# THE GOSPEL IS NOT THE SCRIPTURES

## **PREAMBLE**

This literature is not meant for those that like to skim through the Bible but for those that dig deep into the Holy Book. For you to truly benefit from this discuss you must be ready and prepared to read, study and meditate on EVERY ONE of the biblical verses contained therein. It is not for you to assume it but to read it yourself wherever they pop up. This literature is not a novel or just another good informational read but a digging deep kind of thing. If you do not generally like opening up the Bible to see what is written in it as listed this discuss will not benefit you maximally, please be advised. Acts 17:10-12.

## INTRODUCTION

We are in a period in Christianity in which many things or terms that we accept, use and believe are taken for granted to be true. Why? Because they were handed down to us by our so called trusted religious leaders of old, to whom we had handed over our reasoning faculty to but who have failed us in giving spiritual understanding to loads of scriptural questions which are explained carnally or yet shrouded in mysteries as concluded by them. Unfortunately, one would say that majority of these religious leaders are offshoots of the Pharisees, scribes, chief priests and elders of Christ's time and still operate as they did holding unto their doctrines of which our Lord Jesus Christ specifically warned us to beware of and not imbibe (Mtt 16:5-12; Mtt 23:1-3). These religious leaders, operating under the Church as an organization (CAO), have perfected the art of adding and subtracting from the explicit writings of the Bible, which we hold sacrosanct. They do this by formulating and imposing their own human deductions and inferences as doctrine and dogmas upon their congregations saying things that are not biblical but many being ignorant and unlearned have no basis or interest to query but swallow hook, line and sinker as it were. They churn out a mixture of carnality with spiritual truths resulting in a carnal mix that is an error. These mixtures yet keep many confused, questioning and in ignorance to the Truth that the Holy Spirit teaches. Rev. 3:15-16; Lk 5:36-39

One out of the numerous areas of mixture of the CAO that we shall be extricating specifically in this literature is concerning what is called The Scriptures. The term "Scriptures" have been used as a synonym for the word "Bible" comprising of all the Old Testament and the New Testament books put together. On the surface it might seem as if nothing is amiss but it is subtlety at work

by the enemy as is always the case with the CAO. It is an error that is not obvious to the simple at heart and mind but is to the spiritually discerning mind as it were. Why? Because the Bible is not wholly the scriptures but rather it contains the scriptures with other contents/writings/history as well. So to say that the Bible is the scripture is misleading and it is like saying that the engine of a motor car is the car. In these last days it is imperative that we should say the truth as it is and not as deduced for therein lieth errors meant to deceive, mislead and instill falsehood. **Deu 4:1-2; Deu 5:22; Deu 12:32; Josh 1:7; Rev 22:18-19** 

In this literature, by the grace of God, we would attempt to unravel the entanglement and web that has been spurn around the term "Scriptures" as it is loosely used in order to understand its true meaning as the Bible defines it and not as the CAO religious leaders through the ages have redefined it as of today and specifically differentiate it from the gospel of Christ. This is with the intent of maximally benefiting from that which Christ our Lord died to set us free from and resurrected that we might live and inherit eternally.

## WHAT ARE THE SCRIPTURES?

As had been stated earlier, the Bible is not the scriptures wholly, rather it contains the scriptures in addition to other contents like the accounts of men, history of peoples especially the Israelites and their experiences in life in relationship with God. In other words, not everything in the Bible is the scriptures as is falsely alluded to today. So there is a pertinent need to be able to distinguish what exactly is Scripture from the mix in order not to end up formulating false doctrines for the New Testament Church as obtains in the various CAOs or denominations today, that is not based on the true words of God as taught and affirmed by our Lord Jesus specifically. The Devil and his agents are full of all subtlety and mischief (Acts 13:10). They have used the term "Scriptures" loosely and ambiguously to cause men to be preaching the another gospel and formulating doctrines that men teach and which many adhere to ignorantly that make of none effect the commandments of God. Mk 7:13; 2 Tim 3:15-17

The Scriptures were already written, compiled and complete as contained in the sacred scrolls of the prophets and the Law available with the Pharisees and Priests then, read every Sabbath day to the Jews in their synagogues and temple at the time of Jesus Christ earthly ministry. That was what the Jews held unto as the source and basis for their belief till date, in the one God, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of their fathers (Exo 4:5; Acts 3:13). At that time and as it still rightly is today, it was from the Old Testament (O.T.) writings that Scriptures were gotten, there was no New Testament (N.T.) writings as of then. John the Baptist was the last of the O.T. prophets as it were and the one to herald the coming of Jesus Christ, the Son of God,

that Prophet that came to give us the gospel of the new covenant and no longer the scriptures. Acts 3:22-23; Mtt 11:13; Lk 16:16; Deu 18:15-19

Christ and his apostles explicitly without any ambiguity told us what constituted scriptures and from where the scriptures were gotten in their various teachings and preaching of which we shall peruse some as follows:

**Lk 24:25** Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: **Vr.27** And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all (not some but all) the scriptures the things concerning himself. **Vr.44** And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.

Acts 13:27 For they that dwell at Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they knew him not, nor yet the <u>voices of the prophets</u> which are read every sabbath day, they have fulfilled them in condemning him. Vr.29 And when they had fulfilled all that was written of him, they took him down from the tree, and laid him in a sepulchre.

Acts 3:18 But those things, which God before had shewed by the mouth of all his prophets, that Christ should suffer, he hath so fulfilled. Vr.20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: Vr.21 Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began. Vr.22 For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you. Vr.23 And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people. Vr.24 Yea, and all the prophets from Samuel and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have likewise foretold of these days. Vr.25 Ye are the children of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying unto Abraham, And in thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed.

Jn 5:39-47(Vr.39 Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. Vr.46 For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me. Vr.47 But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words?

**Lk 1:70** As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began:

**Jn 9:29** We know that <u>God spake unto Moses</u>: as for this fellow, we know not from whence he is.

Mtt 4:4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by <u>every</u> word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God (through His prophets, the Law, and the fathersthis is what scriptures mean).

**Lk 16:16** The law and the prophets (the scriptures) were until John: since that time the kingdom of God (the gospel) is preached, and every man presseth into it.

**Hebr 1:1** God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake (the scriptures) in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,

From the Old Testament, the Law and the prophets, the fathers of old, their prophecies, sayings and words that they received from God by the Spirit for men as captured in the Bible are what constitute Scriptures biblically and nothing else. The teachings, sayings and words of Christ and his apostles/disciples were not termed as scriptures, biblically speaking, but the CAO have subtly included and classified them with the whole of the Bible for that matter as scriptures in order to create an ambiguity, a mixture for error to thrive thereby. The true Scriptures comprise of specific writings as contained in the Law and the Prophets of the O.T. which are the words of God that He spoke through His servants of old, as it were. Other writings outside from these written words of God still found in the Law and prophets are not called Scriptures biblically.

## What constitutes scriptures?

**Lk 24:25-27, 44-49 (Vr.44** These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in

- I) The law of Moses, and
- II) In the prophets, and
- III) In the psalms, concerning me (Christ)

**Vr.45** Then opened he their understanding that they might understand the scriptures.

All that the prophets had prophesied concerning the suffering of Christ and his resurrection has been fulfilled but there are still some O.T. scriptures that have to do with the G.T., the last day, Millennial reign, new heaven and new earth, etc all that support and backup those things that Christ said during his time on earth and his Apostles expounded on it afterwards- these are yet to be fulfilled. But Christ expounded in all the scriptures the things concerning himself to his disciples.

**How did the scriptures come about?** It was in the old times that Scriptures came.

**2 Tim 3:15** And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. **Vr.16** All scripture is given by

<u>inspiration of God</u>, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

**2 Pet 1:20** Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. **Vr.21** For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

**Mk 12:36** For David himself said by the Holy Ghost, The Lord said to my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool.

Acts 28:25 And when they agreed not among themselves, they departed, after that Paul had spoken one word, Well spake the Holy Ghost by Esaias the prophet unto our fathers,

## I Pet 1:10-13

The central theme of the scriptures have to do with Christ, the WORD of God, basically, any other things in it are but accompaniments. **Lk 24:25-27,32,44-49** 

#### THE SCRIPTURES ARE DERIVED FROM TWO SOURCES- THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS

The writings of the Law and the Prophets in the Old Testament contain the Scriptures and other contents, just as the Holy Bible contains the word of God and other contents too. So there are the portion of the scriptures that are gotten from the Law and there are other portions of the scriptures still that are gotten from the sayings of God as spoken by the prophets and the fathers from the beginning of the world, these ones are specifically called the scriptures of the prophets as it were. In a similar vein, we shall henceforth refer to the scriptures gotten from the Law of Moses as the scriptures of the Law (Jn 9:29). So there are the scriptures of the prophets and there are the scriptures of the Law. The combination of the two is what we shall call the scriptures of the Law and the Prophets. Scriptures are found in the writings of the Law and the prophets but not all the writings/sayings of the Law and the prophets make up the scriptures, this is worthy to note. These are the only sources from which the scriptures as we have it written are gotten from and no other place as it were biblically speaking. Other written words of God available to us from other sources are not called Scriptures but are given other names which we shall identify in the course of our discussion.

We are going to peruse some examples of the Scriptures of the Prophets and that of the Law below:

#### THE SCRIPTURES OF THE PROPHETS

The fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, David, Solomon, Daniel and co are also classified as the prophets along with the major and minor prophets of the Old Testament like Isaiah, Jeremiah, Joel and co. Mtt 2:15-23; Mtt 24:15

**Gen 20:1-18 (Vr.7** Now therefore restore the man his wife; for he is a prophet (that is Abraham), and he shall pray for thee.

Acts 2:16-36 (Vr.16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; Vr.25 For David speaketh concerning him, I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for he is on my right hand, that I should not be moved: Vr.30 Therefore being a prophet (that is David), and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne; Vr.31 He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption. Vr.32 This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses. Vr.34 For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself, The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, Vr.35 Until I make thy foes thy footstool. Vr.36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

**Acts 13:26** Men and brethren, children of <u>the stock of Abraham</u>, and whosoever among you feareth God, to you is the word of this salvation sent. **Vr.27** For they that dwell at Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they knew him not, nor yet <u>the voices of the prophets</u> which are read every sabbath day, they have fulfilled them in condemning him.

Mtt 2:1-6 (Vr.4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. Vr.5 And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet.

Mtt 26:55-56 (Vr.56 But all this was done, that <u>the scriptures of the prophets</u> might be fulfilled. Then all the disciples forsook him, and fled.

**Rom 16:25-26 (Vr.26** But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith:

Rom 1:2 (Which he had promised afore by his prophets in the holy scriptures,)

#### THE SCRIPTURES OF THE LAW

These are the scriptures contained in the Law of Moses even as God gave to him for the children of Israel and are written in the book of the Law. The Law contains the scriptures and a lot of other things, like carnal ordinances and commandments of Moses also. **Hebr 9:8-10; Mtt 19:7-8; Exo 20:1-26** 

**Jn 1:17** For the law was given by Moses

Jn 7:19 Did not Moses give you the law, and yet none of you keepeth the law?

Acts 7:53 Who have received the law by the disposition of angels

**Jn 3:14** And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:

**Jn 5:45** Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father: there is one that accuseth you, even Moses, in whom ye trust. **Vr.46** For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me. **Vr.47** But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words?

**Deu 4:1-40 (Vr.1** Now therefore hearken, O Israel, unto the statutes and unto the judgments, which I teach you, for to do them , that ye may live, and go in and possess the land which the LORD God of your fathers giveth you. **Vr.2** Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you. **Vr.5** Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as the LORD my God commanded me, that ye should do so in the land whither ye go to possess it.

**Exo 34:27** And the LORD said unto Moses, write thou these words; for after the tenor of these words I have made a covenant with thee and with Israel. **Vr.28** And he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he did neither eat bread nor drink water. And he wrote upon the tables the words of the covenant the Ten Commandments.

Deut 33:4 Moses commanded us a law

**Jn 9:28** Then they reviled him, and said, Thou art his disciple; but we are Moses' disciples. **Vr.29** We know that God spake unto Moses: as for this fellow, we know not from whence he is.

#### THE SCRIPTURES OF THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS

We shall be looking at biblical verses that mentioned both sources of scriptures in them.

Mtt 5:17 Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets (the scriptures): I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. Vr.18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

**Lk 16:16** The law and the prophets (the scriptures) were until John:

Mtt 11:13 For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. (that is where the scriptures ended)

Jn 7:19 Did not Moses give you the law, and yet none of you keepeth the law? Vr.22 Moses therefore gave unto you circumcision; (not because it is of Moses, but of the fathers;) and ye on the sabbath day circumcise a man. Vr.23 If a man on the sabbath day receive circumcision, that the law of Moses should not be broken; are ye angry at me, because I have made a man every whit whole on the sabbath day?

Rom 4:1-25 (Vr.13 For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith. Vr.14 For if they which are of the law be heirs, faith is made void, and the promise made of none effect: Vr.16 Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all,

Acts 28:23 And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him (Paul) into his lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening.

Mtt 22:35-40 (Vr.37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. Vr.39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. Vr.40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets (but not the gospel because Christ is not specifically mentioned therein).

Acts 13:14-52 (Vr.14 But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and sat down. Vr.15 And after the reading of the law and the prophets the rulers of the synagogue sent unto them, saying, Ye men and brethren, if ye have any word of exhortation for the people, say on. Vr.27 For they that dwell at Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they knew him not, nor yet the voices of the prophets which are read every sabbath day, they have fulfilled them in condemning him. Vr.39 And by

him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses. **Vr.40** Beware therefore, lest that come upon you, which is spoken of in the prophets;

Lk 24:25 Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe <u>all that the prophets</u> <u>have spoken</u>: Vr.27 And beginning at <u>Moses and all the prophets</u>, he expounded unto them in <u>all</u> (not some but all) <u>the scriptures</u> the things concerning himself. Vr.44 And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were <u>written in the law of Moses</u>, and <u>in the prophets</u>, and <u>in the psalms</u>, concerning me.

The scriptures of the prophets were of the promise of faith, while the scriptures of the Law were of works. The Law was added to the prophets because of transgressions and was meant to have an end when the law of righteousness of God by Christ was to come. The doctrine of God that came through Moses and the Prophets are what are called Scriptures and nothing more. **Rom 14:32; Gal 3:5-29** 

## JESUS' SAYINGS AND TEACHINGS ARE NOT CALLED SCRIPTURES

The sayings and doctrine of Christ, biblically speaking are not called or classified as Scriptures rather it is called the gospel of Christ, the gospel of the kingdom of God and the testimony of Jesus. In the Bible, the gospel is not called scriptures, the scriptures was already written, available and complete before the gospel arrived in the scene, rather it is the CAO that call it so in order to generate a mixture, an ambiguity wherein error can be found, accommodated and practiced without much detection even as it is today. The CAO continually add and subtract from the word of God (WOG) as contained in the Bible, giving erroneous impressions by their own human wisdom and teachings all in a bid to make of none effect the commandments of God by their traditions and commandments to their own shame and damnation as it were. Unfortunately, many are unaware that these are the very ways that the gates of hell are set to prevail against the true Church of Christ and that through the erroneous doctrines of the CAO that are propagated all over their local assemblies. As it were this is the sowing of the tare amongst the wheat while men sleep. The CAO teach deductions and inferences inspired by flesh and blood rather than by the Holy Spirit. **Mk 7:1-13; Mtt 16:16-19; Mtt 13:24-30** 

The words of God spoken by Jesus Christ His Son that He sent to redeem man from sin and give unto them that truly believe eternal life is classified as the gospel and not the scriptures in the Bible. God did not send Christ to preach the scriptures but rather the gospel. Why? Because the servants of God that He had sent before Christ taught the scriptures to the Jews yet they did

not hear nor believe. **Jer 7:8-15,21-28; Jer 25:2-11; Lk 7:31-35**. Christ came to fulfill the scriptures and to preach and teach the gospel.

**Hebr 1:1** God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake (the scriptures) in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, **Vr.2** Hath in these last days spoken (the gospel) unto us by his Son,

**Mk 1:1-2 (Vr.1** The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God; **Vr.2** As it is written in the prophets (scriptures)... **Vr.14** Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, **Vr.15** And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.

**Jn 1:17** For the law (part of the scriptures) was given by Moses, but grace and truth (the gospel component) came by Jesus Christ.

**Lk 4:14-22 (Vr.18** The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor;

**Lk 7:19-23 (Vr.22** Then Jesus answering said unto them, Go your way, and tell John what things ye have seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, to the poor the gospel is preached.

Mtt 26:55-56 (Vr.55 I sat daily with you teaching (the gospel) in the temple, and ye laid no hold on me. Vr.56 But all this was done, that the scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled.

**Jn 9:28** Then they reviled him, and said, Thou art his disciple; but we are Moses' disciples. **Vr.29** We know that God spake unto Moses: as for this fellow, we know not from whence he is.

The Jews, Christ and his apostles did not call the gospel scriptures rather it is the CAO that started calling it so erroneously as it is.

# WHAT IS THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST?

Looking at the dictionary definition of the word Gospel states as follows - The 1<sup>st</sup> section of the Christian N.T. scripture, comprising of the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, concerned with the life, death, resurrection and teachings of Jesus; An account of the life, death, resurrection & teachings of Jesus; the teaching of Divine grace as distinguished from the Law or Divine commandments.

The gospel covers all that Jesus Christ began to do and teach until the day he was taken up into heaven of which he commanded his apostles/disciples that were witnesses to go into the whole world to preach and to teach all creatures. The word of God spoken by Jesus Christ, the Son of

God that came in the flesh, is contained in the gospel and not in the Scriptures. **Jn 17:1-8,14,20**.

The gospel reveals unto us the mysteries of God, His Christ, godliness and the mystery of the kingdom of God, eternal life, the last times, the last day resurrection from the dead, the world to come, the millennial reign, the judgment, the new heaven and earth, etc... The gospels teach us belief in God through His Son Jesus Christ by whom only we can be saved and have everlasting life.

Acts 1:1 The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, Vr.2 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: Vr.3 To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

Jn 1:6-17 (Vr.7 The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. Vr.12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Vr.13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. Vr.17 For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

**Jn 20:30** And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: **Vr.31** But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

Jn 21:24 This is the disciple which testifieth of these things, and wrote these things: and we know that his testimony is true. Vr.25 And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen.

Mtt 28:19 Go ye therefore and teach all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost: Vr.20 <u>Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you</u>.

Mk 16:15-20 (Vr.15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and <u>preach the gospel</u> to every creature. Vr.16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

I Jn 1:1-5 (Vr.1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; Vr.2 (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you

that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;) **Vr.3** That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.

**Lk 24:44-49 (Vr.46** And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: **Vr.47** And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. **Vr.49** And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

Jn 14:1 ye believe in God (thru the scriptures), believe also in me (thru the gospel).

I Pet 1:18-25 (Vr.20 Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, Vr.21 Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God. Vr.22 Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

Deu 18:18 I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him. Vr.19 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of him.

## THE GOSPEL WAS HIDDEN IN THE SCRIPTURES

The gospel was hidden, coded and sealed in the scriptures. The prophets prophesied about it but lacked understanding of what it meant and when exactly it shall be preached, because it was withholden from them by God. But at the fullness of time, God made it manifest through the coming of His Son Jesus Christ by the preaching of the gospel in his name. Dan 12:1-4,5-13; Rev 5:1-9,12-14; Rev 6:1-17; Rev 22:6-20; Acts 3:12-26; Jn 6:27

Under the New Testament gospel the prophesy of this book, the Revelations according to John, are unsealed at God's commandment, unlike in the time of Daniel, the prophet in the Old Testament times.

Dan 12:4 But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased. Vr.8 And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O my Lord, what shall be the end of these things? Vr.9 And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end. Vr.13 But go thou thy way till the end be: for thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at the end of the days.

**Rev 22:10** And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand. **Vr.6** And he said unto me, These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done. **Vr.7** Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book. **Vr.16** I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches.

Rom 16:25-26 (Vr.25 Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began, Vr.26 But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith:

Mtt 13:9-17,34-35 (Vr.16 But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear. Vr.17 For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them. Vr.35 That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world.

I Pet 1:9-12 (Vr.10 Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: Vr.11 Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. Vr.12 Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into.

**Gal 4:1-6 (Vr.2** But is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the father. **Vr.4** But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,

**Gal 3:8** And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed. **Vr.16** Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ. **Vr.17** And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect.

God is He that calleth those things which be not as though they were. The scripture preached about the gospel hidden as at then, while the gospel preaches about Jesus the Christ hidden to many, still a mystery to them as of today. **Rom 4:17; I Cor 2:7-8** 

#### THE APOSTLES WRITINGS ARE NOT CALLED SCRIPTURES

The letters of the apostles/disciples of Christ, like Paul, Peter and co, written to the saints and to the churches are not called Scriptures in the Bible rather they are called Epistles. It is the CAO and unbelievers that call it scriptures, even the apostles themselves did not call it so. The CAO continually deduce and add cum subtract from the Bible and the word of God as they will to their own shame and damnation. Such can never disannul nor make of none effect the truth of God amongst true believers as it were. **Gal 3:15-17; Mk 7:1-13** 

**Colo 4:16** And when this epistle is read among you, cause that it be read also in the church of the Laodiceans; and that ye likewise read the epistle from Laodicea.

**2 Pet 3:15-16 (Vr.15** And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved <u>brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you</u>; **Vr.16** <u>As also in all his epistles</u>, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures (of the Law and the prophets), unto their own destruction.

2 Pet 1:16-21 (Vr.16 For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty. Vr.19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; Vr.20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. Vr.21 For the prophecy (scripture) came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

Acts 15:20-33 (Vr.23 And they wrote letters by them after this manner; The apostles and elders and brethren send greeting unto the brethren which are of the Gentiles in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia: Vr.30 So when they were dismissed, they came to Antioch: and when they had gathered the multitude together, they delivered the epistle: Vr.31 Which when they had read, they rejoiced for the consolation.

**2 Cor 10:8-12 (Vr.9** That I may not seem as if I would terrify you by letters. **Vr.10** For his letters, say they, are weighty and powerful; but his bodily presence is weak, and his speech contemptible. **Vr.11** Let such an one think this, that, such as we are in word by letters when we are absent, such will we be also in deed when we are present.

**Qn:** Why is it that the revelations that ministers of God of the CAO of today receive from God through the ministration of the Holy Ghost are not termed as Scriptures also? Why is it that the letters and literatures they write today are not termed as Scriptures even as the letters or epistles of the Apostles to the early churches were termed so by the same CAO erroneously? **Rom 1:2; Hebr 1:1-2** 

**Qn:** Are they not men of like passion as Paul and co, disciples of Christ, for their revelations to be termed as scriptures too? What are the CAO's criteria for terming Holy Ghost inspired writings as scriptures?

## WHY THE DISTINCTIONS?

Therefore, we can see the distinctions between the Scriptures, the Gospel and the Epistles. The fathers and prophets of old brought the Scriptures, Christ came with the Gospel and the apostles of Christ gave us the Epistles. These are differentiated so that there would be no ambiguities unto error in beliefs and understanding as it is obtainable today in Christendom whereforth divisions in the Church abound as a result. Every denomination and CAO are sprouting up with their varied doctrines based on the Law and the prophets, and on the Epistles but they that truly understand the Gospel and shall hold unto only the doctrine of Christ as their foundation and shall not be divided or fragmented. Why? Because the fathers had included in their writings the traditions and customs of the elders even as the apostles had included theirs in the epistles - a foothold for the emergence of varied teachings and divisions as it were. I Cor 1:10-17; Mk 7:1-13

It is from the view point of the doctrine of Christ that you should examine the Scriptures and the Epistles and not the other way round as many are given to doing unto confusion and errors. You can imagine when one is not even able to differentiate between the three what would result- a mixture, contradictions, and unending questions cum mysteries shall abound (Gal 3:8-17). Each of the three came for a certain reason and to fulfill a certain purpose. They were not meant to all be called the same term "Scriptures" in order not to give the enemy a foothold to manipulate, confuse and twist the Word of God unto keeping men in ignorance and lies as it were. The scriptures and the epistles were received and given to us by men from beneath, men of like passion as we are, but the gospel came through the Lord that is from above and therefore greater and above all, but men are blinded to this fact and instead use the scriptures and epistles to always be countering the gospel when seeming ambiguities or contradictions arise on some biblical issues, this engenders error. Jn 3:11-13, 30-34; Jn 8:7,23; Hebr 4:15; Rom 9:4-5

Satan and his ministers can feign as ministers of righteousness through the preaching and teaching of the Scriptures and the Epistles but not the true gospel. Why? Satan knows letters (Mtt 4:5-6; Rev 12:9; Gen 3:1-5,22) like the Pharisees & co of old (Jn 9:26-34; Mtt 23:1-3,13), with which he deceiveth the whole world and which anybody can preach, but the true gospel can only be preached and taught through the Spirit of truth by those that Christ have ordained and sent (Jn 15:1-17; I Cor 2:1-16; Lk 24:45-49; I Jn 4:1-6). The understanding of the mysteries contained in the gospel of Christ are withholden from Satan and his cohorts, so they can only

preach the another Jesus in the another gospel, old wives fables, doctrines of devils and the commandments of men as it were. Mtt 16:22-23; Mtt 13:10-15; 2 Cor 11:2-15; Jn 12:37-43

Majority of the CAO preachers of today preach the another gospel using scriptures and the epistles all under the guise of the word of God or the Bible, but not the true gospel. They teach about carnal things from these places that have nothing to talk, relate or do with the person and character of Christ in most instances, while they round up their sermons with an altar call as a signature tune in Jesus name as it were, hypocrites they are deceiving themselves. This is when Jesus name would be mentioned at the end ritualistically cum religiously asking people to "give their lives" to Christ before they can benefit from the carnal things they have preached, preaching the Jesus of material acquisitions, the another Jesus. They use their own deduced/inferred phrases that are not even biblical in their preaching of the another gospel, rather than that which Christ taught and commanded. Jn 2:16; Rev 18:10-13

Christ is our Lord and Master, so in whatsoever we preach as the gospel, whether we commence from the scriptures of the old or the epistles of the apostles, we need to preach and teach the gospel that focuses men on the person of Jesus Christ, the kingdom and the spiritual and not remove men's focus from him unto another or carnal things.

Satan and his cohorts (even in the CAO) are able to cunningly and craftily utilize the scriptures and epistles to deceive men, causing all manner of confusion in understanding, generating all manner of erroneous doctrines/dogmas thereof (2 Tim 3:16). These give rise to varied denominations, dividing, disuniting the brethren so that they cannot be said to be one Body of Christ or family/household of God as it were, but not so with the words/sayings/testimony of Christ for those that hear Christ by his Spirit of truth. Jn 13:34-35; Jn 15:8-10; Jn 4:20-24; Jn 10:3-4,14,16,26-28

Jn 16:13-15 (Vr.14 He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. Vr.15 All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

Satan takes of the scriptures and epistles and sheweth it unto men erroneously but never the gospel. He is enraged and vexed when the true gospel in Christ name is preached for by it his fall was sealed and confirmed for all eternity. Mtt 4:5-7; Gen 3:1-6; Acts 4:1-3,8-12,18-21,24-31

**Qn:** To what purpose does Satan do this? To accuse, to divide and rule, to cause men to disobey the true commandment of God. He is the accuser of the brethren. **Jn 5:45; Rev 12:10** 

Satan knows this divine principle, which is – Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand (whether it be the Church or the gates of hell).

Mtt 12:25 And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand: Vr.26 And if Satan cast out Satan, he is divided against himself; how shall then his kingdom stand?

This is a major part of how the gates of Hell as championed by Satan is geared towards prevailing against the true Church of Christ from ages past till date. But those that have received of the keys of the Kingdom handed down by Christ to Peter and the apostles of old shall continue to overcome and conquer the world ruled by Satan and set against the Church through erroneous indoctrinations of false doctrines/dogmas of fleshly/earthly minded men of the CAO. Jn 16:1,33; Jn 20:21-23

Mtt 16:15-20 (Vr.18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and <u>upon this rock I will build</u> my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. Vr.19 And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

We are going to specifically look at the various differences between the Scriptures and the Gospel in order to give more vivid insight to the reason for the distinctions and the purpose for each in God's plan for mankind.

# THE SCRIPTURES VS THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST

The differences between the Scriptures and the gospel of Christ are numerous and would not be fully exhausted in this literature but we shall continue in subsequent ones. All the same we would make a very good attempt in this write up:

No man can be saved by the scriptures, that is, eternal salvation is not gotten by the preaching of the scriptures, but by the gospel of Jesus Christ. **Acts 13:14-25,26-37,38-42,44-46,47-49** 

By scriptures we show and prove that Jesus is the Christ or Messiah prophesied to come by the prophets of old, by the gospel we preach repentance and remission of sins unto salvation in his Jesus name. Acts 18:24-28; Acts 9:20-22,28-29; Lk 24:44-49

The preaching of the scriptures is not in the name of Jesus Christ, but rather in the name of Jehovah, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of the Hebrews. It is the preaching of the gospel that is in the name of Jesus the Christ, the Son of the living God strictly by whose name all men shall be saved that believe in him. Jn 14:6; Acts 4:1-3,10-12,18-21

The Scriptures tell us and confirms to us that the Father sent the Son, while the gospel tells us that it is through this His Son that eternal life cum salvation is possible and can be gotten. The Scripture promises long life by observance of its commandment, while the gospel promises inheriting eternal life through its adherence. Jn 6:39-40; Eph 6:2-3

Jn 6:31-32 (Vr.31 Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, He gave them bread (the scriptures of the Law) from heaven to eat. Vr.32 Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, Verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread (the words of the gospel) from heaven. Vr.48 I am that bread of life. Vr.49 Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. Vr.50 This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die. Vr.51 I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.

The scriptures of the Law teaches repentance, forgiveness and remission of sins through yearly animal sacrifice, while the gospel teaches repentance, forgiveness and remission of sin through the sacrifice of the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ, once and for all for eternal salvation (Acts 10:42-43; Rom 3:24-25). For example, Jesus was not the name in which John came baptizing in the Jordan because he knew not that name Jesus by then, until God revealed who Christ (the Lamb of God) was to him at Jesus' baptism. Acts 13:38-39; Jn 1:25-37; Hebr 9:8-15. John the Baptist was the last of the prophets under the Law and Prophets era of the scriptures. And he came to herald the coming of Christ, the fulfillment of scriptures concerning him and the gospel was presented during Christ's ministry on earth, but came into force after his death and resurrection with the release of the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth. Hebr 9:14-23; Lk 22:19-20

There is belief in God through the scriptures of the fathers, the prophets and the law, that is through Abraham/Isaac/Jacob, Moses and co, while there is belief in God through His only begotten Son Jesus Christ, the latter is what the gospel preaches strictly, but not the scriptures.

**Jn 14:1** Ye believe in God (as the scriptures teaches) believe also in me (as the gospel teaches).

Those that believe in God through only the scriptures are born strictly of the flesh but those that truly believe in God through the gospel get born a second time, no longer of the flesh but of the Spirit. Without being born of water and of the Spirit no man can enter the kingdom of God as taught by the gospel. Nicodemus as a Pharisee, a ruler of the Jews, a master of Israel, was well versed in the knowledge of the scriptures but was devoid of the knowledge of the gospel. Jn 3:1-12

The gospel is the teaching of Divine grace and the truth in Spirit as distinguished from the letters of the Law and Prophets and works of the flesh. The Scripture is of the Letter, while the gospel is of the Spirit.

Rom 8:1-4 (Vr.2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus (that came by the gospel) hath made me free from the law of sin and death (that came by the scriptures). Vr.4 That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

**2** Cor **3:6-18** (Vr.6 Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.

Jn 7:14-19 (Vr.15 And the Jews marvelled, saying, <u>How knoweth this man letters</u> (the scriptures), having never learned?

Saul learnt the scriptures under Gamaliel, a Pharisee, a doctor of the law of great repute and knew not the gospel as taught by Christ. So ignorantly he persecuted the Christians before his arrest by Christ and conversion and he became Paul subsequently (Acts 5:34; Acts 22:3-21). From thence Paul's earnest desire was to know the gospel even as he declared severally like in

I Cor. 2:1-2 (Vr.2 For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

**Phil 3:3-15 (Vr.9** And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: **Vr.10** That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; **Vr.11** If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

The Scriptures were read every Sabbath day in the Synagogues and taught to the people by the Pharisees, lawyers, scribes, the rulers of the synagogues. The priests taught it in the temple, while the disciples of Christ preached the gospel in the streets, everywhere, and taught it from house to house amongst those that believed, even the Church. Jn 18:19-21; Lk 4:15-22; Acts 13:14-16; Acts 28:23; Acts 2:44-47; Acts 20:19-21

Mtt 7:28 And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings (of his), the people were astonished <u>at his doctrine</u>: Vr.29 For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes (that merely read the scriptures every Sabbath).

Scripture contains the testimony, witness of God that the fathers bore concerning Jesus through the prophets of old, while the gospel encompasses the fulfillment of such testimony of Jesus prophesied in the Scriptures. The Scriptures is of the promises, while the gospel is of the fulfillment of the promises. **Acts 2:14-21** 

There are no Scriptures prophesied or written in the New Testament rather what we have is the gospel of Christ and the epistles of the Disciples of Christ as it were. It is by belief in the true

gospel of Jesus Christ that Christians are made and not by the Scriptures. There are no Christians found in the Old Testament only in the New Testament. Why? Because the Spirit of truth, the another Comforter was not given in the time of old as it were so none was born of the Spirit thereby. Jn 7:37-39; Acts 11:19-26; Mtt 3:11

Even though the men of old had the Holy Scriptures which they received of God through holy men of God yet the Bible said that all were yet in darkness until the light of God, Christ Jesus came into the world. It is by believing and walking in the commandments, sayings and testimonies of Jesus that you receive the light in you and have fellowship with/in the light and shine for the entire world to see thy good deeds done through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Jn 1:1-9; Jn 8:12; Jn 9:4-5; Mtt 4:14-17; I Jn 1:5-7

The Apostles of Christ were not eyewitnesses of the Scriptures but of the gospel and that is why they were commissioned by Christ to preach and teach it as true and faithful witnesses. Jn 15:26-27; Acts 1:15-22; I Jn 1:1-3; Jn 21:24-25; Lk 22:28-30

**2 Pet 1:16-21 (Vr.16** For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, <u>but were eyewitnesses of his majesty</u>. **Vr.19** We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

**Hebr 1:1-2 (Vr.1** God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, **Vr.2** Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

**2 Tim 3:14-15 (Vr.15** And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus (through the gospel of Jesus). **Qn:** What purpose serveth the scriptures to the N.T. saints then? (**I Cor 10:1-14**).

The scriptures compass the law and the prophets and they are meant for mankind in the present heaven and earth. The scriptures therefore shall pass away even as the heaven and earth shall pass, after it has fulfilled all that God sent it for (Isa 55:10-11; Mtt 5:17-20). But the words of Christ at work even now in this heaven and earth shall not pass away with it but abideth for ever more (Mtt 24:34-35). It transcends the present heaven and earth and is even propagated by the angels in heaven who are our fellow brethren that keep and bear the testimonies of Jesus also. For we shall judge the angels that disobey this testimony of the everlasting gospel even the fallen angels at work presently. Rev 14:6; I Cor 6:3; Rev 19:10; Rev 22:8-9

The scriptures are meant to last till all of them are fulfilled and then pass away but not before the end. As long as death, the last enemy is at play the Scriptures shall yet be at work as it were. I Cor 15:23-28; Hebr 8:13

**Jn 12:48** He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.

It is the Words of Christ as contained in the gospel that shall be used to judge us and the whole world on the last day, while the words of Moses (as per the scriptures of the law), shall accuse the Jews before the Father on that day as well. **Jn 5:39-40, 45-47; Rom 2:11-16,17-29; Acts 3:22-26; Deu 18:18-19** 

The Scriptures testify of the unglorified Christ, while the gospel testifies of the glorified Christ. How? The focus of the scriptures was geared towards prophecies concerning the coming of Christ, his suffering and death, while the gospel is focused on the repentance and remission of sins for salvation and redemption of the body through faith in the glorified Christ. Jn 11:23-27; Jn 8:24,28

Jn 7:37 In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, "If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. Vr.38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. Vr.39 (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

The Spirit of truth was not given in the scriptures under the O.T. era but rather in the gospel times under the N.T. era.

Acts 13:26 Men and brethren, children of the stock of Abraham, and whosoever among you feareth God, to you is the word of this salvation sent. (these are the sayings of Christ as contained in the gospel of Jesus Christ) Vr.27 For they that dwell at Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they knew him not, nor yet the voices of the prophets (the scriptures) which are read every sabbath day, they have fulfilled them in condemning him. Vr.29 And when they had fulfilled all that was written of him, they took him down from the tree, and laid him in a sepulchre. Vr.44 And the next sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God. Vr.47 For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth. Vr.48 And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed.

**Gal 3:22** But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ (through the gospel) might be given to them that believe. **Vr.21** Is the law then against the

promises of God? God forbid: for if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law. **Vr.23** But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed.

At the time of Jesus Christ on the earth, the O.T. scriptures that was applicable was from the Law and Prophets, but from the time that Jesus died, resurrected and ascended into heaven, his words, sayings, speech, commandments, parables, teaching/doctrines became the basis for the N.T. gospel and N.T. prophecies. The Jews and even the Apostles did not call such scriptures but rather called it the testimony or sayings, gospel of Jesus Christ.

The promises of the scriptures focused mainly on the children of Israel, the natural Jews and on an earthly promised land, while the promises of the gospel is for all mankind that come to believe in Christ and become spiritual, focusing us on an heavenly promised kingdom. The former is of the O.T., while the latter is of the N.T. The Jews could not keep the 1<sup>st</sup> covenant and therefore a 2<sup>nd</sup> covenant was made and put in force by God through Christ. **Hebr 8:6-13** 

Jn 4:20 Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship. Vr.21 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me (by the gospel), the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. Vr.22 Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. Vr.25 The woman saith unto him, I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ (How? according to the scriptures): when he is come, he will tell us all things (by the gospel). Vr.26 Jesus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am he.

Christ came to fulfill the promise of the scriptures that the Father gave to the natural Israel and to institute his own spiritual promise to all mankind as also given to him by the Father. Jn 3:31-36; Jn 19:28-30; Acts 2:33,39; Acts 13:32-34; Rom 1:2-6

The main thrust of the scriptures is to direct men to Christ, to the knowledge of salvation that is in Christ Jesus; while the main thrust of the gospel is repentance for the remission of sins so that ye can receive the gift of the Holy Ghost unto accessing eternal life on the day of Christ. Lk 1:67- 79; Jn 5:39-40; Acts 2:37-40

Those that God sent in the time of old, He gave the scriptures to teach, while those that Christ sends in the N.T. era he gave the gospel to preach and teach. God sent Christ to fulfill the scriptures and kick start the gospel. Christ was not sent to teach the Scriptures but to preach and teach the gospel instead. Jn 17:18; Jn 20:21-23; Lk 4:18; Lk 20:9-15

The Gentiles who know not the Law and prophets (scriptures) were not to be bugged down with the details of the history of the Israelites with God as the Scriptures teach, but to have the gospel of Christ preached unto them directly for salvation and eternal life (Acts 15:1-5,7-11,13-

**29**). Rather it was the Jews that were taken through scriptures and their history by the apostles in order to convince them that the Messiah talked about therein is Jesus the Christ being preached to them in the gospel (**Acts 18:24-28**). Cornelius the centurion, being a Gentile was given a brief of the scriptures in the preaching of the gospel to him and his household in Peter's declaration of the word to them. **Acts 10:28-35,36-44** 

We have not been commissioned by Christ to go into the world to preach and teach the scriptures nor the epistles (for that matter) but to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ to all nations and all creatures on earth. How come? Hebr 1:1-2; Jn 9:27-29; Acts 15:1-5,6-11; Mk 16:15-16. The fathers, prophets, Moses and righteous men of old were commissioned by God to teach the scriptures of the law and the prophets before Christ came to fulfill them. Thereafter Christ made disciples and ordained them with the Spirit of the Father and baptized them with his Spirit as witnesses of his death and resurrection, to preach repentance and remission of sins in his name unto receiving the promised gift of the Father, that is, the gift of God, the Holy Ghost, unto salvation/eternal life at the end. Acts 10:42-44; Mk 3:13-15; Jn 15:14-16; Jn 20:21-23

The Scripture was not preached to the Jews rather it was taught to them (**Deu 4:1-10**). It is the Gentiles that the scriptures are preached to in our times, they that know not the God of Israel as it were (**Exo 5:1-3; Exo 7:5**). But unto the Jews and the Gentiles alike is the gospel of Christ preached and taught in order that they might know the only true God, through Jesus Christ his Son whom He sent. You preach in order to convert unbelievers to believers, while you teach in order to make disciples of believers. The Jews say that they know the Father by the scriptures (though they truly do not know Him even), but they knew not the Son by the gospel. But as it were, the Father sent the Son from heaven to give them the true understanding of who He is truly but they rejected him. **Jn 17:2-3; Jn 14:1; Jn 1:1-11; Jn 8:42-43,47,54-55; I Jn 5:19-20; Acts 13:18,27** 

## CONCLUSION

There are so many differences/distinctions between the Scriptures and the Gospel than we can capture and expound in this introductory literature, but by his grace we shall continue in subsequent sequel to this one.

It is one thing to be vast in the knowledge of the Scriptures, but it is another thing to know and have spiritual understanding of the Gospel. The former is of the letters, while the latter is of the Spirit. The Pharisees, the scribes, priests, etc of old were learned in the Scriptures but were ignorant where the gospel of Jesus Christ was concerned unlike the Apostles/disciples of Christ

who were learned in the WAY of life, because they have been with Jesus and had received of his Spirit in baptism, as it were. **Jn 14:25-26**; **Jn 16:12-15** 

Jn 7:14-17 (Vr.15 And the Jews marvelled, saying, How knoweth this man letters, having never learned?

Acts 4:8-14 (Vr.13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.

**Mk 3:13-19 (Vr.14** And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach, **Vr.15** And to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils:

Many CAO religious leaders of today are the offshoot of the Pharisees of old, making their boast in the knowledge of the Old Testament and resting on the scriptures of the law and the prophets but are not true disciples of Christ, having not his Spirit and therefore devoid of the understanding of the gospel and the mysteries contained therein. So they continually preach scriptures or at best the another gospel with which they make merchandise of souls of men, rather than the true gospel of Jesus Christ. A typical fulfillment of what Christ said in

Mtt 15:13-14 (Vr.14 Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.

Christ maketh us able ministers of the New Testament not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life. We are to be approved workmen unto God and scribes as Christ said in

Mtt 13:51-53 (Vr.52 Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old.

Christ has commissioned his true disciples to preach and teach the gospel strictly (**Mk 16:15-16**; **Mtt 28:18-20**). May he find you as a wise and faithful steward of his given divine mandate for these last days even at his appearing.

Consider what has been said in this literature and may the good Lord grant you understanding in all things in Jesus name. Amen

# **FEEDBACK**

Thank you for taking time to read this literature. If you have been blessed by it and wish to send comments, make enquiries or get access to various other literatures that the author has put out, then you can contact us via email <a href="mailto:info@devoutmenministry.com">info@devoutmenministry.com</a> or send SMS to 08091764495 or visit us @ www.devoutmenministry.com

God bless and keep you heaven bound while ye still walk on this earth. MARANATHA.