

# Calendars are a Trap

## Part II

### **Our root expectation of our salvation from sin cannot be our understanding:**

If our gospel be transformed by a calendar for the expectation of salvation from sin; the temptation to judge according to 'time and judgment', as something that is, 'out there', [*the corporate church*], but that is separate from the gathering of ourselves together in our own fellowship, must exist. And in this respect, "CALENDARS ARE A TRAP!" A need to know the day of the Lord, 'while sin remains', provides a likely path for isolation of scripture, and those who will not endure sound doctrine (2Timothy 4:3; Matthew 7:13). The perception of a group to differentiate itself from other groups, *which is an appearance of evil*, (Psalm 14:2-3; 1Thessalonians 5:22), provides a likely path for showing 'a respect of persons' (2Chronicles 19:7), which is sin (Deuteronomy 1:17; James 2:9).

In Matthew 13:24-39, the Lord teaches that until the harvest arrives, which is the last day; the tare, [*unbeliever*], shall grow along side of, and look like the wheat [*the elect*], (2 Corinthians 11:12-15). There is no indication from scripture that shows how any Christian fellowship group is exempt from this gospel precept found in Matthew 13:24-39. The only exception that could exist is if a Christian fellowship could prove all of its members to be of God's elect. But this brings to mind the professing faith of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram in Numbers chapter sixteen, which is examined in a later part of the discussion.

If a group of souls that congregates, [*gathers together*], says; "**the hope of salvation no longer exists**, [*though the harvest of the end of the world has not arrived*], (Matthew 13:39);

**that, the New Testament church age is over**, [*though the New Testament has not ended, as the wheat and the tare continue to grow together in the world, and in some fellowships* (Matthew 13:24-30, 39); **then, what is this groups own spiritual standing?** Declaring with the mouth that its authority is God's word the bible, alone, and in its entirety, is not sufficient! According to the scriptures, there has to be an authority who is the supreme inspector – someone who is infinitely higher than the members of the fellowship (Joshua 1:8; Isaiah 43:10-11; 2Timothy 3:16, Revelations 22:18-19)!

It must not be ignored how, that, it is God's word that defines the terms, 'church', and, 'age' – not a calendar which God has not brought to an end! The terms, 'church', and 'age', must be faithfully examined to see how they are used together, with respect to the bible, only, and in its entirety? The biblical meaning of the term, "the church age is over", must be proven from all of scripture – not by an incomplete calendar. For example, if what is meant by the phrase, 'the church age is over', is that, following a calendar date, nobody can be saved in any corporate church that professes Christ; **isn't that just another way of declaring, that, following a calendar date, the hope of salvation has ended in every fellowship group that professes Christ? How would such a profession of faith not include the group that is professing it?**

Who defines the Christian church, [*fellowship*], as it exists on the sin cursed earth? Surely God from His word defines how the believer is to assemble as one body in Christ! But where in the bible does God instruct, that, during the great tribulation the elect are no longer to gather together as a church [*fellowship*], and that they are no longer to use the biblical terms God provides from His word, [*ei., Elder, Pastor, Deacon etc.*]? Finally, what professing Christian can know the things of another professing Christian, but the spirit of God (1Corinthians 2:11):

*1 Corinthians 2:11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.*

In Matthew 13:24-30, the Lord instructs His faithful, that, they are not to pull up the tare, [*those who outwardly appear to be defiled*]:

*Matthew 13:28-30, 39 He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? 29 But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. 30 Let both grow together until the harvest: ... 39 ... ; the harvest is the end of the world;*

A fellowships leaders are not to remove those who differ in doctrine, less many more in the fellowship would have to be removed; and only those who believe the same things are allowed to remain. Because even the world believes the same things! So that cannot be the measurement that is used to know whether a fellowship group is being faithful to all of Gods word.

And fellowships exist as individuals, and no one man can know the things of another man, except the spirit that is in that man (1Corinthians 2:11). Know one knew who Judas Iscariot was until the very end when he betrayed the Lord.

The individual Christian fellowship that exists on the sin cursed earth cannot be understood as the “one body in Christ” that shall exist in the New Heaven and the New earth where sin, deception, and death no longer exists. If, on this earth, we cannot see perfectly the inward person of another; and especially if we are not born again, what does an undefiled soul look like according to the flesh? In John 8:15 Jesus warned:

*John 8:15 Ye judge after the flesh; I judge no man.*

It is the nature of mankind to be self-righteous judges, who, unrighteously, would judge God Himself. Those who judge according to the flesh can always find a reason to condemn; for all have sinned and fallen short of the kingdom of God (Romans 3:23). The devil and his emissaries know this truth as well. Those who have been in the Christian fellowship for years, and who have experienced several congregations, have seen the ability of individuals who present a show that looks holy and biblical, and yet, when imperfections, and differences show up; who but God can see the heart:

*1 Samuel 16:7 But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.*

God’s elect are not called to prove their salvation, [to another], nor the salvation of another, especially by what either intellectually understands from the bible, or by consensus, [what the group thinks]; but from what God’s word proclaims, that is not of themselves.

For example, if God’s word calls for those who perform in the capacity of a deacon, or an elder, to have certain qualifications; the true child of God would never want to ignore those qualifications, that are just as much the word of God as the verses that speak of ‘time and judgment’. Fact is, if, ‘time and judgment’, and, ‘a deacons qualifications’, do not show to be in harmony with one another, it must be man’s understanding of how the Christian fellowship gathers together, and not that of the bible, alone, and in its entirety.

To say, “*but we do not have elders and deacons in our group, and so therefore, we are not a church*”, while the spiritual leaders of the group occupy in the same fashion as the corporate church elders and deacons, [*with the exception of doctrine*]; is no less than to say, “*we now interpret the bible in the light of our doctrine that the church age is over!*” But, this doctrine is based on a calendar God did not bring to an end [*strong delusion*]! Such a group cannot hope for God’s highest blessing on its individuals, while any verse in the bible is no longer applicable because of time which has not come to an end (Matthew 5:18; Revelation 10:6; 22:18-19).

To continue on, as some do, with the understanding that time is spiritual, [*which is a delusion*], and that no one can know when the end of the world is, except by the time markers God has given, dismisses and ignores the rest of the bible that clearly informs the believer, that, from righteous Abel, they are always a breath away from eternity, and, that, if they are not ‘born again, born from above’; knowing the physical end of this earth is meaningless, and vanity:

*James 4:14 Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.*

Could James 4:14 have been spoken to Adam, Abel, Seth, and Enos? It is the spiritual word of God that applies to all mankind! Accordingly, in James 4:14, “a little time”, can be a reference to the gospel time line in its entirety, in Christ, who is the Alpha and the Omega; the beginning and the end (Revelations 1:8).

Christ is spiritual in His elect. Therefore, they are spiritual, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life (Hebrews 7:3). But this is not so for the tare who also know dark sayings, but have not eternal life in them.

The elect do not know what they know because of time markers, [*walking by sight*], but because of Christ who lives in them who spiritually opens their regenerated eyes. They walk by faith not by sight. On the other hand, if Christ is not their salvation, their intellectual understanding of time makers, irregardless of how accurate they may be, [*in an earthly sense*], is meaningless and vanity, and but a sign of their coming death.

It is no wonder then that God lovingly gives us the warning found in Amos 5:18-20:

*Amos 5:18-20 Woe unto you that desire the day of the LORD! to what end is it for you? the day of the LORD is darkness, and not light. 19 As if a man did flee from a lion, and a bear met him; or went into the house, and leaned his hand on the wall, and a serpent bit him. 20 Shall not the day of the LORD be darkness, and not light? even very dark, and no brightness in it?*