

"Listen to Me, O Jacob, even Israel whom I called; I am He, I am the first, I am also the last. Surely My hand founded the earth, And My right hand spread out the heavens; When I call to them, they stand together. Assemble, all of you, and listen! Who among them has declared these things? The LORD loves him; he will carry out His good pleasure on Babylon,

And His arm will be against the Chaldeans.

I, even I, have spoken; indeed I have called him,

I have brought him, and He will make his ways successful.

Come near to Me, listen to this:

From the first I have not spoken in secret,
From the time it took place, I was there.
And now the Lord GOD has sent Me, and His
Spirit."

Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel,

"I am the LORD your God, who teaches you to profit,

Who leads you in the way you should go.

If only you had paid attention to My

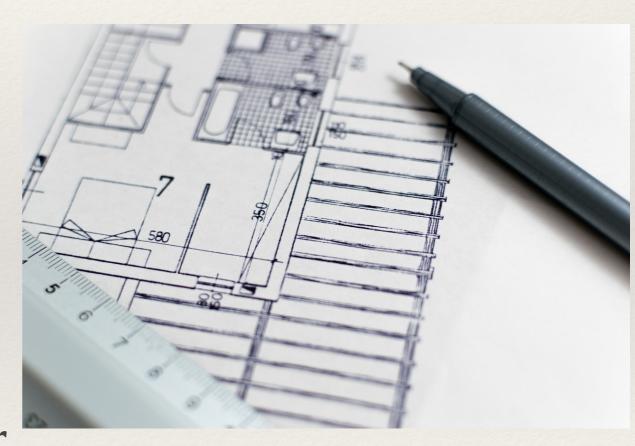
commandments!

Then your well-being would have been like a river, And your righteousness like the waves of the sea."

-YaHWeH in Isaiah 48:12-18 (Continued)

#### The Architect

- \* YaHWeH is the beginning and the end of all things.
- \* YaHWeH was responsible for creation.
- YaHWeH will send the Redeemer and His Spirit.
- \* YaHWeH provides direction for His people.



## John 1:1-5

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

## John 1:9-13

There was the true Light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

## John 1:14-18

And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. John testified about Him and cried out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me." For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace. For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ. No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him.

## Unconquerable Word

- \* Jesus always existed. He was not created. He was the architect of creation.
- Jesus is the Word through which everything was created.
- \* Jesus is the Light providing direction.
- Καταλαμβάνω (katalambano) win, seize, understand
- Jesus brought grace to people.
- \* Jesus brought understanding to people.



#### What About Us?

- \* Jesus is God.
- \* If we want to go the true right direction, we must follow Jesus' teachings and example.
- \* Jesus will never be beaten.
- \* The world did not understand Him, and it will not understand us either.
- \* Those who seek God through Jesus will receive God's grace if they obey.



#### Colossians 1:13-18

For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything.

# The Image of God

- \* <u>Mεθιστημι (methistame)</u>- transfer from one place to another, bring a different point of view
- \* **Εικων (icon)** likeness, portrait, form, appearance
- \* Redemption and forgiveness is only through Jesus.
- \* All things were created through Jesus.
- Jesus was not created.
- \* The Father gave Jesus the top position because of His resurrection.



"Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

#### The A and $\Omega$

- \* Jesus is returning.
- Jesus is bringing His promised reward for God's people.
- \* Jesus is the Alpha and the Omega (the beginning and ending letter in the Greek alphabet).



\* Jesus is God.

#### Revelation 22:14-17

Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter by the gates into the city. Outside are the dogs and the sorcerers and the immoral persons and the murderers and the idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices lying. "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star." The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who wishes take the water of life without cost.

#### The Messiah Will Return

- \* Right to the Tree of Life requires cleansing.
- \* Those still covered in sin will not enter Heaven--both non-Christians and unfaithful Christians.
- \* Jesus offers cleansing and salvation to everyone interested.
- \* The Spirit and the church work together to convict the world of sin.



#### What About Us?

- \* God keeps His promises.
- Jesus is coming back. We better be ready.
- \* If we want to be in Heaven, we must be cleansed of our sins and seeking to live righteous lifestyles.
- \* Jesus is both God and the only way to gain salvation.
- \* It is our responsibility to spread the news about Jesus to the sinful world around us.

