re-think No.19

REMNANT?

God is so blessed as to have actually rescued a remnant of believers after all the tough times they have had to endure! Some have been able to remain loyal in a Pharasaical sort of way! Others have labelled some natural Israelites as being the remnant who will escape judgment etc.

WORD MEANINGS

What is the meaning of the word? 'Remnant': Gk. LEIMMA = remainder — from root word LEIPO = to be absent, to leave, to lack.

'residue': Gk. LOIPOI = remainder, remnant, rest. . . with the same root word as 'remnant' has.

'residue': Hb. SHE'ERIYTH = residue, remnant, surviving portion or final portion.

Dictionary: 'remnant' = what is remaining; last remaining indication of what has been. The 'remnant' is a people within the people of God who have yes, 'hung-in-there' through all the dealings from God to bring them to His fullness where they can move as Jesus patterned for them/us.

A REMNANT BY GRACE!

Romans 11:4-7 (KJV) . . .

- 4 But what saith the answer of God unto him? I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to the image of Baal.
- 5 Even so then at this present time also there is A REMNANT according to the election of grace.
- And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work.
- What then? Israel has not obtained that which he seeks for; but **the election has obtained it, and the rest were blinded**.

The 'remnant' is called by grace into this 'high calling'... and is also referred to as 'the election'. Israel parallels the 'Church' and has not obtained to the walk of the Kingdom of God... the election or remnant have (or are in the process of...) by God's sovereign grace; the majority of the 'Church' remain blind to this call at this time... and that's OK if God hasn't apprehended them.

AN ILLUSTRATION

Picture, if you will, a large bolt of material which has to be handled mechanically. When it was being prepared, the last to be unrolled would have been put on the roll first. The large manufactured roll is then sent to the wholesaler who re-rolls the material onto smaller more easily handled rolls or bolts and it is then shipped to the retailers.

Customers then purchase the amount that they need to create what they are purposing to make. They most likely will purchase a pattern at the same time. The purchased material is then cut exactly according to the pattern in a way to avoid waste. The whole of this smaller bolt receives this sort of attention — being carefully laid over a pattern and cut accordingly.

Then there is left a remnant . . . a small piece of this material that is not large enough for the usual pattern to be laid on it!

This remnant is folded and creased with many straggly threads . . . not an attractive sight. In the retail store the remnants have been set aside, 'ostracized' from all the other 'useful' bolts of material. They are not easy to find and very few customers are interested in them.

Then comes a Master-Designer and carefully picks up all these remnants of material and takes them

apart from the store, the patterns and the cutting table and joins them into one beautiful coat of many pieces.

Jacob back in Bible Times of old, he did something similar to that and came up with a 'coat of many colours' for Joseph. The Hebrew says 'a coat of many pieces'. This coat when given to Joseph signified that he would later come forth as a Priest and, coupled with his dreams, a King also. A King-Priest is labelled in scripture as a Melchisedec Priest.

In these days, we see the Lord likening those who have heard the call to come forth in this Priesthood, to identify in the spirit with Joseph of old who saw his vision and calling come to fruition. This bolt of material is a great illustration of 'the first shall be last and the last first'.

PROMISES TO THIS REMNANT

Zechariah 8:10-12 (KJV) A prophetic word that draws one's attention to God's ways of accomplishing His will.

(10) For before these days there was no hire for man, nor any hire for beast; neither was there any peace to him that went out or came in because of the affliction: for I set all men every one against his neighbour. This is how the average disgruntled or unemployed person in the world sees his fellow man. (11) But now I will not be unto the residue (remnant) of this people as in the former days, saith the LORD of hosts.

The Lord of hosts is *JEHOVAH-SABAOTH* and this aspect of God specifically rules in the affairs of man and works all things together for good. The Lord of hosts rules in the hosts of heaven and earth (mankind)...all with their times are in His hand. Viewed by man, there has been a dearth of God's supply and healing...but NOW the seed sown will be prosperous, fruitfulness flowing from the vine — Christ within, the ground shall yield her stores of wealth...all this coupled with God's word from heaven being heard clearly. The 'remnant company shall see and handle the reality of all these things. Glory to God.

12 For the seed shall be prosperous; the vine shall give her fruit, and the ground shall give her increase, and the heavens shall give their dew; and I will cause the remnant of this people to possess all these things.

UN-PATTERNED SAINTS!

This chosen remnant has come through the processings of the Lord and can identify with the fact that no man can put a pattern upon them. . . that is, no man-made constitution or form can be laid on these ones. . . for they have been called for a purpose. They have been *knitted together in love* to become one new covering . . . a present-day 'coat of many colours'. The coverings that have come from former patterns have done their work and now have been superceded by Father's direct leading and empowering. This written-off group of un-patterned saints have been a hidden part of the whole waiting until the material used for normal things has been used up. These chosen ones have been sewn together in secret to be later revealed openly.

A SPECIAL HIGH CALLING FOR THE REMNANT-BRANCH

Isaiah 11:1-16 (1) And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse (The 'Jesse-Ministries' will have a special authority and the 'Branch-ones' will hear their word and respond), and A BRANCH shall grow out of his roots:

The 'rod' speaks of authority which is absolutely essential for 'ruling and reigning' with Christ. This initially speaks of David who later became king of Israel. Strong new growth in a vine comes from the root system and later branches break out of this new growth. This BRANCH comes directly out of the roots . . . it is a new expression of the Vine and thus gets its nourishment direct from the source, not through another's hearing or testimony! (2) And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him (The Branch), the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD:

The seven 'spirits of God' that show the seven aspects of God's work in the apprehended ones by His Spirit.

JUDGING IS RULING AND REIGNING

(3) And shall make him (The Branch) of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he (The Branch) shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: (4) But with righteousness shall he (The Branch) judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he (The Branch) shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he (The Branch) slay the wicked. (5) And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.

Righteousness, peace and joy make up the Kingdom of God. 'Loins' girt about with truth (Ephesians 6) can only overflow and reproduce itself so that a sure testimony of God's faithfulness and ours too towards His decrees will be seen and heard as the Branch carries out judgments unto righteousness.

THE EFFECT OF SUCH AUTHORITY

(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. (7) And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. (8) And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. (9) They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea. (10) And in that day (seventh?) There shall be a root of Jesse (an authoritative anointing and call to such), which shall stand for an ensign (Gathering or focusing point) of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his (The Branch's) rest shall be glorious. (resting in the Lord).

TREMENDOUS AUTHORITY

(11) And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people. God's grace reaches out yet again to draw a people unto Himself from all the effects of the thinking of the world, wrong securities and being on one's own, somewhat isolated from life. (12) And he (The Branch) shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth. (15) And the LORD shall utterly destroy the tongue of the Egyptian sea; and with his mighty wind shall he shake his hand over the river, and shall smite it in the seven streams (the work of the seven spirits of God), and make men go over dryshod.

A HIGHWAY OF HOLINESS

(16) And there shall be an highway for the remnant of His people, which shall be left, from Assyria; like as it was to Israel in the day that he (= corporate) came up out of the land of Egypt.

A high way is for those who have heard the call to 'come up higher'. . . above the normal Christian walk which can be likened to a servant taking orders and carrying them out well. the 'remnant' will have a relationship with God and also with man. As Melchisedec Priests they will dispense the love of God with such compassion and authority that no-one will be able to withstand God's drawing and purposes.

THE REMNANT WITHIN THE CHURCH

Rev 12:17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman (The Church), and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ. (= the spirit of prophecy which is fully speaking forth the mind of Christ in every situation). There are many in the Church who have a beautiful 'walk' with the Lord which God has not called to be a part of His first-fruits-Seed in this hour.

God has been removing the creases put on the remnant branch by the pressures from the rolled cloth

used by the systems of religious men, cutting off the loose shreds so that they can be truly separated unto this calling without anything that could cause them to be drawn back to the old ways.

Let this brief word be an encouragement to all those who have been apprehended by the Lord to 'rule and reign' with Him in this Seventh-Day. This remnant know about God's dealings to bring forth righteousness and they yield to it. The hot iron that removes all creases and blemishes in our thinking is for our good and of course, God's glory.§