

Part 11 DEUTERONOMY 33.1-34.12

ZOTH HABERACHAH "THESE ARE THE BLESSINGS"

"LIVING UNDER THE BLESSING OF GOD"

READING No.1 33.1-7

THE APPEARANCE OF ANGELS ANCIENT AND MODERN

These are the blessings with which Moses the man of God blessed the Sons of Israel before he died. *This is the first bible reference to a "Man of God". Moses was the prototype of all who will submit their lives wholly to the will of God. The description goes beyond that to being a "warrior" of the living God Who in the strength of His triune person can use a totally consecrated life for the blessing and eternal good of others.*

The LORD spoke to him on the way coming from Sinai and arose like the morning sun from SEIR and caused Him to shine or must shine from Mount PARAN. He and ten thousands of His holy ones at his right hand poured out as torrents in the ravines. *Enoch looked to the latter day when the LORD would come and bring with him many ten thousands in the context of judgement. (Jude 14) The angels as administrators of the judicial process of God witnessed the giving of the law as they stood on tiptoe and are represented both at Gethsemane and on the occasion of the Resurrection. It is of considerable interest that the approach of the LORD and the angels here is as in His latter day approach recorded in Isaiah 63.1 from the south. In both cases the kingdom is in view- the earlier theocratic kingdom and the latter the millennial-and in both cases adversaries lie on the north. Where the rapture is involved the LORD'S approach is "East West" not "south-north"(Matthew 24.27 & Luke 17.24)-it encompasses all the earth as the LORD quests his ecclesia to "out-redeem" them from the world's failing market and oncoming storm. The approach of Christ in this respect lifts men's heads worldwide.*

FATHER AND SON IN MOSES' LAW

He it is who definitely **loves the peoples**; all **His** holy ones are in **Your** hand and these have been leaning and laying down at **Your** feet and **He** will declare the prophetic burden from **Your** words. *The NIV rendering "They will receive instruction" has this against it-that it translates a 3rd person singular by a plural. The Hebrew NASHAH is also better rendered "declare the burden"- "instruction" is MOSHER. The phrase assumes two persons of ELOHIM-whom Christians would call "FATHER and SON" after the teaching of Jesus Christ. Thus the deep love of the Pre-incarnate Christ and the Father for His people is glorified and His power in prophecy is exalted in a prophetic **TORAH***

The Torah that Moses commanded us -the possession of the congregation of Jacob. *Moses declared that but the point at issue is that Christ will declare its Torah-where it points-besides its content.*

CHRIST FIRST TERMED "KING" OF ISRAEL UNDER MOSES LAW

He is king [The writer is not describing Moses but the LORD-although Moses loved the people also and he was endowed with authority to assemble the tribes-but no-one would have dared to put Moses in the place of sovereignty-besides the Hebrew KAL(present tense) has the sense of "continuing king" though Moses is dead] in JESHURUN. The term JESHURUN is used both of "the beloved righteous" from the base YASHER and of "Israel beloved" as a contracted form of ISRAELUN (which is GESENIUS' preference but not my own) Usages Deut 32.15; 33.5; 33.26 & Isa. 44.2) He (the LORD) was king in the house of having gathered the princes of the people the tribes of the "prince with God" unitedly.

TWELVE BLESSINGS

(1) **"Reuben** will live and not die out and his manpower will not be few by count." *When Reuben was born Leah exclaimed with glee, "See a son!" The perpetual growth of Reuben is secured by this word.*

(2) **About Judah** he said "The LORD hears the voice or cry of Judah and will cause Him to come to His people. His hands have a strife belonging to Him. (The LORD) is his helper against his adversaries." *Understood as prophetic **TORAH** the literal meaning is far more illuminating.*

(a)*The cry is the cry of Christ, "Father forgive"-it is heard for Israel and the world.*

(b) The "coming to his people" is the advent of Christ to save and finally as the lion of Judah to rule
(c) The "strife" peculiar to Him is the strife against sin and Satan supremely at the cross and throughout history.

(c) The Father stays the hand of Judah's adversaries and supported his son on every occasion of calling-whether when the Greeks came or when he strove in Gethsemane and an angel sustained Him or whether at the cross after which call of dereliction the whole world recognised that Grace was bought at the expense of His suffering.

READING No.2

(3) **About Levi** he said "Your Thummim and Urim belong to the man of your covenant mercy [Heb. HESED -a further clear **prophetic TORAH** indicative of the ultimate guidance of the "Warrior of the covenant" -Christ] "Thummim" shares the idea of "perfection" with that of "miracle" and the "Urim" simply means "lights" or better "revelations." Both words link to the "Warrior-God"-the LORD Sabaoth because He is the one through Israel's whole polemathy who has guided by Urim and Thummim. You tried to remove Him {Hebrew NASAH used of "tearing down a house"} again and again at MASSAH and you strove with Him at the waters of MERIBAH.

He said of his father and mother "I am not visiting or seeing or providing care for them" and of his brothers "I am not causing myself to acknowledge or have concern for them" and he is not familiar with his own children because he watches your word taking heed to himself and watches over the detail of your covenant. *Jesus in Matthew 23.23 said, "These you ought to do and not leave the other undone" though in recognition of deep commitment He also said "Unless a man deny father and mother he cannot be my disciple". In a modern case-that of Oral Roberts his daughter expressed at his memorial service (December 2009) her huge loss in not having the daily commendation of her father but with hindsight she testified to His "focus" on the need of those with whom he dealt and that he did "all he could" to obey the LORD and that he undertook a massive project in building the first Christian University.*

He (Levi) points out Your judgements for Jacob and Your torah for Israel and sets incense (or prayer) before you and the whole offering regime inspected for perfection on Your altar. Bless O LORD his "writhing" (as he heaves large offerings) and look with pleasure on the huge preparations of his hands. Smite the thighs of those who hate him and such as revolt against him.

(4) **About Benjamin** he said "The **Beloved** of the LORD will cause Himself to dwell for security near to him for he protects **Him** all day long and between the wings of his garments **He** dwells." *The "Dearly loved of the LORD" Hebrew DODI is a term used in **prophetic TORAH** for Christ-"My beloved Son"*

(a) Christ as a child stayed overnight in Jerusalem-the territory of Benjamin-it maybe with his grandmother Anna-we do not know.

(b) Over 30 years Christ spent Passover in the territory of Benjamin

(c) Christ ministered in Jerusalem on several occasions-certainly staying over during the John 3 interview with Nicodemus

(d) Christ also stayed in Bethany which comes within the territory of Benjamin

(e) David who was also "beloved" of the LORD dwelt under the defences of Benjamin in Jerusalem and many other kings like him until Messiah the King of Kings and well-beloved Son of God.

READING No. 3

(5) **And to Joseph** he said "The LORD bless his land with the pleasant and precious dew of heaven and from the depths of what lies below (*artesian water*)-from the most precious of what the sun brings forth and the most precious pasture that the moon... (which governs the months) sends [*i.e. "showers"*]... the first fruits of the Eastern mountains...[*Ephraim and Manasseh had a ridge of peaks running North - South along their more easterly territories-the northern tip of the ancient fault line that runs far south into Africa.*]...and the produce of the perpetual hills. Over half Joseph's territory was hilly landscape. ...the good produce of the land and its fullness **and the favour of Him who dwells in the thorns.** *This classic Mosaic touch brings the leader back in reverie to his beginnings and to his "meeting with the LORD at the burning bush. Moses speaks of One who "dwelt and dwells a mind thorns-for our sakes. The LORD word a crown of thorns for us at Calvary and his wounds are our health". This magnificent*

prophetic TORAH takes us to the heart of true religion; that "renewed relationship with God in Christ who at the Bush and through Israel's history bore the hurts she caused and on the cross and through NT time has borne with the hurt His church has caused Him. May these come on Joseph's head and upon the crown of him that is prince [*Hebrew NAZAR*-*"shining one"* or *"preserver"*] among his brothers. Joseph was the "Preserver" or "Shining one"-thus the blessing of this section is especially Christocentric.

His princely splendour is as a firstborn. He has the horns of a buffalo-with them he will push united nations; he will push the ends of the earth-even these (horns of) ten thousands of Ephraim and thousands of Manasseh

READING No.4

(7) And about ZEBULUN he said "You must shine cheerfully or radiantly in your going out." (As merchants or soldiers or those delivered) *On the edge of ZEBULUN'S territory was Nazareth from whence came Jesus Christ as He went out to begin his ministry. The essential "cheer" of ZEBULUN was marked in the ministry of Christ whose characteristic greeting was "Be of good cheer"*

(8) And you ISSACHAR in your tents Nazareth was on the very edge of ISSACHAR'S densely inhabited area and if they lived cheerfully in their tents or dwellings in former days they would be more deeply cheered by the house building family of Nazareth from whose Davidic root came Christ.

They will call nations of the mountain there and sacrifice sacrifices of righteousness ...*Jews did not sacrifice outside Jerusalem except at the altar on the East Bank in Joshua's day. The "righteous sacrifices" of the "mountain call" or the "kingdom of Christ of the latter day" are better sacrifices of praise of Jesus. Isaiah gained insight into the "Mountain of the LORD" of which he speaks (Isaiah 2) though he centres his prophetic gaze on Jerusalem where Christ died and where His rule shall begin.*

***Behold the mountain of the LORD
In latter days shall rise
On mountain tops above the hills,
And draw the wondering eyes***

A TERRITORY TO BE ENRICHED BY SPIRITUAL AND MATERIAL TREASURE

He will suck the overflow (wealth from "sea traffic") of the waters and hidden treasures of the sand or of birth-pain reserved for him [*Heb. TAMAN*]

(a)The merchandise of the seas (both the Mediterranean and Galilee) might be included in this blessing for neither ZEBULUN nor ISSACHAR has any western boundary as to the sea.

(b)Another modern understanding of a spiritual nature of this "wealth of the Gentiles" is the economic support of Christian pilgrims who belong to the "latter day MOUNTAIN" would become a very real presence in these inland places-today's AFULA, HAROD, SHUNEM, GIDEONA, MEGIDDO, and BELVOIR and who flock to the Galilee and visit this region from there.

But there is one treasure more-it is understood by translators as residing in the sand-but neither

(c)Territory is by the sand and Hebrew stem HWL(including HOL"rolling" i.e. "sand" and HUL "twisting" i.e. "pain" because the original text was unvocalised) also means "twisting" or

(d)"parturient pain" or "palpitation of heart" or "waiting" or "dancing" -and indeed prior to the birth of Christ Mary dwelt within this territory and in her person knew fulfilment of these aspects of the awesome blessing of Christ whiles "waiting" whiles "dancing" whiles "trembling". The validity of HOL and sand is not to be disputed either-though no coastal deposits lie in the regions named-but they may well lie underground and with them other liquid or gas resources-in fact prospectors from the U.S. are currently tapping the Megiddo plain for such resources.

(9) And about Gad he said, Blessed is the One who enlarges Gad. As a lioness he lies down and tears off limb or head. He saw that he had the best (land)[*Gad remained on the east of Jordan in the country running from MAHANAIM near to where Jacob met the angels and the LORD to the fords where John Baptised in later time. There is the preserving of the dividing of booty of the ruler. It was here that Jacob divided "himself" before meeting Esau. The place also commemorated Israel's PENIEL-of which Moses speaks in another place. There he caused the princes of the people to enter; he did the righteous things of the LORD and undertook his just responsibility with Israel. Gad saw the "Princes" settled*

across Jordan according to his promise. This whole blessing does not simply rest with the entrance to Canaan-it runs to the "enlargement" of the people of God following the ministry of Christ at Bethabara and of John at Aenon -even the troop who follow Christ in righteousness-undertake their responsibilities of fellowship with their brethren and claim their possessions.

READING No.5.22-26

(10) About Dan he said, "Dan is a whelp of a Lion springing forth from BASHAN" *Dan's territory was in the valley of AIJALON nowhere near BASHAN but Moses who had seen lions in BASHAN learn to hunt foretold that Dan would have the character of a lion whereas Jacob said he had that of a serpent in former time. So we might say the LORD can change our nature from the lowest to the highest.*

(11) About Naphtali he said," Naphtali is satisfied as with food with the favour of the LORD and full of the blessing of the LORD. He will inherit the sea and the sunny region. *The prophetic TORAH predicts huge favour and blessing -perhaps exceeding blessing. All of this "grace" became living reality with the emergence of our LORD JESUS CHRIST in a ministry in Capernaum BETHSAIDA and CHORAZIN and around the shores and hinterland of Lake CHINNERETH -commonly known as the "sea" of Galilee. Never was such spiritual food sown broadcast amongst any people than in the 3 years of Christ's public ministry in Naphtali. The people feasted on the living Bread from Heaven and were offered the most complete blessing that any people ever experienced in the personal ministry of the Son of God.*

(12) About Asher he said, "Blessed quite distinctly or differently from the other sons is Asher. He will be the one pleasing or bringing benefits to his brothers. He will "immerse" his foot in oil.[Heb. TABAL-used in 2 Kings 5.14 of NAAMAN who immersed himself 7 times in Jordan]Asher was later allotted land from DOR in the North-central plain to present day Tyre. This oil is "fatness" and can with difficulty be understood as Crude Oil which is better portrayed by the "slime-pits" of Sodom. Asher does today include the vital industrial centre of Haifa-Israel's chief port and point of entry and despatch of goods. This city is the throbbing heart of Israel's manufacturing and many other related industries and so is materially greatly blessed. Mount Carmel where Elijah's prophetic ministry that redirected the nation was exercised lies within this area. It is of interest that immense supplies of natural gas have now been found offshore near Haifa (News breaking in the summer of 2009) and continued boring proceeds because of the unfailing presence of oil along with gas-though often at greater depth. Yours will be iron and bronze door bolts and as your days so will be your tranquillity and prosperity. Mount Carmel abounded with Iron ore. **This text Deuteronomy 33.25 "As your bolts so your bars as your days so your strength"** needs re-translation **"As your bolts are of iron and brass (copper) so your days are strong and continuing in usefulness** The brazen serpent of "brass" was a product of 1350 BC or thereabout although it is thought that the combination of copper and tin making pure bronze was a process begun just before the monarchy and pure brass or copper and zinc alloy was later still(cf Ezekiel 1.4-"amber")

There is no-one like the God of JESHURUN [The beloved righteous one] riding the heavens as a charioteer for your aid and in His majesty or grandeur of the firmament
Lest the great physical and industrial blessings of the latter day seem to eclipse all the blessing of the divine help which out-classes all that can be achieved by man is going to be the hope of Asher when the arm of strength fails her. That divine intervention is the chief blessing of Israel at all times.

READING No.6 27-29

(1)The Strong God of ancient time is your co-habitation-your town-your home [Heb AON] and underneath are the arms of His ever-living and he will toss out your enemy form before you saying 'He is to be destroyed' *when God is her home*

(2) Israel shall dwell securely *Israel's security was assured under David & Solomon and for some years under the greatest of her kings-but this promise awaits the time when God is her home*

(3) The fountain (or water supply) of Jacob is left alone... *Jacob and Isaac were for ever in turmoil and often contested water supply and wells. Britain arranged for the Jordan to be able to be sourced by Arab and Jew and through modern history there has been no endangerment of supply of water... for a land of grain and new wine*

(5) And also the heavens will throw down dew in the darkness of night *Besides rain the valuable heavy dews of the night will forward growth.*

(6) You are blessed O Israel. Who is like you? You are a people claiming your salvation through Yahweh- "Shield of your help and also sword of your splendour"

(7) Your enemies waste away and you will walk upon their wooded mountains or tread under foot their groves.

So long as Israel "lives with the LORD" and for the Christian in the language of Paul as long as we are "dwelling in Christ" or allow the LORD to "settle down and be at home" amongst us divine blessing will follow. This is the very centre of blessing-to be intimate with and co-habit spiritually each day with the LORD.

READING No.7

CHAPTER 34 1-12

VIEWS IN FIVE DIRECTIONS

And Moses went up from the Arabah plain of Moab on to Mount Nebo-the peak of Pisgah which is over against Jericho and **the LORD caused him to see** :-

(a) The whole land of Gilead [*Heb. "hard" "stony"*] to (Tell) Dan [*Northward 100 miles in distance- and adjacent to where Moses met the LORD in the transfiguration after the passage of 1300 years*] **GILEAD was also the land of Jacob's PENIEL experience**

(b) And He saw the whole of Naphtali [*again 60-100miles north and 45miles in both longitude and latitude*] **NAPHTALI was destined to be the scene of our LORD'S ministry**

(c) And the land of Ephraim and Manasseh [*stretching 60 miles north west and extending either side of the Jordan*] **This was the land where Joseph was sold to the Midianites & where Christ sat by the well.**

(d) And the whole land of Judah [*up to 60 miles to the south west*] right to the distant western sea. [*50 plus miles due west*] **This was to be the land of Christ's birth.**

(e) He saw the NEGEB and the entire circumjacent valley-depression of Jericho as far as ZOAR [*47 miles due south at the opposite end of the Dead Sea*] **This included the land of Sodom and Gomorrah**

MIRACLE VISUALISATION OF THE PROMISED LAND 4

And the LORD said to him "This is the land I swore to your fathers; to Abraham Isaac and Jacob saying "To your seed (singular) I will give it; **"I have caused"** you to see it with your eyes but you will not cross there. *I recall standing on Mt Nebo with a party of ministers in February of 1995. Our scribe was Geoffrey GROGGAN who recorded the belief of our guide that "Moses' experience was a miracle either of elevation or sight."* Certainly even with 20/20 vision today one could not gain such vistas.

THE DEATH OF MOSES 5-6

And Moses died there in the land of Moab by the mouth of the LORD [*Heb. PI "The kiss" as well as the "call". This "kiss" was not so much a good by as a welcome home. It speaks of a man in the arms of his maker.*] And the LORD entombed or buried him in a river valley in the land of Moab over against the city of BETH PEOR. *We had last mention of this place in Numbers when Balaam stood there to bless Israel. No man knows his burial location till this day. The phrase indicates a new generation scribe - possibly PHINEAS son of ELEAZAR. In keeping with the recording of God's speeches to Moses and his title to these 5 books of divine revelation no writer would record his name.*

MOSES AGE AND VIGOUR 7-8

Moses was 120 years of age at his death and his eyesight did not weaken or become faint or his vigour [*Heb. LHH "freshness" or "look"*] decrease. The Children of Israel were weeping for Moses thirty days: and the tearful days of weeping of the people with downcast heads for Moses were consuming or exhausting.

JOSHUA, THE NEW LEADER 9

And Joshua the Son of Nun was filled with the Spirit and with wisdom for Moses had rested his hands upon him. *This is not so much a statement of ordination as a statement of support which indicates that Joshua was a most trustworthy help to Moses. It is also used of "bestowing blessing" so that Moses did*

indeed as he put his hand upon the younger man speak blessing into his life besides. And the children of Israel listened to him and did all that the LORD commanded Moses. The writer who is incognito clearly lived during the lifetime of Joshua and would appear to be PHINEAS son of ELEAZAR.

THE TWIN FOCI OF PROPHETIC HISTORY 10-12

There has not been a prophet raised up since in Israel like Moses whom the LORD knew face to face. Again the writer alludes to the passage of time and testifies that to his later time of transcription no such "speeches" as he records from the life of Moses were given to another man. Actually Israel had to await the arrival of Elijah in the 9th century before prophecy became once more directive of the nation's life.

In some measure David and thereafter Elijah and Elisha, Isaiah and Jeremiah, Daniel and Ezekiel along with the latter prophets shared in the intimacy and the word of the LORD and the miraculous but without debate the highway of prophecy runs between two foci-Moses and the Christ.

(1) The birth of a prophetic child in most extreme and dangerous circumstances was not paralleled until the birth of Christ.

(2) The mission of Moses accompanied by signs and wonders following one another like a shower of arrows touching an entire land was not paralleled till Jesus.

(3) The consistent supply of restorative miracles given to Moses was unparalleled until Christ.

(4) The "face to face" intimacy of Moses with God on a day to day basis for 40 desert years was not paralleled until Christ who was "daily" about the Father's business.

(5) The "lifting up of the bronze serpent" was not paralleled until the lifting up of Jesus to die.

*(6) **The sermons of Moses in Deuteronomy** with blessings that raise the soul to heaven and curses that bring it to the lowest Sheol **were not paralleled until Jesus Preached life and death.** There has not arisen One who belongs by divine purpose to all the signs or signals and prodigious proofs which the LORD sent like arrows one after the other to be done in the land of Egypt before Pharaoh and all his servants and his whole land. None has arisen with all that strong hand [Heb. HAZAK "persistent" "undaunted" "restorative" "firm" hand] and with all those great stupendous divinely enabled deeds which Moses enacted before the Children of Israel.*

(7) The signals and portents of future divine dealing and events are nowhere as abundantly distributed as in Mosaic literature. The Torah deserves its name as pointing forward to Christ and it is without parallel as a testimony to the living God and His sustaining love in Messiah who was raised up amid like danger and began his ministry with like appointment over the people of God and spoke with like authority whilst living with like meekness. Whilst being in like manner despised Moses would have given his life for the people could that have spared them but it proved unacceptable in one who was a Servant like his brethren whereas the Christ being both son of God and Son of man had prerogative as our substitute to accomplish once for all that one redemptive and atoning work which was accepted of God. Hallelujah to the Lamb!

The End of Part 11 "Living in Blessing"

SCRIBAL ADDENDUM TO THE HEBREW TEXT

"Moses himself sent out the five books of the Torah in their entirety or "to have peace". Great praise and reverence be unto God."

*There are **nine** appointed things referred to in the addendum.*

(1) APPOINTED WORD OF SCRIPTURE

Open wide the leaves or doors of revelation and lift up the burden of prophecy and count word against word the 155 words of glittering or flourishing [Heb. NZZ "blossom ready to produce fruit"] appointed for you. Make the divisions according to the mouth or giving of the word which he Moses expounded to you

(2) APPOINTED FESTIVALS AND VOWS

And the expansions or clarifying declarations of 11 Sederim of festival bonds or vows -interwoven (as branches) that are appointed

(3) APPOINTED RIGHTEOUSNESS

And in 27 sederim of excellent faithfulness-he gave Haggadic teaching of righteousness appointed

(4) APPOINTED EXPIATION

And I will praise or celebrate his teaching on expiation in 34 sederim with the whole heart.

(A) And 34 "openings" or engravings on clay

(B) And 124 repairs of legal breaches of law

(C) In their entirety 158 breakings of bread or expositions (Heb PARASH)

(5) APPOINTED THRONE (OF DAVID/CHRIST)

And I will celebrate the throne of glory He will cause them to inherit in His appointment

(6) APPOINTED SEVENTY-ARGUMENT FOR SANHEDRIN INTERPRETATION

The spoken portions -the whole gain or booty of the Torah are 5845.

And the Light of the five books will be the 70 appointed (the elders or Sanhedrin of later time)

DIVISIONS OR SMALL STONES -*curious data about the breastplate*

(7) APPOINTED PROTECTION BY CONSULTING THE HIGHPRIEST'S BREASTPLATE

He made for it the breastplate and placed on the breastplate the URIM & THUMMIM. The count of openings or engravings - the total booty is 290... *Clearly there are mathematics connected with the Engravings and they are described in terms of warfare. The Breastplate and Urim was used to give direction in war...* which became the protection of David (or) which belongs to the protection of the "Beloved"(A term for Christ) and the eating of its precious produce is appointed to us

(8) APPOINTED OBLIGATIONS

Portions that repair the breach of law -either obligations or vows of a binding nature for 7 (days) are appointed for the soul

(9) APPOINTED LAWS -HUNDREDS OF LAWS OF PREVENTION- "THOU SHALT NOTS!"

Let them find all the spoken expounded portions and concealed *laws of prevention* -669 in all -not one is to be diminished (or) no bread that would feed is lacking-each is appointed in the law.

COMMENT ON THE SCRIBAL PRINCIPLES.

The initial five:

We are bound to consider the initial five of the nine matters considered appointed for Jewish faith by rabbinic theology to be very relevant. The statistics are of interest but should not distract from the more important scripture against scripture understanding of the bible.

(1) Scripture (2) Festivals decreed (3) Righteousness (4) Expiation (5) The throne

The remainder are not free from what might be called EISEGESIS- "reading one's views into the text". Nevertheless they testify to Interpretation within the faith community, to Prayer connected to the breastplate of faith, to holy Commitment and to the importance of Obedience:

(6) Interpretation (7) Prayer (8) Commitment (9) Obedience

The latter four:

(6) The Sanhedrin is not different from Christian councils or the Pope and neither has a special corner on the understanding of prophetic scripture apart from the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit

given to all believers. Yet we must acknowledge as the church under the Spirit is charged with right understanding of the word so is the Sanhedrin.

(7) The Urim and Thummim as a means of understanding the will of God in respect of warfare whilst vital within the theocracy yet now is a thing of the past. Prayer and scripture under the guidance of the Holy Spirit are to instruct the conscience of man and nations.

(8) Vows are not abrogated and may be taken as in marriage or other solemn settings as the apostle Paul showed-but very great care must be taken to keep them. Christ better advised that our "Yes be "yes" and our" No "be "no".

(9) We cannot gain life by striving to fulfil negatives-however many hundred we find in the Torah-we require the Saviour -the LORD Jesus Christ and His redemptive death to cleanse our souls from sin. It is to Christ as the Messiah that the whole Torah points.