

The Feast of Trumpets Marks a Change of Rulership

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Let's begin by turning to Leviticus 23:24. Sometimes, it's easy to read these scriptures and not realize that God Almighty, the Most High God, Yehovah is speaking directly to Moses. What a privilege that is.

Leviticus 23:24 *Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, In the seventh month, in the first day of the month, shall ye have a sabbath, [notice what it is, it is a memorial] a memorial of blowing of trumpets, [plural] an holy convocation. (KJV)*

The Hebrew word for *memorial* means “a memento or a memorable thing”. They will certainly be memorable once this day arrives, because there has never been nor ever will be anything like it again. This day announces a time that we all yearn for, especially considering the downward spiral into the ever increasing evil of our nation and the world in general. You can see that on the news every day. We hope and pray for this time to come because then the world is going to be forced to change. Not asked to change, not pleaded with to change, it's going to be forced to change. From a world deceived by the evil one—Satan—to a world perfectly ruled by our Father and His Son.

On this day, there are going to be momentous changes, a change of rulership, a change of government over the entire earth. Think about what that is going to take—it is indeed a momentous change and will be a momentous time. So, the title of this sermon is:

The Feast of Trumpets Marks a Change of Rulership

We're going to look at that fact through five points today. It's the most dramatic change of rulership that has ever happened. Point one, obviously:

1. The Feast of Trumpets marks the end of Satan's government.

Since it will be the end of Satan's government, it will also be the end of human government. In Matthew 20:25, Christ is telling us something important about human government and the principles of human government which we see very emphatically today. I'm going to read this out of the New Living Translation.

Matthew 20:25 *But Jesus called them together and said, “You know that the rulers in this world lord it over their people, and officials flaunt their authority over those under them. (NLT)*

There's a single Greek word that is translated into the three English words, *exercise dominion over*—one Greek word—it's Strong's #2634. Notice the definition, it means “to control, to subjugate or to overcome”. That's *exercise dominion over*. The Greek word for *exercise authority upon* is a single Greek word, Strong's #2715 and it means “to have

full privilege over”. That means “to do basically whatever you want”. We’re told that the Gentiles exercise *dominion over, exercise authority upon, to control, to subjugate, to do whatever they want to those under their rule*. We know the picture—we’ve seen the picture—man’s government is ultimately about power over others, control over others, subjecting others to their rule and those ruled by the government of men have been on full display during the Covid pandemic. Once governors and mayors and Congress and the President and the FDC and CDC realized that they could issue an edict and that edict basically had the effect of law and people had to obey what they say, then that control kept getting stronger and stronger and stronger. And it’s still very strong in China today. It is still much stronger in Canada than it is here today because once government leaders get control, they want more and they don’t want to give up any control that they have.

So, we know the picture, as I said, it’s about power and control and subjugation of people. King Henry VIII of England said to the king of France, in his day, (this was a famous quote): *My torturers are better than your torturers*. What he was bragging about was my torturers are better at keeping people in line than your torturers. Word gets out what my torturers can do and the people will obey because they don’t want to go to the Tower of London and be subjected to what my torturers can do to them. Really it makes no difference what kind of government it is, whether it’s a king like King Henry VIII or it’s a dictatorship or communism or socialism or a republic or a democracy—it doesn’t make any difference. Even in a democracy, what is the goal—the first goal—of an elected official? To get re-elected. To remain in power. The day they get elected they start their re-election campaign and start planning how to get re-elected. That comes before what is doing best for the people who elected them.

James Freeman Clark was an American author and a theologian. He was born in 1810 and died in 1888 and he said this about politicians:

A politician thinks of the next election. A statesman thinks of the next generation.

Of course, today we have far too many politicians in Congress. They don’t put the nation first or the people first, they put themselves first. As Christ said, the goal of the heads of government is to exercise dominion over people. That’s the Gentile frame of mind. Abraham Lincoln echoed that. He is, as you know, the sixteenth President of the United States, born in 1809 and assassinated in 1865 and he said this about this subject:

*A man may conduct himself well in both adversity and good fortune.
But if you want to test his character, give him power.*

That is the true test of character—how will he use the power? We have to remember that our Father’s form of government that will come on this earth, starting with the fulfillment of this day, is not a democracy. It is not that at all. What comes to mind is a quote from George Carlin, an American humorist and social critic, he died in 2008 but he was a very funny man. He says:

Never underestimate the power of stupid people in large groups.

I might add to that, never underestimate the power of unconverted people in large groups. Look at what they are doing to our country today. This day marks the end of Satan's rule on this earth. Let's go to Revelation 20:1. This is immediately after Christ throws the beast and the false prophet into the lake of fire. So, we are picking up the context in that regard and we see what happens next.

Revelation 20:1 *And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.*

2) And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

3) And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season. (KJV)

We'll be talking about this on the Last Great Day. But this day marks the end of Satan's rule on this earth.

2. Trumpets (plural) announces the beginning of our Father's rule on this earth.

The end of one form of government and the beginning of our Father's perfect form of government. Let's go to Revelation 11:15.

Revelation 11:15 *And the seventh angel sounded [we know there were six before this one]; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ [the kingdoms become the property, the possession of God Almighty and His Son]; and he [referring to the Father] shall reign for ever and ever. (KJV)*

The Greek word for *Lord* is Strong's #2962, *kurios* and it can mean "supreme in authority". After all, it is the Kingdom of God, the Kingdom of our Father, the Kingdom of Yehovah and of His Christ. This tells us that both the Father and the Son are personally involved in this Kingdom and obviously the Father, as we have talked about so many times, is Supreme in authority.

16) And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God,

17) Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty [there can only be one Almighty], which art, and wast, and art to come [that has a lot to do with the definition of Yehovah and what it means—the One Who has always been, the One Who is now and the One Who will always be]; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned. (KJV)

“You have taken to you, your great power and has reigned”. The Father as we know has always reigned supreme. But now, according to His plan, He does so on this earth. He reigns supreme on this earth. Was this well accepted by this world?

18) And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name ... (KJV)

How can you fear somebody's name if you don't know what their name is? That's an important subject and we have covered that many times before—all of our speakers have.

18 continued) ... small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth. (KJV)

That is exactly what is happening today. Humanity is, as they say, hell bent on destroying this earth. You could spend the rest of the time talking about that, but just the trash and the garbage and the plastics in our oceans that wind up in our animals and the lack of clean air and clean water and the polluted ground on the earth. We're just doing our best to destroy it. We see that the nations were angry and fought against God Almighty. Could this be some satanic spin of some alien invasion from outer space that we have this thing coming from outer space and we have to unite and get together and fight that? Wouldn't surprise me if that happened. Keep in mind Romans 8:7. We have to always keep in mind what human nature is like. Paul is writing about human nature. This out of the New Living Translation; I think it's very strong and pointed.

Romans 8:7 *For the sinful nature is always hostile to God. It never did obey God's laws, and it never will. (NLT)*

Pretty clear—human nature left to itself is hostile to God and will not obey God. With that in mind notice what has to happen. Let's go to Isaiah 66:15. The world is going to once again rebel against God Almighty when He and His Son come. They're not going to accept Them, they're going to fight. Isaiah 66:15 lets us know our Father's response.

Isaiah 66:15 *For, behold, the LORD will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire. (KJV)*

Verse 16 is out of the NLT.

16) The Lord will punish the world by fire, and by his sword. He will judge the earth, and many will be killed by him. (NLT)

This is not going to be a pretty time. It's going to be a blood path is what it's going to be. Today marks the beginning of that process. The beginning of our Father's rule on this earth. Now we come to the third point which involves all of us potentially.

3. The Firstfruits will be involved in this Feast of Trumpets.

When it's fulfilled, the Firstfruits will be there, will be involved. Let's go back to the Old Testament and see a prophecy in Zechariah 14:1. We'll skip through some verses really quickly.

Zechariah 14:1 *Behold, the day of the LORD cometh ... (KJV)*

That's the day of the Father, it's coming. Beginning of verse 2.

2) For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; (KJV)

They are going to oppose the Father coming to this earth with His Son and the center, the focal point of it, will be Jerusalem.

3) Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle.

4) And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives ... (KJV)

Latter part of verse 5.

5) ... and the LORD my God shall come, and all the saints with thee. (KJV)

If the saints are going to come at this time of Trumpets, when this giant time of war around the earth occurs, the Firstfruits must have been resurrected to glory prior to that time—that's a different subject—but that's exactly what will happen. Now let's go to the New Testament, Revelation 14:1. We'll get some insight into what actually happens to the Firstfruits when they are resurrected and they are now spirit beings in the presence of the Father and the Son.

Revelation 14:1 *And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads.*

2) And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps:

3) And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth. (KJV)

How are the saints redeemed or what enabled the saints to be redeemed? Look at verse 12.

12) Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus. (KJV)

Going on in verse 4.

4) These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. (KJV)

Reminds me of the Ten Virgins in Matthew 25 and the five that went into the wedding supper and then the door was locked behind them—these are the ones who made it.

4 continued) These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb.

5) And in their mouth was found no guile [no evil motives]: for they are without fault before the throne of God. (KJV)

Their sins having been wiped clean by the blood of Christ.

6) And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth [this is how the gospel gets preached to the entire world], and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people ... (KJV)

All over the world—doesn't make any difference your location, your race, the language you think in or speak in—you will receive a gospel message.

7) Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: [it's upon you, you better gird up your loins] and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters. (KJV)

Verse 13.

13) And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: (KJV)

This tells us that more saints have yet to die on the earth before this time is over with.

13 continued) ... Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them.

14) And I looked, [now we see the start of the culmination of this day] and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown [who could this be but Jesus Christ], and in his hand a sharp sickle.

15) And another angel came out of the temple [God Almighty is in the temple, this angel comes out of the temple with a message], crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud [to Christ, he's giving a Christ a message from His Father], Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe. (KJV)

This is the message from His Father. It's time now. Remember Christ said, as James pointed out, nobody knows when this is going to start. Christ didn't know, the angels don't know, then an angel tells Christ, now it's the time. Stick your sickle into the earth.

16) And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped.

17) And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle.

18) And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire; and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe.

19) And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. (KJV)

If you've ever seen a winepress, it just crushes those berries into juice. This is very symbolic of course. It gives us a picture of the wrath of God and what happens in this day because the rebellious and the evil are going to be pressed like grapes in a wine press.

Revelation 17:14 *These [this refers to the ten kings in verse 12] shall make war with the Lamb, [the Lamb is sticking in the sharp sickle, these are making war with Him, they are fighting Him] and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: (KJV)*

The context is these ten kings. He is their king, they are kings of the earth but He is their King and their Lord.

14 continued) ... and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful. (KJV)

Remember this third point, we're talking about our involvement. The called, chosen and faithful—the Firstfruits—are going to be with Christ when this battle occurs. Now let's go to Revelation 19:11.

Revelation 19:11 *And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. (KJV)*

Again, all about making war against those rebels on this earth. Picture this, Christ coming.

12) His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns [Why? Because He is King of kings and Lord of lords of this earth]; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.

13) And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. (KJV)

Who could this be but Jesus Christ Himself.

14) And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. (KJV)

Notice who this refers to, look at verse 7.

7) Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.

8) And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen [just like in verse 14], clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. (KJV)

So, you see, when this day is fulfilled and nobody can set a date but whether it's short or long or in our lifetime or not, the Firstfruits will be with the Father and His Son whenever this day is fulfilled. We can count on that.

That leads us to the fourth point of change in government between men and God Almighty and that fourth point will ask the question:

4. What will be the structure of our Father's rule?

We'll have two sub points, A and B.

4A. The Father will rule over all from His temple on the earth.

We didn't understand that before and that hadn't been revealed to us before. The Father will rule over all from His temple on this earth. If you want to prove that the Father will come to the earth at this time, at the start of the millennium, just study the next four scriptures. There are many others, by the way, but we'll just look at four. Ezekiel 43:5. Ezekiel is having a vision and we are peering into this vision that he has. This out of the New Living Translation.

Ezekiel 43:5 *Then the Spirit took me up and brought me into the inner courtyard, and the glory of the Lord filled the Temple. (NLT)*

We're going to see in a minute where this temple is. Verse 6 back to the King James.

6) And I heard him speaking unto me out of the house [out of this temple]; and the man stood by me.

7) And he said unto me, Son of man, the place of my throne [this is God speaking now], and the place of the soles of my feet, where I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel forever, and my holy name [His name comes up again—Yehovah], shall the house of Israel no more defile ... (NLT)

So we see the Father will dwell with Israel from His temple here on this earth. Now let's go to Zechariah 14:9. We were there earlier in the first four verses and now we're going to pick up the story in verse 9. This is out of the New Living Translation again.

Zechariah 14:9 *And the Lord will be king over all the earth. (NLT)*

We have spoken about that for the last two or three years; Yehovah is God Almighty, He is the Most High God, He is the Living God, He is the God of the Old Testament.

9 continued) ... On that day there will be one Lord—his name alone will be worshiped. (NLT)

As Yehovah. It reminds me of John 17:3, we pretty well know that by heart, we won't go there but what did Christ say? *This is life eternal that they may know You, the only true God and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.* His name alone will be worshipped. God Almighty, Yehovah is His name.

16) And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles. (KJV)

The Father is ruling from His temple in Jerusalem and the nations will come up to Jerusalem to worship on the Feast of Tabernacles.

17) And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain. (KJV)

There will be a little motivation to get moving toward Jerusalem for the Feast of Tabernacles. We see that the nations will come to Jerusalem to worship the Father because that is where He is. That is where He resides. We have much material on the website, which proves that the Lord of Hosts is indeed God the Father, Yehovah, God Almighty, the Most High God. We see the Father is the King over all the earth. Going on to verse 18 out of the NIV.

18) If the Egyptian people do not go up and take part, they will have no rain. The LORD will bring on them the plague he inflicts on the nations that do not go up to celebrate the Festival of Tabernacles.

19) This will be the punishment of Egypt and the punishment of all the nations that do not go up to celebrate the Festival of Tabernacles. (NIV)

Verse 20 out of the New Living Translation.

20) On that day even the harness bells of the horses will be inscribed with these words: HOLY TO THE LORD. And the cooking pots in the Temple of

the Lord [that's on this earth, not in heaven] will be as sacred as the basins used beside the altar. (NLT)

I'm not saying God's temple in heaven does not exist. I'm not saying that God can't be in two places or ten places or a million places at once—I'm not saying that at all. But He has a temple here on this earth. These cooking pots will be as sacred as the basins that are used beside the altar. Verse 21 out of the NIV.

21) Every pot in Jerusalem and Judah will be holy to the LORD Almighty, and all who come to sacrifice will take some of the pots and cook in them. And on that day there will no longer be a Canaanite in the house of the LORD Almighty. (NIV)

It's clear that God Almighty, Yehovah, will have a temple, He will have a house. It will be here on this earth; He will dwell in it and the people on this earth are His children and He wants to be with His children as many scriptures show. Now let's go to Micah 4:1; we're talking about how the Father will rule, that He will rule over all from this earth. Micah was a contemporary of Isaiah and Jeremiah and he prophesied in the 700's B.C. so this prophecy is about 2700 years old. This out of the New Living Translation.

Micah 4:1 *In the last days, the mountain of the Lord's house will be the highest of all—the most important place on earth. It will be raised above the other hills, and people from all over the world will stream there to worship.*

2) People from many nations will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of Jacob's God. (NLT)

That reminds me of Acts 3:13, we won't turn there—but who was Jacob's God? *The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers who raised up Jesus Christ.* So, the house of Jacob's God is the house of Yehovah, the house of the Almighty God.

2 continued) ... There [from His temple where He dwells] he will teach us his ways, and we will walk in his paths." For the Lord's teaching will go out from Zion; his word will go out from Jerusalem. (NLT)

Verse 3 now back to the King James.

3) And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. (KJV)

Sounds pretty millennial to me. Verse 7.

7) And I will make her that halted a remnant, and her that was cast far off a strong nation [referring to Israel]: and the LORD shall reign over them in mount Zion from henceforth, even forever. (KJV)

It's pretty clear that God Almighty is going to return with His Son at this time. A final scripture under point A, let's go to Revelation 21:3. You see our Father loves His children and He wants to dwell with His children; He wants to be in the neighborhood.

Revelation 21:3 *And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men [the house, the building, where he resides], and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.*

4) And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. (KJV)

We see, closing out point A, that all honor, glory and supremacy will go to the Father. He will rule in the millennium from Jerusalem, His Son will rule under Him as—and that leads to the next point.

4B. Christ will be King of kings and Lord of lords of this earth.

Let's go and prove that out of the Bible. Isaiah 11:1, this is prophecy about the Messiah. Talking about the Messiah's heritage coming from Jesse, the father of David.

Isaiah 11:1 *And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch [and in my King James that Branch is capitalized because it's obviously Jesus Christ] shall grow out of his roots:*

2) And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; (KJV)

Verse 4, I'll read out of the NLT.

4) He will give justice to the poor and make fair decisions for the exploited [sounds like something a king would do]. The earth will shake at the force of his word, and one breath from his mouth will destroy the wicked. (NLT)

That has to be a Spirit Being and that is symbolized by this day. Now let's go to the New Testament, Revelation 19:15. We were there earlier and read verses 11-14 but now we're going to pick it up in verse 15.

Revelation 19:15 *And out of his mouth [referring to Christ] goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. (KJV)*

That's His Father. Christ is sent to this earth to execute the wrath of His Father. Both the Father and the Son show no mercy when openly opposed by humans and when openly disobeyed by humans—He shows no mercy. That is something we should all be

fearful of and quake in our boots over. Notice Zechariah 14:12. We were in Zechariah 14 earlier and read the first five verses, but now let's just read verse 12. This is what Christ does to those who openly oppose Him on this day. He's King of kings and Lord of lords and they're going to know it before this day is over with.

Zechariah 14:12 *And this shall be the plague wherewith the LORD will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth. (KJV)*

The Father and His Son show no mercy to open rebellion. Now let's go back to Revelation 19:16. We see in verse 15 He's here to bring the fierceness and the wrath of Almighty God and in verse 16:

Revelation 19:16 *And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. (KJV)*

The context is the nations in verse 15. We just read that. He shall smite the nations. He is King of kings and Lord of lords over those nations that He smites. Christ becomes King of king and Lord of lords of this earth at this time. We have to understand, Christ cannot be King over His Father. He's not King of the King, that would place Him above His Father. He's always been subservient to His Father, second to His Father. Obviously when it says King of kings, Lord of lords, His Father is exempted from that. He is King and Lord over the human kings of this earth. Notice this in 1 Corinthians 15:28. This scripture was written when Christ had already ascended to the right hand of His Father after being resurrected. This is not before, this is not in the Old Testament, this is where Christ went after He was resurrected; to sit at His Father's Right Hand. I'll read this out of the New Living Translation.

1 Corinthians 15:28 *Then, when all things are under his authority, the Son will put himself under God's authority, so that God [God Almighty], who gave his Son authority over all things [as King of kings and Lord of lords], will be utterly supreme over everything everywhere. (NLT)*

God Almighty is supreme. So, this scripture, as I said, was written after Christ ascended to His Father's Right Hand. We see that the Father will rule over all from His temple, here on this earth, while His Son rules as King of kings and Lord of lords of this earth, under His Father. In glory, but only second to His Father.

Now the final point.

5. What is the principle of our Father's rule?

What is the bedrock, the foundation of the rule of God Almighty? The Father's government is a benevolent dictatorship. There's no voting, it's not going to be a democracy or republic; it is a benevolent dictatorship. The English word benevolent is

an adjective and it means “well meaning”, “kindly”. We will see what that means in just a second, as we go forward. The Father and His Son’s rule is based on their love for the Father’s creation; for all humanity, for all of His children. That’s the basis—they love the Father’s children. After all, the Father offered His Son as a sacrifice, did He not? His Son offered Himself as that same sacrifice, enduring horrible pain and death and His Father had to watch His Son endure that. Why? Because of their love for the Father’s children and because They want the Father’s children to have eternal life. That speaks of their love for all of us. When we doubt God or we doubt His Son we lose sight of the fact that this whole plan is about His love for each one of His human children.

Obviously, their rule is based on the two great commandments. The first commandment we know by heart:

To love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your mind, with all your strength, with everything you have and the second is like unto the first in that you shall love your neighbor as yourself.

We are told there is no other commandment than these. This the bedrock, this is the foundation of Their rule. Let’s go to 1 John 4:18 and see what the Apostle John tells about this. He tells us some fundamental truths.

1 John 4:18 *There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear: because fear hath torment. (KJV)*

We know, if we have ever been afraid, it is torment.

18 continued) He that fears is not made perfect in love. (KJV)

Here’s the point I want to make, verse 19.

19) We love him, because he first loved us. (KJV)

Our calling originated with the Father, because of the Father. He loved us before we ever knew Him. He loved us before we really knew He even existed.

20) If a man say, I love God, and hates his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

21) And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God loves his brother also. (KJV)

These two commandments will be the foundation of what the entire world will be taught, starting with the Feast of Trumpets when our Father’s rule starts to cover this earth. All honor and all glory and all supremacy go to the Father and His Son Who will rule under Him, second in glory to His Dad and we will rule under Their authority in whatever capacity it turns out They want us to fulfill. We have to learn that the Most High rules

and the world has to learn—mankind has to learn finally—that we don't rule as humans, the Most High rules. Let's go to Daniel 4:17. Daniel is the book that quotes a pagan king speaking in God's Word. We are breaking into this and King Nebuchadnezzar in Babylon is personally describing his dream. This dream underscores the point we're making, that the Father will rule and we're trying to discern how He will rule.

Daniel 4:17 *This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent [what's the point] that the living may know that the Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men [hard lesson to learn], and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and sets up over it the basest of men. [Which we see today.] (KJV)*

Verse 25, Daniel is explaining Nebuchadnezzar's dream and Daniel is speaking.

25) That they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field, and they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and they shall wet thee with the dew of heaven, and seven times shall pass over thee, till thou know that the Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will. (KJV)

Verse 32 Daniel continues.

32) And they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field: they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and seven times shall pass over thee, until thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will. (KJV)

It's mentioned three times here that the Most High rules. It was true in Daniel's day and it will be visible to all the world on this day. It is going to be plainly evident when the Father and the Son, are seen in wrath and fury, Who is the boss and Who is in control. The Father and His Son's rule is based on service, on serving His children, doing what is best for them. In Mark 10:44 we see Christ brought this concept when He walked this earth. The twelve didn't get it of course, they were concerned with who was greatest in the Kingdom and who was going to rule and all of that. We've had that in our background in the churches of God. Christ is speaking to the twelve.

Mark 10:44 *And whosoever of you will be the chief, shall be [strutting around and telling everyone how great you are? No.] servant of all. (KJV)*

Verse 45, here's an important principle.

45) For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many. (KJV)

Christ as the Chief, as the Messiah, He is indeed the Servant of all. He gave His life after all. Let's go to Matthew 20:25, we read verse 25 earlier but we just read that one verse. So, let's reread it and go on from there. Talking about how the Gentiles rule.

Matthew 20:25 *But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. [For power, control and self gratification]*
26) *But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; (KJV)*

That Greek word for *minister* is *diakonos* from which we get our English word *deacon* and it means "an attendant" or "a waiter at a table".

27) *And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: (KJV)*

Servant is the Greek word *doulos* which means "a literal slave". We, as spirit beings, will be there to serve and not to exalt ourselves. Too often in the past, it seemed like the point of getting into the Kingdom was to finally, at least, get recognition, at last put on badges of honor and have people fall down and worship me. In Romans 13:10 we see another principle. These are principles that the Kingdom of God is based upon; these are principles that the Father's rule is based upon—they come out of His Word.

Romans 13:10 *Love worketh no ill to his neighbor: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. (KJV)*

Our Father's love is for our benefit. *Romans 8:28, all things work together for good to those who love God.* Of all the people who He rules, He rules out of love for their benefit. So ultimately, they will be eternal with him. I think everyone's heard of "Dear Abby". She was Abigail Van Buren, an American writer and syndicated newspaper columnist—she's dead now and I think her daughter has taken her place. But she said this:

The best index of a person's character is:
A) *how he treats people who can't do him any good - and -*
B) *how he treats people who can't fight back.*

The best indicator of a person's character—and we must prove to our Father that we want to serve and benefit His children and not exalt "the self". We have to prove that in this life or we won't be allowed to rule in the Kingdom if we're there to serve ourselves or exalt ourselves. Our Father's rule and our rule in the future and now, frankly, should be without respect of persons. We can't have a respect of persons. Let's go to James 2:1 and see that, James being the half brother of Christ. We've read this many times before.

James 2:1 *My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons. (KJV)*

He goes on to give an example. If we have respect of persons, we're not qualified to rule anybody; we're not qualified. You probably haven't heard of the Earl of Chesterfield. Chesterfield is in the Nottingham area of England and the Earl of Chesterfield was born in 1694 and died in 1773. He wrote letters to his son that were first published in the 1770's. Since that time, these letters have been historically used to provide a model regarding proper manners and proper etiquette in the United Kingdom. A book of those letters has been published. Let me quote from a letter dated May 17, 1748. It's something that we should think about.

The characteristic of a well-bred man is to converse with his inferiors without insolence...

[insolence means "uncaring", so a well-bred man would converse in a caring manner with those who are beneath him. Let's say he is their master on a farm or an estate...]

and his superiors with respect but with ease.

"With ease"—not being afraid. Let me quote from another man. You will recognize his last name. His first name was *Leland* and last name *Stanford*. He was a prominent American industrialist and businessman, born in 1824 and he died in 1893. His last name is famous because he founded Stanford University. He was written about in a 1913 book and he was, by all accounts, a well-respected man who took care of his employees and business.

"All who knew him personally recognized his kindly disposition and he was held in great regard by his employees. The poorest man in his employ could go to him and be sure of considerate treatment. It has been said that the surest criterion of the character of an individual is the way in which he treats his inferiors. Mr. Stanford never let it be known that he considered an individual an inferior."

He treated people equally and it says, he treated them with kindness. Sadly, our history in the Worldwide Church of God, for those who had a history, have seen that not take place. In fact, a class system was set in place beginning in the 1950's in the Worldwide Church of God that was frankly ungodly and the church got off track in that regard. There were two classes; there was the ministry and there was everybody else. There were the "exalted ones" and there were the "dumb sheep". That evolved over a period of time and it was subtly taught and not so subtly taught. My point is—that will not be present in the Kingdom of God and anybody who has that attitude—that *I'm going to be in the Kingdom of God because I want to rule with a rod of iron and I want to exert my authority over human beings and want them to obey me and want them to fear me*—if we have that attitude, we will not be in the Kingdom of God. Our Father's rule is based on the two great commandments, without respect of persons to anyone. Those two commandments are there for us to learn to serve His children so they can attain eternal life and our job will be assisting the Father and His Son to that end. No one is going to

be allowed into the Kingdom who doesn't want to do that and doesn't want to give and to serve.

Let's conclude now. This day symbolizes, for the very first time since Adam and Eve rejected Yehovah in the Garden of Eden, the entire earth being ruled by our Father and His Son. We see the deceived, the warped, the polluted world of today and we yearn for the wonderful world to come. This day marks the beginning of that time. It's a joyous occasion, despite the fact that there is going to be horror and death and destruction on this day. That's the only way man learns. Man learns by pain, not by much else, sad to say. Let's close with an encouraging scripture as to where this day leads. Let's go to Isaiah 11:4. We read this earlier but let's read it in the context of where this day takes us, starting today. It will be terror and agony and bloodshed and the wrath of God on mankind because man has thumbed his nose at God for 6000 years or so, but this is where it leads. From the NLT.

Isaiah 11:4 *He will give justice to the poor and make fair decisions for the exploited. The earth will shake at the force of his word, and one breath from his mouth will destroy the wicked.* (NLT)

Symbolized by this day but notice where it leads. Verse 5 back to the King James.

5) And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.

6) The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. (KJV)

Verse 9.

9) They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: [here's the joy of it all] for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea. (KJV)

As I've said before, this day marks the beginning of that time. The good news is, we will be there and we will have a part to play if we remain faithful. The big "if", we all have the big "if". The Father is going to rule the entire earth relatively soon. Today, the question for us, the "called and converted", is, will we submit to our Father's rule now in our lives? The earth is going to be *forced* to submit, but the Father is giving us the opportunity, with the power of the Holy Spirit in us, to *voluntarily* submit, absolutely without reservation, 100%, no matter what happens, submit to God Almighty. We are being tested now, today, to see if we will do just that, if we will submit, if we will surrender our will 100%. We have to prove that to our Father. Will we always be submissive? That's our job. This day marks the beginning of our Father's rule—what a joyous time! Let's look forward to the fulfillment of this day.