The Image of God vs the Beast. Let's take it from the start. Part 3.

We are sealed by the living God, by His word, His law and principles and by His spirit. At the end of our Christian journey, if or when we overcome the beast, his mark and image, by the spirit, character and law of God, inscribed on our hearts we gain the victory, by grace through faith. And we are to trust God's promise: *"Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ*" Philippians 1:6

It is also important to notice that Christ was only made lower physically for a short while, namely a few decades while living and dying and rising from the grave, until he ascended into heaven on Ascension day. **Likewise those who are overcomers in Christ and follow His gospel and receive His Law in their hearts, by His power in us, will likewise rise from the grave, receive new immortal bodies and ascend into heaven at the second coming of Christ.**

Those who are alive when He arrive, will be directly translated without tasting death. *"But we do see Him who was made* <u>*for a little while*</u> *lower than the angels, namely, Jesus, because of the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone."* Hebrews 2:9

"Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord". 1 Thessalonians 4:17

In the book of Revelation we can read in chapter 19 verse 16 about Christ's position in the heaven and the entire Universe:

"*And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written:* ***KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.*** **" John says in the book of Revelation chapter 21, verse 6 -7, concerning Christ and those who overcome by His blood: "***And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. "*

And in verse 13 -14:
"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last." Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city."

A supporting quote I found from E.G White on this highly important subject, on February 21, 2021.

"It would have been an almost infinite humiliation for the Son of God to take man's

nature, even when Adam stood in his innocence in Eden. ***But Jesus accepted humanity when the race had been weakened by four thousand years of sin****. Like every child of Adam He accepted the results of the working of the great law of heredity. What these results were is shown in the history of His earthly ancestors.* ***He came with such a heredity to share our sorrows and temptations, and to give us the example of a sinless life.*** *Those who claim that it was not possible for Christ to sin, cannot believe that He really took upon Himself human nature. But was not Christ actually tempted, not only by Satan in the wilderness, but all through His life, from childhood to manhood?* ***Our Saviour took humanity, with all its liabilities."***
- The Faith I live by. Page 44.

The following is speaking of Christ, our High priest. And of the old law and covenant versus the new law and covenant:
"*And what we have said is even more clear if another priest like Melchizedek appears, one who has become* ***a priest not on the basis of a regulation as to his ancestry*** *but on the basis of the power of an indestructible life. For He testifies: "You are a priest forever. According to the order of Melchizedek." For on the one hand there is an annulling of the former commandment because of its weakness and unprofitableness"* -Hebrews 7: 15-19

This does not mean we can abolish the ten commandments. This is speaking of the old law and covenant: the law of the letter, with a focus on birth (genes), nationality and generally outward factors, rather than the inward character (heart and mind), which characterizes the new law and covenant.

"It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they did not remain faithful to my covenant, and I turned away from them, declares the Lord. ***This is the covenant I will establish with the people of Israel after that time, declares the Lord. I will put my laws in their minds and write them on their hearts****. I will be their God, and they will be my people."* --Hebrews 8.9-10

(Read also Galatians chapter 3, Romans 2:28-29, and Romans 8)

What road will you choose? What material do you want to build your house, your temple on? What image do you want to be fashioned into?

Are you ready to wear a crown of thorns in this life and partake in the sufferings of Christ, which is the narrow path? Or do you want to travel the road of least resistance, and flee from all the trials that come your way? Which is the broad way. "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." Proverbs 14: 12

In 1. Corinthians 3: 11-14 we read: *"For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work. If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward."*

"The house of the wicked shall be overthrown: but the tabernacle of the upright shall flourish." Proverbs 14:11.

The everlasting covenant is that we receive an offer and promise from the everlasting God, to have our sins erased from the Book of Life, if we repent. And the power of the triune God to be recreated in His image by having His law written on our hearts and minds, by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. From the blood of beast to receiving the blood of Christ, of God. Sanctification from self righteousness, which is unrighteousness, to receiving the righteousness of Christ.

IMPORTANT ADDITION, August 1st:

We can read in Hebrews 2, Hebrews 5, Hebrews 12 and 1. John 4:1-3, that Christ Himself became human and suffered temptation in every area, yet he was without sin. While having to learn obedience by the sufferings He went through. Meaning by advancing in the sanctification process himself. God's divine school of discipline. Yet, Christ must have advanced perfectly every step on his way from earth to heaven. Hence He never fell, never sinned. Yet being perfected according to the word of God in the path of the righteous, the way of the cross.

But notice that it was his free will sacrifice, as He was the very begotten Son of God, the last being who would need to undergo a sanctification, and yet He chose to make this incredible sacrifice and endeavour this extremely challenging journey, for the sake of being able to rescue mankind. Which include to later being able to become the sanctifier and councelor for the fallen race in their increased fallen state. By having himself experienced the nature of human flesh 4000 years after the fall, he would be able to sympathize with their weakness and guide them in their sanctification to overcome their human character, and become born again, recreated in the image of God. Since mankind by nature have fallen increasingly now for 6000 years, since the fall of man by the first human parents, Adam and Eve.

Note that sanctification, the re-creation in the image of God, is first and foremost an inner renewal of heart and mind. Then physically. Christ did not receive his glorified, immortal body until after he had gained the victory at death. It was not until his resurrection. We will also have to take care of our physical body, but it will not be made perfect until Jesus' second coming. Death is the last enemy to be overcome. This last, external transformation from earthly to immortal bodies, take place at the last trumpet. (1 Cor 15: 51-53). Although we will continue to grow up to our full physical potential in heaven. We are all fallen and are of fallen human nature. Our character of nature, sons and daughters of man (Adam and Eve) are fallen. We must be sanctified and walk from a fallen human nature under the law and spirit of the flesh / world, to be born again of God's law and spirit, and thus recreated in God's image by the triune God. Until we are matured and overcome by the power of God, by the righteousness of Christ, we are all, still under the image of the old, immature order, the order of the earth, of the beast, the natural man. The immature Christian who have not been born again, and matured, and are still legalists, still bound by the

letter of the law. hence they still walk by sight, by the flesh, not by the spirit and walk increasingly by faith. Only Jesus Christ advanced perfectly in sanctification and never fell, something we all have done. And therefore desrving the cross, unlike the Son of God who never fell. Since sin is a conscious choice, Jesus never sinned. Thus He advanced perfectly all the way, and never sinned against His heavenly Father and the law and Spirit of God. Though He took on fallen human nature and learned obedience by what he suffered, that is, by God's sanctification and discipline: the way of the cross.

"Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own actions were evil and his brother's were righteous." 1 John 3:12

"And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate[a] the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit." 2. Cor 3:18

" He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant—not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life." 2. Corinthians. 3:6

"If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. So it is written: "The first man Adam became a living being"; the last Adam, a life-giving spirit. The spiritual did not come first, but the natural, and after that the spiritual. The first man was of the dust of the earth; the second man is of heaven. As was the earthly man, so are those who are of the earth; and as is the heavenly man, so also are those who are of heaven. And just as we have borne the image of the earthly man, so shall we bear the image of the heavenly man. I declare to you, brothers and sisters, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. " 1 Cor 15: 44-50