

RESTORATION MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL

Prophetic Insight

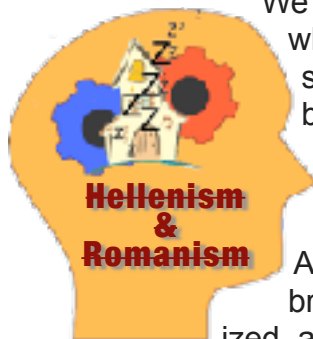
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“Therefore we must pay much more careful heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away”

***"You have not heard of them before today.
So you cannot say, 'Yes, I knew of them'"*** (Isaiah 48:7).

This Insight has been unfolding over the past several weeks. In fact we had to divide what the Holy Spirit has been giving us into several more segments to be sent out in the upcoming weeks. In Lifebyte 29. **You Haven't Been Here Before**, we noted that the Hebraic faith practices were once foundational for the earliest followers of our Lord Jesus. Several centuries later they were eliminated and replaced by pagan-based Hellenism and Romanism. We realize it's very difficult to believe that our loving Father would let people be so deceived for so many centuries. But it's important to remember that our God keeps His word. He had to keep His promise to Abraham: *"I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you"* (Genesis 12:3). Both the Hellenist and Romanist pagan influences injected a **virulent anti-Semitic hatred** against the Jewish people. Christianity not only strongly embraced this animosity against the Jews, many still uphold this errant viewpoint. (For more insight into this issue, see our article, *"I Hate Nicolaitanism"* < [http://www.restorationministries.org/download/ihatenicolaitanismire%20\(1\).pdf](http://www.restorationministries.org/download/ihatenicolaitanismire%20(1).pdf)>)

Only since our Father returned Jerusalem to the Israelis in 1967 as our Lord Jesus promised (Luke 21:24) have the Hebraic foundations been revealed to Gentiles. Our heavenly Father is behind the timing and the restoration! It's paramount to your own faith walk that you realize we're all learning and making His foundational principles a way of life for the first time! If you have doubts that He's behind this, ask Him to confirm it for you. This is no small thing that He is doing! And no one can tell you that they knew these truths all along. When you are convinced by our heavenly Father that this is the truth, be **resolutely determined** to make the Hebraic foundations, beginning with the relational priorities on the diagram to the right, your way of life.



We realize from our own spiritual journey and from discussion with others who've encountered the Hebraic foundations that most people's initial response is to try to attach these to the **religious memory cells** in their brain. That was our own response when we first received these truths from our heavenly Father. It took about a year and a half of *mutual discussion* to build completely new **Kingdom-based memory cells**.

As new memory cells were formed, we also needed to deprogram our brains from prior vestiges of Hellenism and Romanism. We gradually realized, as you may have too, that the pagan Hellenist and Romanist practices and rituals adopted long ago make you believe they're pleasing your heavenly Father. But, in fact, they're nothing more than "religious props." If anything, they hinder the Spirit dependency and relational intimacy our Father desires with each of His children as they fulfill His purposes.

It was only after our minds were transformed by the Spirit that we began to share the Hebraic foundations with others. You can't teach the Hebraic foundations if they're not a way of life for you. Many, including clergy, have tried to teach some of these foundations as concepts, only to realize that you can't instruct a way of life that's pleasing to our Father from behind a pulpit or lectern. Jesus used the Hebraic method of lifestyle instruction:

1. **I'll instruct you and encourage discussion, questions and answers.**
2. **I'll demonstrate the teaching for you.**
3. **You go and do the same.**

For an in depth comparison of Hebraic and Hellenist teaching styles, see Chapter 6 (page 84), *Restoring The Early Church: "Greek Philosophy In The Church—How Did Plato Displace God?"*
<[http://www.restorationministries.org/download/rtecentirebook%20\(1\).pdf](http://www.restorationministries.org/download/rtecentirebook%20(1).pdf)>

Now, many years later, we realize that our video series, **Mutually Serving Jesus Your Lord With Resolute Determination**, may be our final effort to emphasize essential truths: •the Lordship of Jesus; •the basic unit of the Kingdom as one or two others discussing and applying God's commands together; •the resolute determination our heavenly Father commands.

A common hurdle we've observed over the years is that the Hebraic foundations as a way of life demands far more personal and impassioned commitment to our Lord Jesus in fulfilling our heavenly Father's will than does Hellenist/Romanist Christianity. So many have been pacified into such a **lull of indifference** to this biblical requirement that they've chosen to remain in the religious system their memory cells are accustomed to — the familiarity of complacency.

***"I have listened attentively, but they do not say what is right.
None of them repent of their wickedness, saying, 'What have I done?'
Each pursues their own course like a horse charging into battle"*** (Jeremiah 8:6)

Related to this widespread atmosphere of spiritual indifference is the mistake of viewing our Father's *past blessing* of this nation as His *current approval* of us. This errant misperception prevents most people within congregations from personal and collective soul-searching to determine if they're harboring unconfessed sin with no intent to repent. Too many want to believe we're still a nation God blesses. But just because He extends divine providence doesn't mean that His impending chastisement isn't soon coming. As our Lord Jesus declared,

*"...your Father in heaven causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good,
and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous" (Matthew 5:44,45).*

Don't ever let yourself confuse His general providence toward all humanity with His blessing on His children in Christ who live repentant and obedient. We're citing this so that you'll separate your own spiritual pilgrimage and eternal destination from the fortunes of this nation. **Repentance is the very backbone of belonging to Jesus as Lord of your life.** Yet repentance is least called for among those who've lulled themselves into lethargy and self-service within Hellenist/Romanist Christianity. Being a US citizen doesn't make you a citizen of heaven! And with the escalating **moral and spiritual downfall of this nation** in past decades, it may be that relying on your citizenship here distracts you from your eternal future. Don't deceive yourself into spiritual complacency because you think that this nation and yourself as its citizen have our Father's approval. Seniors we've talked with realize our Father's blessing on this nation is rapidly disappearing. Most are hoping the "ax won't fall" until after they've died.

***"These things happened to them as examples
and were written down as warnings for us,
on whom the culmination of the ages has come.
So, if you think you are standing firm,
be careful that you don't fall!" (1Corinthians 10:11,12).***

It's crucial that we who love and follow Jesus as Lord cleanse our understanding of the Bible of any vestige of the anti-Semitism that permeates so much of Christian theology. We have a great deal to learn from God's relationship to the Israelites in the Older Testament, and the warnings and chastisements He delivered to them. It's a terrible fallacy to believe He deals with us any differently — unless you throw out the very Hebrew Scriptures which our Lord Jesus trusted and made their meaning full! You only need to read Deuteronomy 28 and Father's covenant conditions for the Israelites to live in the land He was giving them. He outlined what would bring them blessing, and the consequences of violating His righteous requirements. If you think our heavenly Father has diminished His demand for righteousness, you've missed a key reason for the Holy Spirit to indwell those who've been born from above: that we who have the righteousness of Christ by trust put into practice the righteous way of life that pleases our Father! You might want to look in your concordance and research the "if-then" clauses that run through both Testaments. Our Father's conditions haven't changed, for He still commands righteous living from His children who by grace have yielded their lives to Him.

The wondrous truth is that we don't need to (and can't) pay the penalty for our sins because our Lord Jesus accomplished this on the cross on our behalf. But living sinfully and refusing to repent is "***cru-
cifying the Son of God all over again and subjecting Him to public shame***" (Hebrews 6:6). By your refusal to repent, you nullify what Jesus accomplished for you on the cross. He has given you His Spirit to walk in His steps. So we strongly encourage you to live repentantly and limit your fellowship to those who live likewise. That way your friendship with those who have yet to trust Jesus will show them the difference between genuine followers of Jesus and those still in bondage to the world.

***"Keep letting yourself be transformed by the renewing of your mind.
Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is —
His good, pleasing and perfect will"*** (Romans 12:2).

Renewing your mind means changing its condition, especially what *motivates your way of thinking*. The same word for "renewing" used here is also found in Matthew 17:2 concerning Jesus' transformation/transfiguration on the mount from an earthly form to a supernatural one. A huge change in your thinking process is required in its renewal: •from being led by your soul and sin nature •to being led through your spirit by the Holy Spirit (see Galatians 5:24,25). Here too we can learn from the Older Testament. In Deuteronomy 11:10-14, our Father showed His compassionate concern for the Israelites by telling them how vastly different the land He was leading them to was from the land they'd left. He was preparing them for the extraordinary transformation they'd need in order for Him to bless them with provision for their lives:

"The land you are entering to take over is not like the land of Egypt, from which you have come, where you planted your seed and irrigated it by foot as in a vegetable garden. But the land you are crossing the Jordan to take possession of is a land of mountains and valleys that drinks rain from heaven. So if you faithfully obey the commands I am giving you today—to love the LORD your God and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul — then I will send rain on your land in its season, both autumn and spring rains, so that you may gather in your grain, new wine and olive oil."

Like many in Christendom who rely on their religious rituals and programs, for generations the Israelites had depended on the Nile and its canals to water their crops in Egypt's arid climate. An earthly source, the Nile, had been their provision, and water wasn't an issue. God was leading them to a hilly land that depended on the rains rather than irrigation to water their crops — so He needed to transform their way of thinking. After 400 years of being "Nile-dependent," their minds needed dramatic transformation:

- With irrigation from the Nile, their land was watered through their own efforts.
- The land God promised them was "rain-dependent." Whether they received rain depended on their love-based obedience to His commands.

For the Israelites as with us, obeying His righteous commands and fulfilling our Father's purposes bring blessing—and all the more so because He has graced us with His Spirit so we *can* "will and act" for His good purposes. As different as the land God led Israel to was from Egypt, so do the Hebraic foundations differ from Hellenist/Romanist Christianity. For example:

- **Hellenism places the interests of man and his self-fulfillment at the center of all things.**
- **Hebraic perspective places our heavenly Father and His will at the center of all things.**
- **Romanism places a religious hierarchy at the center of a religious system, along with the authority to establish creed for all its adherents.**
- **Hebraic perspective places the Holy Spirit and the Lordship of Jesus at the center of a Kingdom way of living, along with the authority for two or three to establish how they will live by God's Word.**
- **A number of Hellenist expressions of Christendom place salvation at the beginning of a person's religious experience.**
- **Hebraic perspective places being born again at the beginning of a spiritual pilgrimage that culminates in salvation at the Judgment Throne.**

Our Father chastised the Israelites to compel them to repent so He could bless them. When Jesus came, many in Jewish leadership were so deceived about being "God's chosen" that they were blind to Who Jesus really was:

"'Abraham is our father,' they answered. 'If you were Abraham's children,' said Jesus, 'then you would do what Abraham did.' ... 'The only Father we have is God Himself.' Jesus said to them, 'If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I have come here from God. I have not come on My own; God sent Me'" (see John 8:39-42).

We want to conclude this Insight by encouraging you to purpose to have your mind renewed according to God's Word through the transforming work of our Lord's Spirit. If you do this, your "**doctrine**" will be seen in the Spirit-led, Bible-based motivations that will guide your way of life. If you live with misplaced trust in Hellenist/Romanist teachings, your mind will be filled with "**creed**" that goes no further than what's in your mind—a mind that's still unrenewed.

If you're truly born again in our heavenly Father's sight, then you are indwelt by His Holy Spirit. It's essential to your faith pilgrimage that you are fully confident in His presence, His ability to guide you, and His capacity to empower you to do your Father's will. This is the core of your faith walk in union with Jesus: the Spirit of God at work in you! Take seriously this word: *"[We] have written you these things about the people who are trying to deceive you. As for you, the anointing you received from Him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as His anointing teaches you about all things and as that anointing is real, not counterfeit—just as it has taught you, remain in Him" (1John 2:26,27).*