

# The Journey

## Chapter 1

### Principles and Patterns

Before we get started on our journey, there are several concepts that will be repeated throughout *The Journey* that will be important to understand in order to put the pieces of the map together. The two dominant concepts that we re-visit often are “principle” and “pattern”. First, we need to have a common understanding of the term “**principle**”: **A foundational truth that never changes – upon which all other truths are built and interpreted.**

It is necessary to firmly establish this understanding, or we have no foundation from which to build. If there is no absolute truth, then the foundation is not stable. One of the most common errors that separate denominations within the Body of Christ today is the mistake of making something a principle that is NOT a principle, or conversely, NOT making something a principle that IS a principle. And one of the most common errors that separate people from Christ is the same thing. Although we will clarify and define this concept even further as we study, here are a few basic guidelines for recognizing a principle:

1. Is it consistent with the **FULL** nature and character of God?
2. Can it be applied in every instance or is it only meant for a specific circumstance?
3. Is it found in Scripture, or is it extra-Biblical? (Cultural)
4. Is it restated or supported elsewhere in Scripture? If so, how many times (frequency)?  
Often the frequency of repetition as well as the earliest timing of that reference has significance as to its bearing of principle.
5. Is it conditional? Does it need to be qualified?
6. Is it seemingly contradicted anywhere else in Scripture?  
(The appearance of contradiction will often lead to an understanding of balance on the topic.)
7. Is the language intended as literal or prophetic/symbolic?
8. Does His Spirit bear witness with my spirit that it is true (discernment)?  
This presupposes that you have been trained and disciplined in the difference between discerning in the spirit (spiritual discernment) vs. personal bias or perception gained through mere human wisdom, intellect, emotion, or experience.



God's principles are similar to His laws. Even if we don't know or understand His principles, we still reap the consequences if we break them. You may not believe in the law of gravity, but that (false) belief will not protect you if you think you can fly by jumping off a roof. The law (principle) always wins. But what about grace, you may ask. Jesus said that He did not come to abolish the law, but rather to fulfill it (**Matthew 5:17**). What does it mean that Jesus is "the same yesterday, today and forever" (**Hebrews 13:8**) if the Word in the Old Covenant is antithetical to the Word of the New Covenant? Understanding the mystery of the fulfillment is the answer to that question.

The first and most basic principle is that God **IS** life and separation from Him will ALWAYS result in death. It doesn't matter if you don't approve of, or like this principle. Like God, it just **IS**. All pain, hurt, wounding, sadness, loss, destruction, evil and death are a result of being separated or cut off from the source of life – God. If this is the first and most basic principle, wouldn't it be a good idea to discover how to be (or stay) connected to that source? Good News!! There's a manual for that - the Word of God.

The second concept that we will build upon is the continual layering of patterns that begin in Genesis and conclude in Revelation. From beginning to end, or as Jesus put it, from the Alpha to the Omega, the patterns confirm, over and over again, the unmistakable blueprint and Master plan for the redemption of humanity and the restoration of that original sacred relationship. Once these patterns are seen, they are impossible to "unsee" and it becomes apparent that there are far too many and too frequent to be a coincidence. Instead, the strata of repeated patterns form an undeniable, divine picture that is simultaneously omnisciently complex as well as simple and obvious enough for a child to understand. The Lord went to such incredible lengths to make His invisible attributes and plan of eternity clear to us, that it is honestly amazing that we have managed to create so many different opinions and versions of "truth".

Knowing this "life" and "truth" is much more than memorizing or studying the Bible. It is much more than following a list of rules. It is much more than emotional or even spiritual experiences. Every religion has a defined set of beliefs, an emphasis on certain practices to be followed and perhaps even emotional or "spiritual" experiences within the boundaries of those tenets. But what sets Christianity apart from all other religions is the core principle that Jesus claims the authority and power to transform a person (body, soul, and spirit) from death to life and then backed up that claim by rising from the dead! He said He came to give us life, life in all its fulness (**John 10:10**).

In **John 4:23-24**, Jesus told the Samaritan woman at the well, "But an hour is coming and now is, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshippers. God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." Notice that this verse says *MUST*. It is not optional to separate the two. Spirit (breath or life) and truth are like the two handlebars of a bicycle that must be kept in balance at all times, or you venture off the narrow road and end up in a ditch! Each defines the other. Jesus said that you could know the truth and that truth would set you free (from death) (**John 8:32**). Truth is not mere knowledge or facts. Truth is a person – Jesus. And the *knowing* that is so powerful that it can overcome death, is the restoration of relationship with that person.

As amazing and profound as understanding principle and pattern are, the intellectual knowledge alone is not the key to that life-giving power. But if you are truly seeking to worship the Father in spirit and truth, they can most certainly smooth out the road for you on that journey. The apostle Paul said that the law



was our tutor to lead us to Christ so that we could have that relationship restored by faith, and then when we have that faith, we are no longer under the tutor (**Galatians 3:24-25**). Unfortunately, much of the Christian community have interpreted that verse to mean that we no longer have any use for the law (principles and patterns); but it is that very law that is fulfilled by Christ. How can you accurately comprehend the fulfillment if you don't know what's being fulfilled? Each bear witness of the other. It's like saying once you have your diploma or degree, you have no use for your books, teachers, or professors. Though you may no longer sit under them in the classroom, what they imparted to you became the foundation that you take out into the world to accomplish what you have been trained to do.

My hope is that this discipleship manual will be a tool to help you make a strong and solid transition between the old and new covenants that will become that foundation that you can take out into the world and accomplish what you have been trained to do. The patterns and principles (spirit and truth) are the foundation that the house (of God) is built upon. If the foundation is faulty, the security of the house is in question. **In Exodus 25:40**, after the Lord instructed the children of Israel to build Him a sanctuary that He could dwell in and live among them, He told Moses to be certain that all of it was built according to pattern which was shown to him on the mountain. If we are living in the spiritual fulfillment of that sanctuary, we still need to be certain that it is built according to the same pattern.



## Prophetic Patterns

Although no one person (or ministry or denomination) may have all the answers, hopefully we can be a sharpening tool for one another as we constantly examine and re-examine Scripture. I believe that in these last days, the Lord is increasing understanding and wisdom as well as having the benefit of prophetic hindsight to see the patterns in which certain aspects of prophecy have already been fulfilled. These prior fulfillments are one of the main keys in helping to confidently determine future fulfillments. When studying God's Word, one very helpful key to remember is the repetition of pattern. Rarely does God only tell us something once. He consistently repeats truths and patterns over and over in His Word throughout both the old and new testaments.

Although many expert theologians would differ with this statement, I truly believe there are layers of timing and revelation hidden in God's Word. Many passages that are often accepted as merely records of past historic events, are actually crucial in helping to reveal and establish spiritual truths for current application. I believe that God's Word is alive and not always necessarily limited to the "one-time" past or historic interpretation but can often be applied for personal or corporate revelation concerning current or future events. I do not however, believe this should ever be approached through the method of taking one scripture out of context to prove or condone a personal agenda. Scripture must always be interpreted in context, but that does not mean that it cannot have more than one valid spiritual application. The key is in determining the pattern and principle of the passage that if accurate, will be repeated, re-stated, or supported by other passages of scripture. God often spiritually "multi-tasks" by layering truths throughout the scriptures, but all the while reinforcing patterns so that we can get an even clearer picture as one is laid atop the other. Think of it as a progressive picture being brought into focus as more and more films of partial details are combined. Therefore, as we study the Scriptures, we will rely heavily on Biblically established patterns to help us in interpreting controversial or difficult passages.

The Hebrew word "olam" is a perfect example of this concept. It is often translated as "eternity" in our English translations, but it is much more descriptive and revealing in the original Hebrew. It also means *world, forever, on-going, perpetual, repeating, and continuing*. This concept is a beautiful picture of Christ, himself, who was, and is, and is to come. He is the picture of eternity. This word is often used in conjecture with the scriptural patterns such as the celebrations of the Feasts of the Lord, the sacrifices, the law, etc. Is it any wonder then, that Jesus said He did not come to abolish the law, but to fulfill it? (**Matthew 5:17**) His life, death, and resurrection gave us the grace to see the picture of God's plan and will more clearly. Solomon was so very profound when he said, "That which has been, is that which will be, and that which has been done, is that which will be done. So, there is nothing new under the sun. Is there anything of which one might say, "See this, it is new?" Already it has existed for ages which were before us." (**Ecclesiastes 1:9-10**)

To see this circular, repeating pattern, we need to point out a few basic numerical patterns. The most common prophetic numeric patterns in Scripture are 1, 3, 7, 10, 40, 50, 70 and 360. The numbers one and three will be covered in detail in the following chapters. We will begin with the pattern of seven (7). Seven is the number of divine completeness or fulfillment - spiritual perfection. The Hebrew word for seven is shevah. It comes from the root word savah - to be full, satisfied, to have enough. This is why it represents God himself. He alone is complete. It is also used in many instances to signify a completeness of time or fulfillment of prophecy.



## Patterns of Seven

### The Colors of the Rainbow:







Although this example of the colors of the rainbow are not found directly in scripture, the conclusion drawn is taken from patterns and concepts which are common throughout scripture. The rainbow can be viewed as God's personal signature (placed in the sky as He signed His covenant to never again destroy the earth by water, Genesis 9:13). The correlation to the biblical "seven spirits of God" will be connected to this concept later. Now let's look at the connection to the seven Feasts of the Lord. Notice how the colors seem to reflect or hint at the spiritual meaning of the corresponding feast. Although these color correlations are good visual analogies, they are in no way intended to be placed on a level with scriptural authority. Also, notice the pattern of  $3+1+3=7$  (God is seven as well as 3 in 1). There are three primary colors just as there are three primary feasts. Notice how they correlate to the three main themes of the life of Christ: His first coming-death/resurrection and ascension, sending of the Holy Spirit and His second coming!

1. **Red**: (Pesach/Passover) correlates to the red blood of the Lamb which was placed on the door posts of the houses of the Hebrew children and its fulfillment in the crucifixion of the Messiah. It is this event that made possible to restoration of the covenant between God and man by faith in the shed blood. The Hebrew word for red is Oudem – which literally means "red clay". The word, "Adam", comes from this word because he was fashioned from the red earth. The last Adam (Jesus) ultimately restores us to the pre-fall eternal condition of Adam.
2. **Orange**: (Ha'Matzot/Unleavened Bread) correlates to the roasted golden color of the ripe, crushed grain that is made into unleavened bread. The fulfillment is found in Jesus, who was crushed for our iniquities and was the grain that was buried in the ground and dies and bears much fruit (John 12:24).
3. **Yellow**: (Bikkurim/Sheave of First Fruits) correlates to the light golden, newly ripened head of grain that rises first from the ground and the fulfillment is found in the resurrection of the Messiah at the dawn of day – sunrise.
4. **Green**: (Shavuot/Pentecost) correlates to the color of life (the green vegetation of Genesis 1:28-29), growth, sustenance
5. **Blue**: (Yom Teruah/Trumpets) correlates to the color of God's throne in the heavens (sapphire, Ezekiel 1:26) as well as the timing of this feast. The two witnesses must look to the (blue) sky to announce its beginning, and the fulfillment is the revelation of the second coming of the Lord in the sky.
6. **Indigo**: (Yom Kippur/Day of Atonement) correlates to the color of the hot indigo of a flame – the fire of judgement. This was true of the original feast and will also be true at the judgement day of the Messiah at His return.
7. **Violet**: (Sukkot/Tabernacles) correlates to the color of royalty. This also symbolizes how the Messiah left His robes of glory and splendor to be "tabernacled" in human flesh. It is a Jewish custom that a bride and groom and wear crowns on their heads the day of their wedding. The fulfillment of this feast will be the Wedding Feast of the Lamb and the weeklong festivities to follow. Then the Lord will take His place upon the throne to rule as the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords.

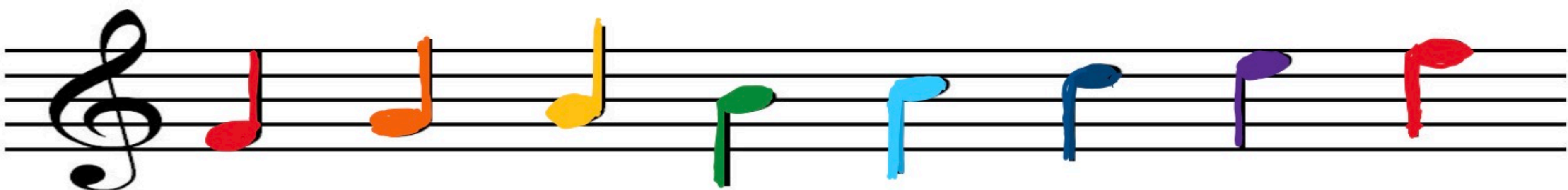


## The Signature of God – the Rainbow and Feasts of the Lord



1. **Passover (Pesach)**   
Red = Adam, blood of the Lamb, salvation
2. **Unleavened Bread (Ha Matzot)**   
Orange = Mature ripe head of grain, baked bread, sinless life of Jesus, burial of Jesus
3. **Sheave of First Fruits (Yom Ha Bikkurim)**   
Yellow = The first head of grain in the harvest, glory, sunrise, resurrection of Jesus
4. **Pentecost (Shavuot)**   
Green = New life, growing season, coming of the Holy Spirit, giving of the tablets of Law
5. **Feast of Trumpets (Yom Teruah) /secular Rosh Hashanah**   
Blue = God's throne in the heavens, spiritual revelation, looking to the sky for timing of the Feast, return of the Lord
6. **Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur)**   
Indigo = Intense fire, judgment, Israel's national redemption, THE Day of the Lord/Judgment Day
7. **Tabernacles/Booths (Sukkot)**   
Violet = Royalty, Wedding Feast of the Lamb, Crowning of the King of Kings and His Bride

It is also interesting that the notes on a musical scale are seven in number (an octave is eight steps from beginning to beginning). Music is produced by sound vibrations just as color is produced from light vibrations. Music is often related to color in emotion and feeling (the blues). Notes are also said to have "color". Could this be spiritually symbolic as well? Jesus often made statements such as, "...for him who has ears to hear" (sound) and "...for him who has eyes to see" (color).





## The Seven Feasts of the Lord

(Notice the pattern again of  $3+1+3=7$ )

### I. Passover – Spring Feasts (early rains)

- A. Passover (*Pesach*)
- B. Unleavened Bread (*Ha Matzot*)
- C. Sheave of First Fruits (*Ha Bikkurim*)

### II. Pentecost – early summer Feast (dry months)

Pentecost (Shavuot) is connected to Passover and is commonly called the conclusion of Passover – 50 days after the Sheave of First Fruits when originally celebrated on the Biblical agricultural calendar.

### III. Tabernacles – Fall Feasts (late rains)

- A. Feast of Trumpets (*Yom Teruah*)  
*Rosh Ha Shanah* (meaning “head of the year”) is the secular term and is celebrated as the beginning of the Jewish New Year. The sacred new year is scripturally called the first day of the first month (Nissan).
- B. Day of Atonement (*Yom Kippur*)
- C. Tabernacles (*Sukkot*)

## The Days of the Week in Creation

**Genesis 1:31-2:3**, “God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Thus, the heavens and the earth were completed, and all their hosts. By the seventh day God completed His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.  $(6+1=7)$  \*Scripture defines six (6) as the number of “man”.

**Revelation 13:18**, “Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for the number is that of a man; and his number is six hundred and sixty-six.”

**Genesis 1:27-31**, “And God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. And God blessed them; and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” Then God said, “I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the sky and to everything that moves on the earth which has life, I have given every green plant for food”; and it was so. And God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.”

**Exodus 20:8**, “Remember the sabbath day to keep it holy”.



## The Seven Spirits of God

One of the most common traditional passages of scripture that is used to explain the seven spirits of God is **Isaiah 11:2-3**, “The Spirit of the Lord will rest on Him – the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord- and He will delight in the fear of the Lord.” Yet, when counted honestly (without using “the spirit of the Lord” as a separate spirit), the total named in that passage is only six. I believe that the seven spirits of the Lord are more likely a reference to the manifold perfection of nature and character represented in multiple passages by the seven feasts, the seven-branched menorah, seven days of the week, etc. Within each of these examples and more are hidden treasures and depths of understanding into His purposes and nature. A deeper study into each of these reveals a profound “complete holiness” of His composite nature. Here are additional passages that reference the seven-fold spirit of the Lord: **Revelation 1:4**, “John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace, from Him who is and who was and who is to come; and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne.”, **Revelation 3:1**, “And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: He who has the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars, says this: 'I know your deeds, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead.'”, **Revelation 4:5**, “And from the throne proceed flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder. And there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God”, **Revelation 5:6**, “And I saw between the throne (with the four living creatures) and the elders a Lamb standing, as if slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God, sent out into all the earth.”

## Law of Redemption

The Jewish law of redemption states that if a person must forfeit previously owned land that he cannot take care of, or loses because of lack of finances, he can then sell it to a new owner, but at the end of six years, he has the opportunity to buy the land back. He writes the requirements for the re-purchase or *redemption* on a scroll and seals it until the beginning of the seventh year - known as the “year of redemption” (this is also known as a jubilee year). If the original owner cannot fulfill the requirements of the scroll, the next of kin may do so. This person is called the Kinsman Redeemer or “Ha Goel” (In the Book of Ruth, Boaz is called the kinsman redeemer and is a foreshadowing of the Messiah). Adam lost his rights to the land when he disobeyed God, but Jesus (the last Adam), is our Kinsman Redeemer, who is worthy to fulfill the requirements! When the scroll is opened at the end of this age, the earth will then again be restored and returned to its rightful original owner! This is exactly what is described in the following passage of scripture:

### **Revelation 5:1-10** (The Scroll with Seven Seals)

“I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a book written inside and on the back, sealed up with seven seals. And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, “Who is worthy to open the book and to break its seals?” And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the book or to look into it. Then I began to weep greatly because no one was found worthy to open the book or to look into it; and one of the elders said to me, “Stop weeping; behold, the Lion that is from the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome so as to open the book and its seven seals.” And I saw between the throne (with the four living creatures) and the elders a Lamb standing, as if slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God, sent out into all the earth. And He came and took the



book out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne. When He had taken the book, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each one holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation. “You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth.”

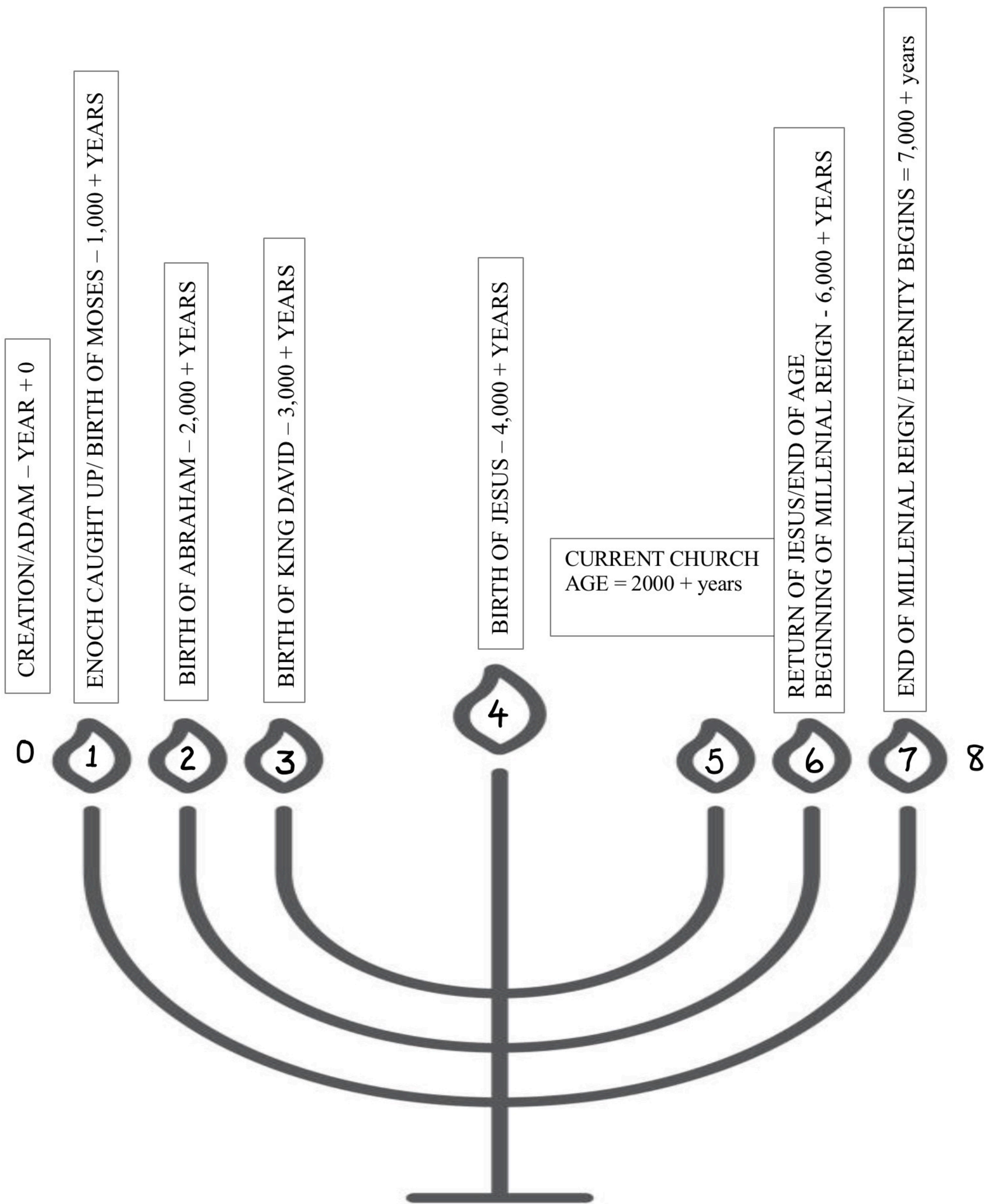
## The Menorah or Lamp Stand of God

The menorah is a picture of the presence of God as well as a calendar for the fulfillment of time and the final redemption of mankind and the earth. **Exodus 37:17-24** describes six branches going out from the center shaft for a total of seven. The branches are divided by three on one side, three on the other and one in the middle. The fourth oil pot or candle (the center shaft) is called the “shamesh” - the servant. Notice how this is a description of the Messiah as well as a major clue as to the timing of His first coming. Each branch represents a thousand years of prophesied history. Therefore, the coming of Messiah at the 4,000 year mark since creation was right on time (obtained from counting the years from Adam to Abraham (2,000) and then Abraham to Jesus (2,000)).

Since the lampstand is described in scripture as a flowering tree and also represents the presence of God, could there be a correlation to the burning bush that appeared before Moses? Think about it. It was a bush, on fire, from which the voice of the Lord spoke saying He was the “I AM” and that Moses was standing on holy ground. Perhaps the burning bush was the first lampstand in scripture!

In scripture, the lampstand is used to represent the presence of the *Spirit of the Lord*, but it is also used when referring to *the seven churches of Revelation* (**Rev. 1:20**, “The mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand and the seven golden lampstands is this: The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.”), *Believers* (and **Matthew 5:14-16**, “You are the light of the world, A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl”) and *the two witnesses* (**Rev. 11:4**, “These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth.”). That may sound a bit conflicting, but remember, the presence of the Lord inhabits His people – so we are menorahs on earth that reflect His glory and presence -much like when using the term “Christian” which means little Christ. We are obviously not saying that we are THE Christ, but rather we follow Him by “design”. Consider that the Lord called Himself the Light of the World (which was a common euphemism for the large menorah that stood in the outer court of the temple) and also said that believers are the light of the world. He obviously saw no contradiction here! **John 8:12**, “When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, ‘I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.’” It is interesting also to note that when scripture says that the fullness of the Godhead dwelt in bodily form in Jesus (**Col.2:9**), it might have been hinting at a connection between these two verses: **John 1:1**, “In the beginning was the Word (*Jesus*), and the Word was with God, and the Word was God” and **Psalms 119:105**, “Your word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path”. In that same concept, the following two verses could be a prophetic foreshadowing of the prophesied Messiah: **Lev. 24:3b-4**, “...This is to be a lasting ordinance for the generations to come. The lamps on the pure gold lampstand before the Lord must be tended continually” and **Numbers 8:1-2**, “The Lord said to Moses, “Speak to Aaron and say to him, ‘When you set up the seven lamps, they are to light the area in front of the lampstand.’”





## God's 7,000 Year Plan



Understanding the concept of “olam” is very helpful in clarifying the overall seven-fold plan of God. When God created the universe and the earth, He created time as we know it through the establishment of the heavenly bodies and their orbits. We know that God is outside of time (eternal). We often see time through the limited scope of a straight-line continuum from a set point. God depicts time both as a horizontal continuum as well as a circle. If you can imagine the top of that circle being the point of the creation of the earth, then every point of history on that circular line is leading us back to our place of origin – perfection of creation and restoration with God. The ultimate journey of the world and of mankind began in a garden and is rapidly coming full circle until one day when the Lord will create a new heavens and a new earth (**Rev.21:1-5**)

## God's Circular Calendar “Olam”

