

An Old Prophet's Years Of Laments



Prophetic Insight 3-16-2024: *Spirit-Trained To Expose & Oppose Sacred Cows*



Mike: I have a specific hope as I tell you the various ways our Lord's Spirit prepared me to be an *exposer and opposer* on His behalf: that you will be encouraged to ask Him to help you reflect on how He was using past events and people in your life to prepare you for such a time as this. Some of these may be painful for you to recall. But these Laments are the Spirit's means for me to bring together •my personal experiences in being ruled by my Lord Jesus, •my own involvement within both Catholicism and Protestantism and what I learned as I researched the history of both, and •the bamboozling of Christians which my Lord Jesus made sure I experienced.

During my service in Vietnam my Lord instilled within me the **fire of pursuance** by allowing me to see needless casualties that were caused by: 🗡️ people unwilling to ask the questions that needed to be asked, 🗡️ the paucity of people willing to speak up when they should have spoken, and 🗡️ officers who were far more concerned with their own advancement than with concern for their men. Sadly, within Christianity I've also found many people who were and are beset by these same self-interest-focused character flaws.

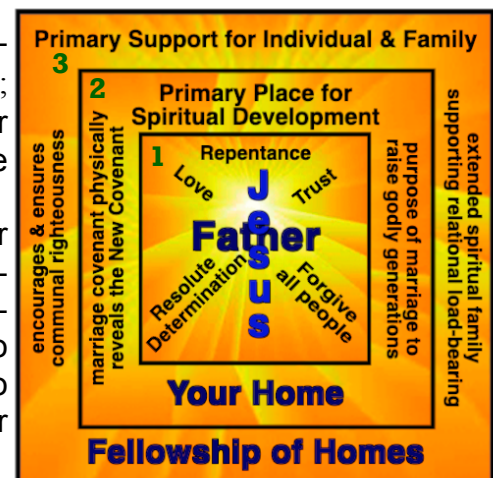
The **fire of pursuance** in both Sue and me enhances our mutual quest for truth and for standing up for truth no matter what the cost. Those who know Sue can testify that behind that joyful, peaceful countenance is a woman of great courage. Her Navajo name, Ithozho Kizbah [Ee-hoe-JOE HEEZbah] means **"a woman who counters evil with joy."** Over the years women who are dominated by the controlling/manipulative spirit of Jezebel have been repelled by her humble courage, while the humble are encouraged by her.

Our heavenly Father is restoring a Spirit-led, Spirit-empowered life

Here's where my Laments are ultimately leading. For many years I've witnessed the underbelly of both Catholicism and Protestantism like few others have. When our Father revealed to us the Hebraic foundations, Sue and I had no doubt why these truths are so necessary throughout Christianity. In a vision the Holy Spirit showed us the diagram (below) while we were on a walk in Jerusalem. It illustrates the central three relational priorities our Father is restoring through the Hebraic restoration.

Picture the priorities like a layer cake. **1.** The highest relational priority is with our Father and Lord Jesus (see Deut. 6:5; Matthew 22:37, 10:34-39). Through the Holy Spirit you enter this relationship of the New Covenant by embracing His five stipulations that are first found in the Older Testament.

2. Next in priority is your marriage and family since our Father purposes that those who join in the covenant of marriage depict the physical representation of the spiritual Covenant in Christ. **3.** A fellowship of homes supports the two higher priorities and strengthens each faith family member to fulfill Father's will individually and collectively as they bear each other's burdens and help each other live righteously.

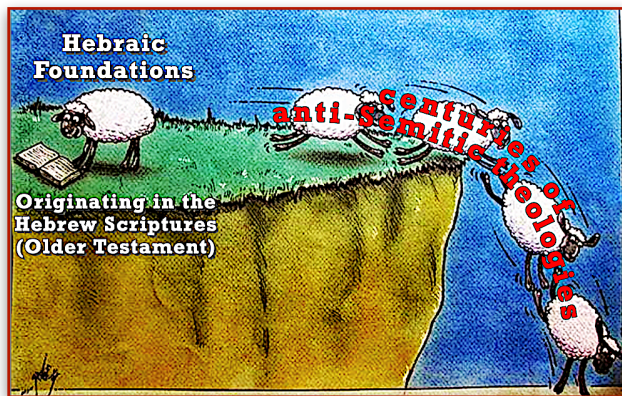


We'll discuss each of these relational priorities in greater depth at a later time. But in this Lament the Holy Spirit wants me to share more of my own experiences so you can understand why we have such confidence in the Hebraic foundations, and why they're sorely needed.

“You shall inquire, search out, and ask diligently...”

At seminary I poured myself into not only studying the major Protestant denominations but also looking into the authorized history of Roman Catholicism. Even as a relatively new follower of Jesus there was a lot that I lamented about in both religious systems. When you've lived under the Lordship of Jesus for any length of time, you begin to understand how similar much of Catholicism and Protestantism is. Remember, both institutions are like two men who missed a flight. One arrived five minutes late and the other arrived an hour late. The first one criticized the second for being so late. The reality is they both missed the flight — the biblical Hebraic foundations.

In eliminating the **Hebraic foundations of Christianity**, anti-Semitic Roman Catholic popes and theologians eradicated the true Biblical underpinning on which our Lord Jesus was establishing His collective called-out ones. Then anti-Semitic Reformers contrived multiple diverse forms of Christianity. In their own eyes, both Catholic and Protestant institutions seem so “Christian”. But neither system can understand that their own theologians and interpretations and traditions have become their **‘gods’**, while the personal rule of our Lord Jesus and the guidance and empowerment of His Spirit have been confined to first-century history. The **theological intellectuals** in both divisive religious spheres have no testimony of experiencing the fullness of what our Lord promises. God’s Word testifies against them, *“Whatever I command you, be careful to observe it; you shall not add to it nor take away from it”* (Deuteronomy 12:32; see also Revelation 22:18,19).



“All Protestants are going to hell!”

Until I began following our Lord Jesus at age 30 in 1977, I was a devout Roman Catholic who firmly believed that all Protestants were going to hell. Then I was challenged to read the Bible, which I did from front to back. In it I saw absolutely nothing that upheld Roman Catholic traditions, religious practices, nor its priesthood bureaucracy. Then during my second reading I asked the Lord to guide me as to what He wanted of me. That’s when I repented and became His follower, indwelt by His Spirit, and He became my Lord Who ruled my life. Six years later He had me counseling Protestant clergy. What a sense of humor my Lord Jesus has. I once told a clergy group, “A few years ago I believed all you guys were going to hell!” These same clergy commissioned me to serve as “an apostle among them.” (An apostle is a person who is sent on a particular mission, which for me has been to deliver messages of His truth.)

“For the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say” (Luke 12:12).

I’d like to take you back to the months immediately after I began serving my Lord Jesus onboard a navy ship. Nobody knew what to do with my transforming spiritual life, so I was given the role as “Catholic/Protestant lay leader”. My Spirit-led change, though, incurred the wrath of a senior officer who was a ‘devout’ Catholic as I had been. He publicly humiliated any navy officer who befriended me until none of them would sit with me in the wardroom for meals.



But then a large Marine contingent came onboard and their helicopter pilots chose to sit with me. A Catholic chaplain came onboard with them and unwittingly initiated my first religious con-

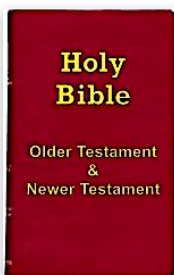
frontation. In Roman Catholicism, priests stand above all questioning. I didn't know back then that the priest's ecclesiastical role is adapted from pagan Hellenism and that he functioned in line with the Older Testament Levitical priests who operated *between* God and the people. One night at dinner after he'd found out that I was no longer a practicing Catholic, he began to see if he could humiliate me. About ten Marine officers were sitting with us as he began his tirade. All that came to my mind was, *'The Holy Spirit will tell me what to say.'*

I showed calm deference to the priest while the Holy Spirit put words in my mouth, refuting scripturally every point he brought up. After what seemed like an eternity he left the table in a huff. The other officers, most of whom were Roman Catholics, were amazed by what they'd heard. They began asking me about my Lord Jesus and what it meant to be born again. Not long afterward, a group of about thirty enlisted Marines came to me one day on the flight deck where I was in charge of launch and recovery, asking me to teach them about Jesus.

After a few months the ship received its own chaplain, a Baptist minister. By this time our small fellowship of navy personnel had grown from four to about 25 or 30. (Among these were 3 navy officers who'd been coming to me secretly at night to teach them about Jesus. They were initially fearful of that senior officer I'd mentioned. But then when the Holy Spirit emboldened them, they sat with me at meals.) Our 'band of brothers' took God's commands seriously and by His grace we intentionally applied them to our lives. Relying on the indwelling Holy Spirit, we witnessed miracles, divine healings, and deliverance from demons in sailors. We brothers discovered, however, that even though the ship's chaplain told us that the Bible was our authority, he and his teachings relied heavily on a particular Baptist theologian. So he verbally dismissed everything we'd already experienced, claiming that all of the miraculous had ended when the first Apostles died.

The brothers couldn't take it any longer and asked me to be their representative to talk with the chaplain. The chaplain's office was deep in the bowels of the ship, and no sooner had I entered it when the ship lost power and the office was pitch black. Our discussion was face-to-face but neither of us could see the other. Again I relied on *'The Holy Spirit will tell me what to say.'* The chaplain wasn't receptive to my confronting him that what the brothers were experiencing on the ship through the Holy Spirit was in the Bible. He even tried to "pull rank on me" as being more senior than I was, and claimed that I needed more knowledge about the Bible. But before the lights came on again, he just stopped arguing — and asked me to help him trust that what God said in His Word about His Spirit is real. The 'Baptist' captivity left him in favor of the Spirit of Jesus Christ.

Originating in the Older Testament, your life is an ongoing pilgrimage to salvation



Because of my years of ministering among a mixed conglomeration of Christians, I'd like to offer you an insight that I hope will bless you if you've never done this before. ***If*** you've never read the Older Testament with the sole purpose of gaining a fuller understanding our Lord Jesus, then you have a very incomplete view of Him. And you're underrating His loving command of your life as your Lord. A sad consequence of not first encountering Jesus as the promised Messiah in the Older Testament is that you're deeply hindered from having complete confidence in the fullness of life that He promises. We've previously emphasized the wonderful results of teaching seekers the Bible from front to back — a rare practice in Christianity today:

Veteran missionary Trevor McIlwain of New Tribes Missions taught indigenous peoples the Bible in chronological order, from Genesis to Revelation. (That's the way I became our Lord's servant.) When they complete the Older Testament, they see the depth of their own sin and their desperate need to be recon-

ciled to God. Then when they hear about Jesus, they are delighted to respond in grateful love to His sacrifice on the cross and to walk in His ways. (Rarely among today's Christians do you find this depth of appreciation for our Lord Jesus. And the invasion of Humanism into Christian instruction has all but eliminated the sacrificial service of living with Jesus as Lord of your life.)

As I've studied major so-called gospels out there today, I haven't found one that is anchored in the Older Testament, the Bible that our Lord's first converts would have known. At right are several truths from the Older Testament which our Lord's first followers clearly understood.

For more on the importance of the Older Testament, read Lifebyte 51: [The Older Testament Foundations To The Kingdom of God](#). If you prefer to not read through the Older Testament, then search online, "Jesus in the Old Testament" and let the Spirit guide you.

Examples Of Older Testament Truths

- God is the only true God and Creator of everything
- God is sovereign and His just wrath is to be feared
- God is a Covenant-Giver and Covenant-Keeper
- God promised an everlasting New Covenant
- God longs to forgive the repentant
- The human heart is predisposed to sin from birth
- Sin requires the blood of a sacrificial substitute
- God chose the Israelites to be His ambassadors
- Over 200 prophecies directly refer to Jesus as the Messiah and coming King

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Your Pilgrimage To Your Salvation Starts In The Older Testament

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Genuinely Born Again

During your life pilgrimage you serve Jesus as your Lord while divine transformation into His character takes place by the Spirit

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Salvation

“Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth” (1Corinthians 1:26).

It's vital that you understand that our Lord Jesus chose ordinary people just like you and me to disciple and to live out your love-grounded obedient trust as you are guided and empowered by the Holy Spirit. Our Lord Jesus reprimanded the religious leaders who were wise in their own eyes (see Matthew 6:2,5,16; 23:13-29). With centuries of anti-Semitic theology being perpetuated by the academic learned in both Catholicism and Protestantism, we "laity" have been bamboozled! (Please reread Reality 2, [Jesus Wasn't A European White Man](#)).

I realize you may be thinking that I'm against the academic aspects of Christian instruction, whether by theologian, seminary or pulpit. That's not the case. ***I am vehemently opposed*** to the centuries of the educated who have no life experience of being ruled by our Lord Jesus or of personally experiencing the way of life that He promises. Instead, they've occupied themselves with devising denominational creedal systems and ritual practices. If you studied the history of how unbiblical leadership models and academic-focused teaching in Christianity took root, you'd discover one person in particular who inaugurated the ecclesiastical domination that defies the Lordship of Jesus.



Absolute power corrupts absolutely

“Church Father” Clement was obsessed with the **Roman Empire’s autocratic system of government.** During the final decade of the first century, Clement wrote a lengthy letter to Christian leaders encouraging the adoption of the Roman Empire’s centralized power. He insisted on **ecclesiastical-enforced** order and harmony. Clement and his followers infused Christianity with this Roman ideology: that people with power and wealth are far more important than the ordinary person. This has been the pattern of Roman Catholicism for centuries as pontiffs have

exercised power through absolute rule, claiming that papal decisions are based on both "the Bible *and* Church Tradition".

In reality Roman Catholicism has integrated a profusion of syncretized pagan practices which were incorporated to appease the various heathen populations its missionaries encountered. These practices have remained unquestioned ever since Constantine declared himself the Vicar of Christ, "the Substitute for Christ on earth" in the 4th century — a title which popes continue to use until this day. This early ecclesiastical domination eliminated the Biblical role of the Christ-given anointings listed in Ephesians 4:11,12 as well as the spiritual gifts which Paul and Peter address in Romans 12:3-8; 1Corinthians 12 and 14; 1Peter 4:10,11.



Over the centuries '**learned**' **anti-Semitic Protestant theologians** failed to question the Roman Catholic stance on disregarding giftings of the Spirit. They wrongly concluded that the ongoing purposes of the Holy Spirit in and through the born-again ended with the apostles. In their educated arrogance and bolstered by **Nicolaitan clergy domination**, these theologians eliminated the vital ministry of our Lord's Spirit. Examples of today's bamboozling by the academically learned can be seen in clergy obtaining doctorates. That way they can appear even more knowledgeable in their **oratory-rhetoric of Scripture** (and be more esteemed by fellow clergy and congregants alike). And **streamed religious services** on TV and other media are basically no different than what the entertainment industry offers — non-involvement and no change in viewers' lives. None of these examples entail the mutual participation of spiritual gifts as our Lord's earliest followers experienced (1Corinthians 14:26). Rather, these are the **offspring of Hellenist stage performances** which Roman Catholicism syncretized by adapting pagan practices and rituals into Christianity.

I realize it may be difficult for you to understand how Roman Catholicism was able to institute Nicolaitan domination through its clergy system, and how the institution itself was buttressed by popes who exercised supreme, unquestioned power even over kings. The papal system was able to solidify its rule through **edicts** which were enforced, sometimes with violence, as the voice of Jesus Himself. Yet you may not be aware of the ignored sins of a number of these papal leaders. One pope who was a known rapist of over 200 nuns. And to keep priests from feeling guilty, another pope passed an edict freeing them from sin for sodomizing young boys. Little has changed over the centuries. A whistleblower priest in the Vatican recently stated how widespread sodomy is there. And still the system itself continues as it has, unquestioned.

FYI: Protestant clergy too have been put in a position of sole authority in too many congregations. Yet clergy have been a leading occupation for divorce in this nation for many years, often due to their own adultery. I've had to deal with ungodly Evangelical congregations that refused to remove their clergy who were actively involved in adultery. Even the largest Evangelical Protestant denomination refused to allow a congregation to remove their adulterous clergy person because "he is a man of God."

Early Roman Catholicism incorporated **evangelism through enforcement**. That's a far cry from the evangelism our Lord's first disciples used, which centered on our Lord Jesus. Converts repented and placed their trust in Him and His shed blood to cover their sins, bringing forth a new birth and the indwelling Holy Spirit to transform them. In contrast, Roman Catholic evangelism was redefined into conversion that meant becoming a practicing Catholic. The primary means of evangelism were these: 🖐️ convert to Catholicism or die, or 🖐️ convert and we will accept your pagan practices (syncretism) so your conversion is more familiar and acceptable to you. Even today you'll find various pagan practices around the world which Roman Catholicism adapted and incorporated to make its religion more "palatable" to potential converts. (This syn-

cretist blend isn't confined to less educated cultures. Catholic and Protestant Europeans alike exported paganism in the form of holidays and practices which are not found in the Bible, such as Christmas, Easter, Sunday stage performances, exalted clergy, and the demands of influential intelligentsia to dictate what you must believe.)



Christian organizations aren't immune from corruption

During my time at seminary I was employed there as a consultant in personnel and accounting, and also as a financial officer at a nearby Christian college. In both places I exposed corruption and illegal activities that were at first hard for me to believe — that “Christians” could do such evil. I’ve written my experience in [Discussing How To Restore The Early Church Lesson 21: *Hellenism And Romanism Today– Roman Hierarchy And Corporate America*](#). I encourage you to read my account of horrific practices which had existed unexposed and unopposed for years. Ever since my experiences at both of these institutions, I've discovered that wherever Christianity has become organizational and depends on donations, then sin and corruption will soon creep in *if* absolute trust in our heavenly Father and our Lord Jesus is lacking.



I realize that the various bamboozles I've cited may seem far detached from your own life. But I can assure you that Satan has entrenched anti-Christ, unbiblical practices so deeply within the fabric of organized Christianity's institutions that even religious leaders who know about these things are fearful to speak up. I'm letting you know about this evil which our heavenly Father wants exposed and opposed so that repentance may come about. I do hope you aren't someone who is captive to bamboozling and doesn't want

to question it. But if you are seeking truth and are willing to stand up for it, below are four heart motives that are at the core of what our heavenly Father is restoring. Please pray them into existence in your own life:

1. That your life's centerpiece would be the glory of our heavenly Father.
2. That your life's centerpiece would be the rule of our Lord Jesus guided by the *rhema* of His Spirit.
3. That you would live repentantly and be quick to repent when the Holy Spirit convicts you.
4. That you would manifest the aroma of Christ, beginning with His love, forgiveness and compassion.