **from the copy and shadow**, the earthly temple and earthly city Jerusalem, **to the actual substance and heavenly reality** of (a) the Throne of God (Heb 8.1) and (b) a New Jerusalem which is not a physical place, but a Bride for the Bridegroom Jesus.

And I, John, saw the holy city, **New Jerusalem**, coming down **out of Heaven from God**, having been prepared **as a bride**, having been adorned for **her Husband [Jesus]**. (Revelation 21:2 LITV)

Now a summary over the things being said: We have such a **High Priest [Jesus]**, **Who sat down on the right of the Throne of the Majesty in Heaven** [Psa. 110:1] (Hebrews 8:1 LITV)

So that if anyone is **in Christ**, he is a **new creation**; the **old things have passed away**; behold, **all things have become new!** (2 Corinthians 5:17 LITV)

There will be a new heaven and a new earth, and there will be a New Jerusalem, a "place" where God interfaces with men.

in whom all the building being fitted together grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom **you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in the Spirit**. (Ephesians 2:21-22 LITV)

Above all God is a Father Who is giving birth to a Family. God is Love and He is seeking a love relationship with His Family. He has given His Own precious Son to make this possible. In giving us imagery of new heavens and a new earth, of cities, buildings, rivers, etc., God is showing forth His extravagant love for His Son and His Family.

Truly **He who did not spare His own Son**, but gave Him up on behalf of us all, **how will He not freely give all things to us with Him?** (Romans 8:32 LITV)

How awesome! Let's not get tangled up in *places & things*. We don't fully understand them and they are not the central theme of God eternal purposes and plans. HE is the central theme and WE are

caught up into HIM. How amazing! And though we don't understand it all, we are being drawn into such a relationship that we will all be ONE, just as Jesus prayed in John. We in Jesus and Jesus in the Father, and we will be with Jesus where He is. Wherever that may be. It really won't matter, because we will be with God where He is.

There are some interesting things to note about the new 'places' described in Scripture. First of all, they are *new*. So they are not what we think of now when we think of places. If they were not *new*, they would be the *same* physical places that we know now; there would be no need to "change" them. But they are *different* and thus they require *new* understanding.

Some things to think about in new ways...

God has revealed Himself as a Father. He does not want worshipers who stand far off, fearful or lonely, straining their necks for a glimpse of God. He wants His children to come to Him, as Jesus is in the bosom of the Father, to be with Him where He is. Those who are born again are His Children. Jesus is the Firstborn among many brothers. The Father Himself loves you.

All the children of God are priests.

Jesus Christ the Faithful Witness, the First-born out of the dead, and the Ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him loving us and washing us from our sins by His blood, and made us kings and priests to God, even His Father. To Him is the glory and the might forever and ever. Amen. (Revelation 1:5-6 LITV)

All have direct access to God the Father.

In that day you will ask in My name, and I do not tell you that I will petition the Father about you; for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me, and have believed that I came out from God. (John 16:26-27 LITV)

No one is excluded from access to God. The new covenant says "they shall all know Me". God has no *grandchildren*, so to speak.

And they shall no longer each man teach his neighbor, and each man his brother, saying, Know Jehovah. For they shall all know Me, from the least of them even to the greatest of them, declares Jehovah. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sins no more. (Jeremiah 31:34 LITV)

The temple of God *is the people* of God.

in whom all the building being fitted together grows into a holy temple in the Lord (Ephesians 2:21 LITV)

Pillars in the temple of God are *people*.

The one overcoming, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall not go out any more. And I will write the name of My God on him, and the name of the city of My God, the new Jerusalem which comes down out of Heaven from My God, and My new name. (Revelation 3:12 LITV)

The Temple that God is building is not a physical structure made by human hands.

Jesus said to them, Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up. Then the Jews said, This sanctuary was forty six years being built, and do You raise it up in three days? But He spoke about the sanctuary of His body. (John 2:19-21 LITV)

And I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty is its temple, even the Lamb. (Revelation 21:22 LITV)

Even though there will be a new heaven, a new earth, and a New Jerusalem, there will be no sun or moon or sea, for God Himself will be their light. So these “places” are not like anything we are familiar with.

And the city had no need of the sun, nor of the moon, that they might shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it, even its lamp is the Lamb. (Revelation 21:23 LITV)

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and the sea no longer is. (Revelation 21:1 LITV)

The New Jerusalem is described as a Bride.

And I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of Heaven from God, having been prepared as a bride, having been adorned for her Husband. (Revelation 21:2 LITV)

Jesus told us that His Father has a *House*. We see that Father God is gathering His children unto *Himself*, to be near Him, to be with Him, to remain with Him. God the Father dwells in His House with His Family. Jesus will return to take us to live in that House.

In My Father's house are many dwelling places. But if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going to prepare a place for you! And if I go and prepare a place for you, I am coming again and will **receive you to Myself, that where I am you may be also.** (John 14:2-3 LITV)

If you have ever had a close relative or friend die, you know reality and finality of death. That person is no longer in this world. They no longer walk here, breath here, function here in any way, or communicate with anyone. They are dead to the world, never to return or belong here again. This is the point Paul was trying to make about those who have experienced Jesus. They are dead. They have died with Jesus on His cross and they exist in a new reality. How real is it? It is real! ...

If, then, you were raised with Christ, seek the things above, where Christ is sitting at the right of God mind the things above, not the things on the earth. **For you died, and your life has been hidden with Christ in God.** Whenever Christ our life is revealed, then also you will be revealed with Him in glory. (Colossians 3:1-4 LITV)

Our citizenship is in heaven. That's where we are right now and where we always will be: inside of God. It's not a mind game. It is the substance of reality. We are citizens of another place and merely traveling through this world to another “place”.

For **our citizenship is in Heaven,** from where we also wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our body of humiliation, for it to be conformed to His body of glory, according to the working of Him to be able even to subject all things under Himself. (Philippians 3:20-21 LITV)

THE SUBSTANCE (Hebrews 12.18-29)

Now we have come to a *new mountain* and a *new city* which is the “city of the Living God, the heavenly Jerusalem.” God's children are all welcome to enter in there. No one in Father's Family is meant to be outside or excluded. This is the “festal gathering and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven” (v.23) Now we can come to *God Himself*, and to “Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant and to the blood of sprinkling” (v.23,24)

But you have drawn near Mount Zion, even the city of the living God, to a **heavenly Jerusalem,** and to myriads of angels, and to a gathering, an **assembly of the first-born ones having been enrolled in Heaven;** and to God the Judge of all, and to spirits of just ones who have been perfected; and to Jesus the Mediator of a new covenant, and to blood of sprinkling speaking better things than that of Abel. (Hebrews 12:22-24 LITV)

Even when men could not approach God directly, it was in the heart of God for all to come to Him directly. God did not give up drawing near to those He loves. He sent His Son Jesus to be a living message to the world, the Voice of God in human form:

In many ways and in various ways of old, God spoke to the fathers in the prophets; in these last days **He spoke to us in the Son**, whom He appointed heir of all; through whom He indeed made the ages; who being the shining splendor of His glory, and the express image of His essence, and upholding all things by the Word of His power, having made purification of our sins through Himself, He sat down on the right of the Majesty on high, having become so much better than the angels, He has inherited a name more excellent than they. (Hebrews 1:1-4 LITV)

Father God knew that those who were terrified at the sound of His Voice would have to become adopted children before the terror would vanish, becoming or transforming into the likeness of His very Own Son Jesus – the Son of His Love – the Son Who has no terror in approaching the Throne of God the Father Who is greater than all and Who Himself loves us.

There is no fear in love, but **perfect love casts out fear**, because fear has punishment; and the one fearing has not been perfected in love. (1 John 4:18 LITV)

And we have known and have believed the love which God has in us. **God is love**, and the one **abiding in love abides in God, and God in him**. (1 John 4:16 LITV)

ETERNAL LIFE

Jesus clearly defined eternal life. Note that he did not go into any detail regarding physical geography or architecture, space, clothing, or peripheral “things”. His entire emphasis is Who we will know / be inside of.

And this is everlasting life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom You have sent. (John 17:3 LITV)

And I do not pray concerning these only, but also concerning those who will believe in Me through their word; that all may be one, as **You are in Me**, Father, and **I in You**, that they also may be **one in Us**, that the world may believe that You sent Me. And I have given them the glory which You have given Me, that they may be one, as We are One: **I in them, and You in Me**, that they may be perfected in one; and that the world may know that You sent Me and loved them, even as You loved Me. Father, I desire that those whom You have given Me, that **where** I am, they may be **with Me** also, that they may behold My glory which You gave Me, because You loved Me before the foundation of the world. (John 17:20-24 LITV)

How beautiful! **WHERE = WITH**. To be born again into the new life of Jesus is to actually come into the Presence of Father God to be WITH Them.

Therefore, brothers, **having confidence for the entering of the Holy of Holies by the blood of Jesus**, which He consecrated for us, **a new and living way** through the veil; that is, His flesh; and having a Great Priest over the house of God (Hebrews 10:19-21 LITV)

Just so we can revel in the glory of it, let's say it again:

WHERE = WITH

To be WHERE Jesus is... is to be WITH GOD. It is natural to wonder about the *places* of eternity: *where* the New Jerusalem will come to rest when it comes down out of heaven; what a new heaven and a new earth will be like. However, it seems that Father is trying to communicate something even *more spectacular than places*...

Father God seems to be wholly delighting in **adoption and Family**. His words are full of familiar references. His theme comes back around time and time again: love for his only begotten Son Jesus and His adopted children. We will be WITH Him. Father and Children. He in us and we in Him. When we really get a glimpse of this, it is as if a door opens within all of Scripture and we are drawn into a new spiritual reality where God is seated on His throne amidst peals of thunder, lightning, an ocean of voices, surrounded by those who are in awe and worshipping Him, and we His children are caught up right there with Him. Who can understand it all? It is a glimpse so high and yet so precious...

O the depth of the riches and of the wisdom and the knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! "For who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who became His counselor?" Isa. 40:13 "Or who first gave to Him, and it will be repaid to him?" Because of Him, and through Him, and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever! Amen. (Romans 11:33-36 LITV)

The one overcoming, I will give to him to sit with Me in My throne, as I also overcame and sat with My Father in His throne. (Revelation 3:21 LITV)

Oh to be WITH Him! It seems to be all the desire of Father God's heart. If at times it sounds too abstract to us, that merely means that we must call out to Father God in Jesus' Name and ask for a personal encounter with Him. Oh to turn to God in desperate humility and honesty and tell Him...

"Father I am willing to yield to all that is in Your heart. Not my will, but Your will be done. There is a veil before me that prevents me from seeing You as You are. Please give me the eyes of faith to see the Way that Jesus is; Your New and Living Way. Show me deeper things that I may see past this natural world."

What will eternity be like in the Presence of God? What was the eternal Joy set before Jesus that enabled Him to endure the shame?

You will make Me know the way of life. In Your presence is fullness of joys; at Your right hand are pleasures forever. (Psalms 16:11 LITV)

Then we who remain alive will be caught up together with them in the clouds to a meeting with the Lord in the air. And so we will always be with the Lord. (1 Thessalonians 4:17 LITV)

We will never be separated from God.

My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give eternal life to them, and they shall not perish to the age, never! And not anyone shall pluck them out of My hand. My Father who has given them to Me is greater than all, and no one is able to pluck out of My Father's hand. I and the Father are One! (John 10:27-30 LITV)

We will be inside of Jesus, in the Presence of Father God into untold ages for eternity.

Father God please help us! Please give us a contrite and broken spirit to see past this natural world, having spiritual eyes and ears to discern spiritual things!!! Father God we ask in Jesus' Name that you would enlighten the eyes of our hearts that we may be able to spiritually discern and supernaturally come into the knowledge of YOU, to know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ Whom You sent. That we may know You beyond merely hearing other people talk or sing about You: to become ONE with You, entangled and entwined forever.

Then what if you see the Son of Man going up where He was at first? It is the Spirit that gives life. The flesh does not profit; nothing! The Words which I speak to you are spirit and are life. (John 6:62-63 LITV)

Which things we also speak, not in words taught in human wisdom, but in Words taught of the Holy Spirit, comparing spiritual things with spiritual things. But a natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he is not able to know them, because they are **spiritually discerned**. (1 Corinthians 2:13-14 LITV)

God is a spirit, and the ones worshiping Him must **worship in spirit and truth**. (John 4:24 LITV)

The spirit indeed is eager, but the flesh is weak. (Matthew 26:41 LITV)

John answered all, saying, I indeed baptize you with water; but He stronger than I comes, of whom I am not fit to loosen the thong of His sandals. **He will baptize you in the Holy Spirit and fire**, whose sifting fan is in His hand; and He will fully purge His threshing-floor, and will gather the wheat into His storehouse, but the chaff He will burn up with fire that cannot be put out. (Luke 3:16-17 LITV)

And you will know the Truth, and the Truth will set you free. (John 8:32 LITV)

LASTLY

I hope this study has stirred your heart as it has stirred mine. I hope it has given you a glimpse of where things are heading. Perhaps we need to rethink some stereotypical wives tales that we have learned as children about Heaven... or even about communities that center around physical architecture. Father's desire, right now, right here, is to give us His Holy Spirit and join us to Himself, creating a spiritual community -- a spiritual Family -- that is of His Own nature. Oh how I long for every person I know to have a deeply profound encounter with the Holy Spirit. It is life changing! When that happens, as the old song says, "the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace".

Jesus spoke these things and lifted up His eyes to Heaven, and said, Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son may also glorify You, as You gave to Him authority over all flesh, so that to all which You gave to Him, He may give to them everlasting life. **And this is everlasting life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom You have sent.** I have glorified You on the earth. I finished the work that You gave Me to do. And now Father, glorify Me with Yourself, with **the glory which I had with You before the existence of the world.** (John 17:1-5 LITV)

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for **the first heaven and the first earth passed away,** and the sea no longer is. And I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of Heaven from God, having been prepared as a bride, having been adorned for her Husband. And I heard a great voice out of Heaven, saying, **Behold, the tabernacle of God with men! And He will tabernacle with them, and they will be His people, and God Himself will be with them as their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes. And death shall be no longer, nor mourning, nor outcry, nor will there be pain any more; for the first things passed away.** And the One sitting on the throne said, **Behold! I make all things new.** And He says to me, Write, because these Words are faithful and true. And He said to me, It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the Ending. To the one thirsting, I will freely give of the fountain of the Water of Life. The one overcoming will inherit all things, and **I will be God to**

him, and he will be the son to Me. (Revelation 21:1-7 LITV)

DRAW NEAR TO GOD FOR YOURSELF

I appeal to all who read this to draw near to God for themselves. Pursue Him. Don't give up. Don't settle for the things of this natural world and this soon- ending life. There is so much more. The faith of millions throughout history is evidence that something more is happening here than natural cause and effect and the unfolding of chemical reactions. We are NOT thralls of chemical reactions! We are living beings, created by glorious God, in His image, designed to be spiritual beings who are having a natural experience (not vice versa), rising above and outlasting this natural world. It's one thing to hear others talk about such things, all this interest and activity is merely the result of an ongoing personal encounter and Journey with God. I write because below the surface of the waters of this natural life, I have encountered a very deep ice mountain, so to speak, in spiritual places where I have met God Himself.

We must all meet God for ourselves. No one can do it for us. There is no substitute for knowing God for yourself. You could sit for 50 years and listen to (or read) the elocution of others *about* God, and not have become *one with God*. Until your very own heart enters the depths of God in spirit and in truth, what have you have gained? God is not a *sermon* or a *social event*. He is an unstoppable Life Force that will soon "roll up" this world and toss it away, replacing it with something new. When that happens, who will you be WITH? Let nothing hinder you from being WITH Father God on that day when it all ends and begins anew. There is a God. He is first and foremost a Father. He has dwelt WITH His Son Jesus from everlasting, and will continue to live with Him to everlasting. Right now is our chance to enter in to this Heavenly Family and go WITH them into eternity. We are *meant* to be His Children for eternity. That is why we now exist. We are in a birth chamber. If we will embrace Father's New and Living Way through His precious Son Jesus, we will be WITH Him. How do you do it? You must humble yourself before God, if you can find it in yourself to do so. You must yield to His desires, discarding your own, adopting His as your own. If God has given you the grace to do this, then you will find yourself calling upon the Name of the Lord Jesus to save you. Begging to participate with Jesus in his death, burial, and resurrection, that you may die with Jesus, be buried with Jesus, be raised to New Life Jesus, and ascend with Jesus into *heavenly places*, to humbly and gratefully be seated in Jesus at the right hand of Father God Who sits on His Throne. Don't be lost to Him for eternity. Be found by Him! Make yourself available to Him. Embrace Him *just as He is*.

Blessed is the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who blessed us with **every spiritual blessing in the heavenlies with Christ**, even as He elected us in Him **before the foundation of the world**, for us to be holy and without blemish **before Him** in love, predestinating us to **adoption through Jesus Christ to Himself**, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace in which He favored us in the One having been loved, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the remission of deviations, according to the riches of His grace (Ephesians 1:3-7 LITV)

Everyone denying the Son does not have the Father. **The one confessing the Son also has the Father**. (1 John 2:23 LITV)

I also do not cease giving thanks on your behalf, making mention of you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, **the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the full knowledge of Him**, the eyes of your mind having been enlightened, for you to know what is the hope of His calling, and what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us, the ones believing according to the working of **His mighty strength which He worked in Christ** in raising Him from the dead; yes, **He seated Him at His right hand in the heavenlies**, far above all rule, and authority, and power, and lordship, and every name having been named, not only in this age, but also in the coming age; and He "put all things under His feet" and gave Him to be Head over

all things to the assembly, which is His body: the fullness of the One filling all things in all (Ephesians 1:16-23 LITV)

For this reason **I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ**, of whom every family in Heaven and on earth is named, that He may give you, according to the riches of His glory, by His power to become mighty in the inward man through His Spirit, that through faith Christ may dwell in your hearts, having been rooted and founded in love, that you may be given strength to grasp, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and depth and height, and to know the **surpassing knowledge and love of Christ**, that you may be **filled to all the fullness of God**. **Now to Him being able to do exceedingly above all that we ask or think, according to the power working in us, to Him be the glory in the assembly [called out ones] in Christ Jesus, to all the generations of the age of the ages. Amen.** (Ephesians 3:14-21 LITV) [the apostle Paul]

Read more about all this in the Scripture:

By revelation He made known to me the mystery, as I wrote before in brief, **by the reading of which you are able to realize my understanding in the mystery of Christ**, which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations, as now it was revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit, for the nations to be joint-heirs, and a joint-body and joint-sharers of His promise in Christ through the gospel (Ephesians 3:3-6 LITV) [the apostle Paul]

Father of Eternity

Jesus You will have the last say
When this world has passed away
Jesus You're the final Word

Father, greater than all,
No one can steal Your little ones
Out of Your hands

O Father of Eternity---
Forever has meaning only in You
O Father of Eternity---
Somewhere has meaning only with You

Where You are going
No one can go
Unless You take them
Somewhere is nowhere if not with You
Somewhere is nowhere if not with You

Who You are
No one can know
Unless Jesus shows them
To know You has meaning only in Jesus
To know You has meaning only in Jesus

O Father of Eternity---
Forever has meaning only in You
O Father of Eternity---
Somewhere has meaning only with You