Isaiah 9:6,7

"6For unto us Child is born, unto us Son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, **The Prince of Peace**. Of the increase of His government and <u>peace</u> there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of The **LORD** of hosts will perform this" (Isa. 9:6,7).

The Translation of The Septuagint Rendering of The Old Testament

"6Since unto-us Educable-Child [aor. pass.] was-being-beggotten, unto-us Son [aor. pass.] was-given: the principality of-Whom became upon the shoulder of-His: and the name of-His is-being-called Messenger of-Great Counsel, for I-shall-bring peace upon the rulers [magistrates] and health to-Him. 7The principality of-His great! [mom.of excl.] and to-the Peace of-His there-is no limit; upon the throne of-David and The Kingdom of-His, to-set-straight and to-establish [loc. &v]in-judgment and [loc. &v]in-righteousness from the now even forever. The zeal of-The LORD of-Hosts shall-do this" (Isa. 9:6,7 LXX APT).

Part 5

Introduction:

We have been studying the first of six aspects about The Lord Jesus Christ as **The Prince of Peace**, one of the nearly five hundred names, titles, and offices found in Scripture which designate Him. We noted details of creation and the early lives of the first man and woman who experienced perfect peace with The Triune Godhead in The Garden of Eden without Sin in perfect fellowship with Them. We observed the one commandment That God gave them to persistently keep, "Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." At first they were obedient to that commandment and enjoyed perfect, undisturbed peace and daily fellowship with The Triune God. But disobedience in partaking of the forbidden fruit brought immediate, painful separation. That perfect peace and fellowship between The Lord God, The Creator and themselves and all creation through all the ages was radically disturbed and ended at once.

The first couple alienated themselves from The Lord God by their Sin of disobedience. This resulted in persistent enmity between The God and all humans and Satan. A curse by The God was pronounced upon the serpent, the woman, the ground, and a curse of sorrow and hard labor upon the man. But The God promised Satan that the woman's seed (later identified also as The Seed of Abraham in Rom. 4:16, then as The Christ in New Testament Scripture) Who shall bruise Satan's head and he, Satan shall bruise The Seed's heel (Gen. 3:14-19). Then The Godhead graciously restored temporary fellowship from a distance between them.

We highlighted the process of the fulfillment of that promise concerning the seed of the woman through Abraham and ultimately The Seed of the woman, Mary to produce Perfect Peace for all mankind. But because of repeated disobedience by the nation of Israel and her people for many years, Israel has suffered repeated wars, oppression, bondage to other nations, and a constant battling ground of aggression and the granting of concessions to her enemies.

Eventually about 4,123 years later in 4 B.C., The Prince of Peace came to provide a permanent, intimate relationship in close fellowship for and with obedient, trusting humans, who appropriate and identify with the shedding of His own blood sacrifice receive redemption, and wear the

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Garments of Salvation that He provided. We also noted that there are six facts to be considered concerning The Prince of Peace: I. What is Peace; II. Who The Prince of Peace Is; III. What He Came To Do; IV. When He Came; V. Where He Now Is; VI. When He Comes Again. In the last four lessons we completed the first fact and and three aspects of the second fact concerning this wonderful Peace.

I. What is Peace.

We explained the two ways in which 'peace' is defined: the dictionary definition and the Scriptural meaning. We observed that The Scriptural meaning carries the dictionary meaning of peace plus the additional thought of 'setting at one again' with the result being 'reconciliation of enemies.' Since the title '**The Prince of Peace**' is Scriptural, it is expected that The Scriptural meaning is always intended in doctrinal explanation and Bible teaching.

We noted the meaning of both The Old Testament and The New Testament use of the noun for 'Peace,' The kind of Peace that The Lord Jesus Christ proffers is perfect, persistent, prevailing Peace that surpasses all comprehension. It results in forgiveness of sins and redemption, uniting sinners once separated from The God to reconciliation and into union with The Triune Godhead.

II. Who The Prince of Peace Is.

Then we began to expound the seven aspects depicting **The Prince of Peace**: A. The Person of Peace; B. The Possessor of Peace; C. The Personification of Peace; D. The Producer of Peace; E. The Procurer of Peace; F. The Proclaimer of Peace; and G. The Perpetuator of Peace. Then we considered the first three aspects of **II. Who the Prince of Peace Is** including: The Person, The Possessor, and The Personification of Peace. A. The Person of Peace.

After examining the the two Greek nouns translated 'prince' in The New Testament, the meaning 'ruler, originator, and chief military leader,' it was noted that it referred only to The Lord Jesus Christ as 'Prince,' 'Captain,' or 'Author' (AV) and translated 'Originator' (APT). He indeed is Ruler forever as well as He indeed was and shall be Chief Military Leader in the Battle of Armageddon. **The Prince of Peace** is none other than The Person of The Lord Jesus Christ, Who is The Originator, Captain, and Author of Peace.

B. The Possessor of Peace.

The Lord Jesus Christ, **The Prince of Peace** is <u>The Possessor of Peace</u>. He Himself must possess Peace if He is to impart Peace to others. Peace is a precious and extremely costly possession! It cannot be bought by humans because the price to provide peace was far beyond the ability of a mere human to pay. Only The Lord Jesus Christ, The Perfect God-Human could pay the price to obtain peace for all humans. What that payment required was experienced and shown to be fully paid by The Only Perfect Human bearing the wrath and anger of The Righteous and Holy God as our substitute in crucifixion-death and pay the price of the agonizing fiery death in supernatural darkness under the eternal wrath of The God that all humans are destined to endure forever in Eternity. It was absolutely necessary for this substitutionary death to be followed by Resurrection-Ascension into Heaven with the offering of His shed-blood being applied to The Mercyseat in Heaven once for ever for all people.

Now the only way for a human to obtain This Peace for oneself is from The Lord Jesus Christ, receive the Peace that He possesses as a gift from **The Prince of Peace** by complying with all the conditions of Peace in absolute, complete surrender to **The Prince and Possessor of Peace**.

C. The Personification of Peace.

The Lord Jesus Christ Himself is The Personification of Peace. He is continuously our Peace. Peace cannot be found anywhere else, except in The Person of **The Prince of Peace**, Who has all authority over Peace. 'Personification' is 'the embodiment of an abstract thing as a person.' 'Peace' is an abstract quality or state of tranquility and freedom from mental and/or physical disturbance obtained from **The Personification of Peace**. When **He** is **in full control** of all one's being by means of His Holy Spirit, our Paraklete, **all** is **peace** and overcoming victory. Without Him there can be no real, lasting Peace and only repeated defeat!

D. The Producer of Peace (Col. 1:19-23).

When **The Prince of Peace** came He produced Peace. We noted the Greek word translated 'making peace.' In order to make or manufacture a product and present it to the public, there are elements or components that comprise the product that must be supplied by both the manufacturer and the recipients of the public utilizing the offer. So it is with the peace that **The Prince of Peace** offers. We considered The Elements Required to Produce Peace.

1. The Elements Required to Produce Peace (Col. 1:19-23).

There are two elements required of The God to produce Peace: first to Provide for Complete Reconciliation of All Things and then to Provide Justification and Peace for All Peoples.

a. He Must Provide for Complete Reconciliation of All Things.

The reason that True Reconciliation must include all things is because the sin of Adam and Eve brought the curse on **all things** on the planet Earth, but Sin began with rebellion in Heaven and was brought to Earth by Satan, a Heavenly being. Thus making it necessary to reconcile all things whether upon the Earth or in sphere of the Heavens (cf. Col. 1:20). There are three requirements necessary to accomplish this complete reconciliation and thus produce peace:

- (1) The first requirement to accomplish Redemption and Forgiveness of sins is to shed His sinless blood on The Cross to provide the ransom-price for release to complete **Redemption and Forgiveness** of sins, thus providing complete Reconciliation and through Reconciliation make Peace available for all humans (Col. 1:14,20; Eph. 1:7; Heb. 9:14,15; 1 Pet. 1:18,19). This requirement stands perfectly satisfied.
- (2) The second requirement in order for The God to produce Peace is: to satisfy the righteous demands of The God by bearing the judgment upon Sin in His body on the cross (Col.1:21,22; 1 Pet. 2:24).

Paul indicated that The Lord Jesus Christ completely reconciled sinners, who were alienated as enemies from The Godhead even in thinking of and engaging in wicked works. He did this by means of the body of His flesh enduring the wrath of The God on Calvary's cross during those three hours of supernatural darkness over the whole Earth.

(3) The third requirement in order for The God to produce Peace demands consummation the transaction through resurrection-ascension by applying His Shed-blood on The Mercyseat as payment for ransom has a three-fold purpose: (1) to save from anger, (2) to justify obedient trusting enemies, and (3) to cleanse and clear the conscience (Rom. 5:9; Heb. 9:13,14; 10:2; Tit.1:15,16; 1 Tim. 4:1,2; 1 Pet. 3:21).

Since every human's conscience is polluted by Sin in The God's judgment until Repentance and Regeneration takes place. Only through The Lord Jesus Christ, **The Prince of Peace** can the enmity

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be negated, the conscience purged and purified, the guilt removed, and Reconciliation be achieved.

Thus all three requirements of the first element obligatory to accomplish complete reconciliation stand perfectly satisfied. Peace has been produced and made available for all humans everywhere throughout the world.

- b. The Second Element required to produce Peace is: He Must Provide Justification and Peace for All Peoples by Negating the Enmity on Two Fronts.
 - (1) The First Front on which The Lord Jesus Christ Negated the Enmity Vertically <u>Is Between All Humans and The Godhead</u> (Rom. 5:8-12; Eph. 2:12,13; Rom. 5:16-19);

Since by means of Adam and Eve, their disobedience brought both physical death ultimately and also spiritual death immediately upon them and they became sinners and enemies alienated from The God. So also all their offspring, all humans, became alienated sinners and enemies to The God, Who requires atonement (O.T.) or propitiation (N.T.) for every human before Him or else they shall perish in their sins under The God's anger as enemies of The God. Paul indicated this in his Epistle to the Romans (Rom. 5:8-12).

The Sin And The Death with the article are capitalized to indicate that each is the only one of its kind. The Sin is the master to which every unregenerated human serves as a bondslave and The Death is the particular death also called The Second Death: The Lake of Fire is the punishment to be received by all who sin.

Paul explained the thought process of condemnation-to-punishment on the one hand following **Ahdáhm**'s (Adam's) gross-stupid error of disobedience to The God's single commandment was unto Death and condemnation-to-punishment was passed down through every generation unto all humans. But on the other hand the provision of The Grace-gift of Salvation, Regeneration, Redemption, Reconciliation, Justification (being declared righteous, free of: blame, guilt, and/or penalty), unto Absolute Life following The Death in Judgment on the body of His flesh (Col. 1:22) and shedding of the blood of The God's Son (Rom. 5:16-19). Paul added "and all things in the sphere of The Heavens" (v. 20).

Having considered that The Lord Jesus Christ negated the enmity vertically between humans and The Godhead there is another aspect of enmity which must be negated, the enmity horizontally between Jews and Gentiles.

(2) <u>The Second Front</u> on which The Lord Jesus Christ Negated the Enmity Horizontally Is <u>Between Jews and Gentiles</u> with one fell swoop.

To understand this enmity between Jews and Gentiles, it is necessary to comprehend some historical background of national Israel. After the flood, Noah's sons with their wives and children migrated and were scattered being divided in their lands and nations when The God interrupted their building the tower, Babel (Gen. 10:5; 11:9). This, the first use of the Hebrew word used to refer to the nations and the Gentiles interchangeably. It is the plural word pronounced **Gôi-yéem**. (I heard this several times expressed in a derogatory way by orthodox Jews in New York City.) Not until Abram was called out of Chaldea did The God promise to make of him a great nation, through whom all the families of the Earth shall

be blessed (Gen. 12:1-3). Then Abram was designated as a Hebrew, to be distinct from Gentiles or nations (Gen. 14:13). Later The LORD God changed his name to Abraham and promised him that he shall become a father of many nations. He established an everlasting covenant with Abraham and his seed after him, to whom He will give the land of Canaan for an everlasting possession if in all their generations they keep His covenant (Gen. 17:4-9). They agreed and confirmed three times their promise to do all that The Lord said (Ex. 19:5-8:24:3,7).

Then two generations later The LORD God appeared unto Jacob on his return to His father from Padan-Aram and changed his name to Israel. He also promised both a nation and a company of nations shall come out of his loins and promised to give him and his seed the land of Canaan (Gen. 35:9-12). Years later Jacob and seventy off-spring souls went to Egypt to be preserved as an infant nation by his son, Joseph, second to Pharaoh. As the population of Hebrews multiplied to one-and-a-half million people, a Pharaoh who knew not Joseph arose and severely afflicted the people. Eighty years later, The Lord God called Moses at the burning bush on Mt. Sinai (Horeb) to become the deliverer of His people Israel from bondage in Egypt to become 'the people of Jehovah God,' separated from all other nations (Ex. 3:7-10;9:1; Lev. 20:22-26; Deut. 27:9; 28:9.10).

This was an honored and cherished position with Jehovah-Elohim, in which, through The Covenant and The Law, the Israelites had access into the very presence of Him through sacrifices. This not only set Israel apart from the heathen nations, but also gave them a sense of pride, and superiority to the heathen about them. And since the time that Moses gave the various statutes, judgments, and precepts, the nations round about were identified as 'heathen' first by The Lord God and then by the Jews or Hebrews (Lev. 25:44; 26:33,38,45).

However in Samuel's time the Israelites insisted on having a king reign over them, when The Lord God was their King (1 Sam. 8:5; 12:12,13). However The Lord God was gracious to them and persisted in seeking to keep His Covenant-relationship with them, though time and again they rebelled against Him, sinned, broke His Covenant, and brought the curses upon themselves and their children, to which they agreed when they entered into the Covenant-relationship with Him initially. During all the time that The Old Testament (Covenant) was in force even until today, there is enmity and animosity between Jews and Gentiles. And although The LORD God persistently sought to be merciful and gracious to them, He had to remain true to His Word and treat them as enemies. But He fulfilled that Which His Holy Spirit prophesied through His prophets and sent His Son as The Prince of Peace to negate the enmity between The Jews and Himself and between the Jews and the regenerated Gentiles into one body so that there are three bodies of peoples in the world from His standpoint: the Jews, the Gentiles, and The Church of God (1 Cor. 10:32).

If we understand these facts, we can better realize the fact of and the reason for enmity between Jews and Gentiles as well as the enmity between The Godhead and both bodies of peoples, which enmity, we previously noted, has been negated by **The Prince of Peace**.

In mid-to-late A.D 62 when Paul wrote to the Ephesian Church, which was composed mostly of regenerated Gentile disciples, he

added to the progressive revelation of The God by explaining the enmity that existed between Jews and Gentiles (Eph. 2:11-17).

"11Wherefore persistently-remember: that you&, once the Gentiles[nations] [instr. &v]0by-means-of-flesh, the-ones being-termed[being said], 0Uncircumcision [subjective gen]by- the-ones -being-termed[being said], 0Circumcision-Made-by-Hands [loc.&v]0in-Flesh; 12that [loc.&v. art.aspm.]in-that-season-of-time &vou-were-continually off-apart-from ⁰Christ, being-alienated-ones ^{[obj.} gen.] from the citizenship of the Israel, and strangers to the covenants [Abrahamic, Gen. 15:4-21; Mosaic, Ex. 19:5-20:20; Davidic, 2Sam. 7:5-19; 23:5] of-the promise, onesnot -having hope and ones-without-God [loc. &v] in-the-sphere-of-the world. 13But even-now [&v w/dat]in-union-with-Christ Jesus you&, the-ones once being far-off, became near [instr. &v]by-means-of-the blood of-The Christ. ¹⁴For He Himself-continually-is The Peace of-ours, Who made the& both& one, even after-bringing-to-ruins the middle-wall of-the partition, 15 and [instr. &v]by-means-of-the flesh of-His after-negating the enmity, namely the law of the commandments [loc. &v]in-the-sphere-of-dogmas [authoritativetenets-of-religious-belief], so that: He create t he two wdat]in-unionwith-Himself into one new-kind-of human, [ptcp. of res.] in-result-making peace; 16and [aor subj.] He-completely-reconcile the both to-The God [ev for into One Body [intm agey.] by-means-of-The cross and eliminate[kill] the enmity by-means-of it. 17 And after-coming, He-pronounced-glad-tidings[evangelized] with-reference-to- peace to-you&, to-the-ones far-off and to-the-ones near" Eph. 2:11-17 APT).

Not only did Paul clearly describe the fact this enmity exited between three entities and that The Lord Jesus Christ negated its existence and reconciled the enemies to Himself by means of the cross but he also indicated four reasons why it existed horizontally between Jews and Gentiles (heathen nations).

- (A) There are Three Reasons for this Enmity Horizontally between Jews and Gentiles (heathen):
- (1) Gentiles are morally corrupt in senseless idolatry (Eph. 2:1-3); "1And you&, [conc. ptcp.] although-being dead-ones [loc. &v]in-the-sphere-of-your&[art.aspm.] gross-stupid-errors and in-your& sins; in-which& once &you-walked according-to the age of-this /world, according-to the ruler of-the authority of-the air, |namely| of-the spirit who[art.aspronoun] now-is-persistently-effectively-working [loc. &v]within-the sons of-the disobedience[resisting persuasion], 3[loc. &v]among-whom also all ourselves, we-were-demeaned[aor. pass.] once [loc. &v]in-the-sphere-of-the-passionate-lusts[cravings] of-the flesh of-ours, persistently-doing the determined-wills of-the flesh and of-the thinking-capacities. And we-were-continually children [obj. gen.]under-anger by-nature, as also the remaining-ones' Eph. 2:1-3 APT).

Paul previously explained early in this chapter that the Gentiles (heathen) were morally corrupt in senseless idolatry, walking according and subject to the prince or ruler of the power of the air, spiritually dead in three ways: (a) in their gross-stupid-errors (failings to stand upright when one should), (b) in their sins (deliberate violation of The God's Law, and (c) in their passionate lusts and cravings. Then Paul changed the subject from you&, the Gentiles, to the inclusive we, both Gentiles and Jews. Both were children of anger (greater than wrath, rather a sustained condition of mind with revenge in view). The first distinction made is the matter of morality. Those Israelites who kept the Law were moral sinners, the Gentiles (heathen) were immorally depraved sinners.

(2) Gentiles are regarded as 'Uncircumcision' by The Jews (Eph. 2:11); Then Paul began explaining the enmity that existed between Jews and Gentiles by noting the physical distinction between Israelite men and heathen or Gentile men. Gentiles are those

who are termed 'Uncircumcision' by the Jews, who are termed 'Circumcision,' which is accomplished by hands with flesh.

- (3) Gentiles before regeneration are far removed from Israelites in five ways:
 - (a) They are continually ignorant of and apart from The Christ, The Jews' Messiah (Eph. 2:12a). Most people do not know what they don't know!;
 - (b) They continually exist in alienation from the citizenship of the Israel (Eph. 2:12b);
 - (c) They are continually strangers to the three of the seven covenants of the promise which The God made with Israel (Eph. 2:12c):

the Abrahamic Covenant (Gen. 15:4-21), the Mosaic Covenant (Ex. 19:5-20:20), and the Davidic Covenant (2 Sam. 7:5-19; 23:5);

(d) They continually have no hope (Eph. 2:12d);

(e) They continually are ones-without-The God in the world and are not righteous, even though they are religious and worship a god but not The God (Eph. 2:12e). Many are the blind following the blind in ignorance, but it is worse when blind teachers are leading the blind into eternal destruction in The Lake of Fire.

Before regeneration these Gentiles were continuously apart from Christ and at the same time they were existing alienated from the citizenship of Israel and were oblivious to the three important covenants of promise that The Lord God had made with Israel. They also have no hope in their sinful condition and are without a relationship to The God in the world. Therefore both Jews (near) and heathen without The God (afar off) were at enmity with each other. There existed a 'middle wall of partition' between them. This 'middle wall of partition' is best illustrated by the Jews' response to the Assyrians, who were a mixed breed living in north Israel, who had been transported into Israel by King Esarhaddon in 721 B.C. (c. 3406 A.C.) and were taught to revere The God (2 Kings 17:24-34). They desired to rebuild the Temple with the returning Israelites under the leadership of Zerubbabel, but were forbidden (Ezra 4:1-4).

- (B) There are Four Accomplishments that The Lord Jesus Christ Consummated in order to Eliminate This Enmity that existed horizontally between Jews (Israelites) and Gentiles (heathen):
 - (1) The Prince of Peace brought to ruins (destroyed) the middle wall of partition which separated Israelites and heathen (Gentiles) (Eph. 2:15a,b);

Because the Jewish religious leaders called for and insisted that The Lord Jesus Christ, Whom The God sent in fulfillment of His promises, be crucified: they negated their privileged and honored position, putting themselves and all Israelites on the same plain as the heathen with the dogmas of their religions. Thus they negated The Law of The Commandments, which the Israelites by means of their Rabbis reduced to the sphere of dogmas, and the Rabbis' dogmas have no more spiritual Truth than any other religion, so-called-christian or pagan.

- (2) The Prince of Peace Created the two enemies into union with Himself resulting in one new kind of human (Eph. 2:15c);
- (3) The Prince of Peace completely reconciled both Jews and Gen-

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tiles to The God in One Body through the cross (Eph.2:16); and (4) The Prince of Peace eliminated^[killed] the enmity between Jews and Gentiles by means of the cross (Eph. 2:16).

Thus we have demonstrated the enmity on two fronts and indicated how **The Prince of Peace** negated the two-fold enmity. by: (1) bringing to ruins or destroying the middle wall of partition which separated Israelites and heathen or Gentiles (2) creating the two enemies into union with Himself resulting in one new kind of human; and (3) completely reconciling both Jews and Gentiles to The God in One Body through the cross and (4) eliminateing the enmity by means of the cross (Eph. 2:16).

The Lord Jesus Christ created this union with Himself into One Body called The Church (Eph. 2:15; 4:3,4; 5:23; Col. 1:18). In doing so He established The Church as a new nation (1 Pet. 2:9,10) with citizenship in Heaven (Phil. 3:20). Thus there is replacement of citizenship, if indeed we are in total union with The Lord Jesus Christ, since The God identifies only three companies in His judgment: Jews, Gentiles, and His Church known as The Body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:32). As belonging to which company does The God identify you? How you identify yourself does not matter! How The God identifies you does matter! To which one does He recognize that with which you are in total union and truly belong?

Lord willing, next time we shall complete the aspect of Producing Peace in the study of **The Prince of Peace** in by considering The Conditions to Procure Peace, the other necessary elements in order to achieve peace between The God and His enemies.

Conclusion:

Today in our study of The Prince of Peace, after reviewing what we studied this far, we examined the second element that is necessary to provide complete reconciliation by Negating the Enmity on Two Fronts: Vertically between All Humans and The Godhead and Negating the Enmity Horizontally Between Jews and Gentiles. We explained the historical background and the development of enmity between the two groups. Then we discussed first the Three reasons for this enmity: (1) Gentiles are morally corrupt in senseless idolatry. (2) Gentiles are regarded as 'Uncircumcision' by The Jews. (3) Gentiles before regeneration are far removed from Israelites in five ways. And then noted The Four Accomplishments that The Lord Jesus Christ Consummated to Eliminate This Enmity: (1) He brought destroyed the middle wall of partition which separated the two enemies; (2) He Created the two enemies into union with Himself resulting in one new kind of human; (3) He completely reconciled both Jews and Gentiles to The God in One Body through the cross; and (4) He eliminated the enmity between Jews and Gentiles by means of the cross. This union with The Godhead He called His Church. Are you in total union with and truly belong to His Church?

Application:

What will you do today with the offer that The Lord Jesus Christ, **The Prince of Peace** sets before you to meet all His requirements or conditions in order to possess His peace?

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For next week: Read and meditate upon: THE PRINCE OF PEACE: Who He Is part 6: The Conditions that Must be Met to Personally Appropriate Peace (Mk. 4:15; 8:34-37 2 Cor. 4:3,4; Col. 1:12,13,20-22; Rom. 6:12,13; Jn. 3:16-18,36; Acts 16:30,31;17:30,31; Mt. 11:28-30).