

That You May Know That the Lord Makes Distinction
(Ephesians 1; Exodus 11:7; 12:13b)

When I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall be upon you to destroy you when I smite the land of Egypt (Exodus 12:13b). Before the Lord sent His judgment on Egypt, He marked His people Israel with blood put on the doorpost of their houses. The blood was to serve as a sign of their deliverance from the judgment which was coming to the land of Egypt and to its people. The Lord said to Moses, But against any of the Israelites shall not so much as a dog move his tongue against man or beast, that you may know that the **Lord makes a distinction between the Egyptians and Israel** (Exodus 11:7).

There is a Seal that distinguishes those who love the Lord YAHWEH from those who are not His. This Seal is His Spirit given us in anticipation of our full redemption because He makes distinction between the evil and the good; He works out everything in agreement with the counsel and design of His will and when God chose us before the foundation of the world, it was for the purpose that we could be holy and blameless in His sight; it was for the purpose of adoption into His family; we are His sons and daughters in YAHSHUA, His Son. We are secured eternally in His Son. In His love, when He raised YAHSHUA from the dead, He gave us the position with YAHSHUA of a joint seat with Him in the heavenly sphere. When He appointed His Son the head of the church, putting everything under His feet, we were made to be His body, the fullness of Him.(Ephesians 1:23-24;2:6).

Forgiven by YAHSHUA'S shed blood, saved by His grace, sanctified by His Holy Spirit, we do have the responsibility to live before Him in holiness, learning what is pleasing to Him, by following His examples of kindness, tenderhearted, forgiving as we are forgiven, walking in love as Christ loved us and gave His life for us and walking in uprightness of heart. What distinguishes us from the world? The fact that we are not of this world; we are not citizens of this world. YAHSHUA said, If you belonged to the world, the world would treat you with affection and would love you as its own. But because you are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, the world hated you; if the world hates you, know that it hated Me before it hated you (John 15: 18,19). The world knows how to distinguish those who are its own. It offers pleasures that are carnal and worldly, but it can never save, nor satisfies with its fake peace. So when we suffer persecution from the world, it is telling us that it hates us; it is telling us that we are not its own. But our heavenly Father says, Blessed are you, for yours is the kingdom of heaven! Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and say all kinds of evil things against you falsely on My account; be glad and supremely joyful, for your reward in heaven is great, for in this same way people persecuted the prophets who were before you (Matt. 5: 10-12). To be distinguished as God's people, the believer has to live a life that is led by His Holy Spirit; we must share in YAHSHUA'S suffering, if we are to share His glory (Rom. 8:17). The world hates light, because it exposes its evil deeds. As light of the world, persecution will sure come against us, as Paul warned us that those who live a righteous life will be persecuted. That's a distinction that marks us as God's children.

If YAHSHUA is the head and we the body that constitutes the complete person, mustn't we be one in Him, in obedience and submission to Him? As the head He is the control center of His body; we are not of our own; if we are in Christ, our body is His body, a distinction that YAHWEH will make when His judgment will fall on the earth; when His wrath will fall on the sons of rebellion and disobedience (Eph. 5:6). In no way shape or form, will YAHWEH submit His body, the church to the fire of His judgment; because it will be as if He would submit His own Son to His wrath. The Lord made a distinction between the Egyptians and Israel with the blood of a lamb to redeem them from His wrath, which was coming all over Egypt; He said, None of you shall go out of his house until morning for the Lord will pass through to slay the Egyptians (Exodus 12:23). Paul said, When Christ, Who is our life, appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory (Col. 3:4). That's where the church of Christ will be in the time of the tribulation, because she is distinguished as the bride of Christ and not as a rebellious or wicked people, on whom the tribulation will be applied. The Prophet Isaiah prophesized this many years ago: Behold, the day of the Lord is coming!-fierce with wrath and ragging anger – to make the land and the earth a desolation and **to destroy out of it its sinners**; I will make a man more rare than fine gold, and mankind scarcer than the pure gold of Ophir; everyone who is found will be thrust through and everyone who is connected with the slain and is caught will fall by the sword (Isaiah 13: 9,12,15).

We are hidden with Christ in YAHWEH, for we have died for the world, no longer are we citizens of this world, but citizens of heaven, where our mansions have been prepared by YAHSHUA, our Lord and Savior. The coming wrath of YAHWEH will not touch His bride, for it is destined for the citizens of this world. Paul said in Ephesians that the wrath of YAHWEH comes upon the sons of rebellion and disobedience (Ephesians 5:6). He calls His saints to enter their chambers and to shut their door behind them; to hide themselves for a little while until His wrath is past; for behold, He said, He is coming out of His place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for **their iniquity** (Isaiah 26:20-21). The bride of Christ is distinguished from the rest of the world by the presence of His Holy Spirit in her. That was the distinction between Israel as His people from the world: "His going with them". Will YAHWEH apply wrath on the body of His Son? Will He subdue His Holy Spirit to the authority of the antichrist? Will a father apply punishment on his children when they are obedient? What then is the purpose of YAHWEH'S wrath on His bride and children? Will His bride be on earth when His Spirit will be taken away, if YAHSHUA promised that His Spirit will be with her forever? How could YAHWEH the Father, break His Son's promise to His bride?

Our YAHWEH knows those who are His; He is aware of those who love Him and of those who don't. He distinguishes them now and when the time comes it will be visible to all even to nature, as the Bible says it will. The whole of nature will witness the distinction between the wicked and the righteous, as it waits expectantly and longs earnestly for Gold's sons to be made known; we know that the whole of creation has been moaning together in the pains of labor until now, and not only the creation, but we ourselves too, who have and enjoy the firstfruits of the Holy Spirit [a foretaste of blissful things to come] groan inwardly as we wait for the redemption of our bodies (not the tribulation) (Romans 8:19-23).

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our Refuge (our high Tower and Stronghold); be still and know that He is YAHWEH (Psalm 46). He watches over His Word to perform it (Jeremiah 1:12b). Righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne; mercy and loving-kindness and truth go before His face (Psalm 89:14). Our God never changes; He is today what He has been and always will be unchangeable. There is no injustice with Him. He made distinction between the evil and good in His judgments in the past and He will continue to do so when He comes to punish the wicked of this world. Let not your heart be troubled, believe in YAHWEH, believe also in YAHSHUA (John 14:1). For He is gone to prepare a place for you who love Him and obey Him; He destined you for redemption and His salvation is at hand. Believe that He loved you so much, that He offered His Son as a sacrifice for your sins and forgave you, if you will only accept Him as Savior and Lord of your life; then you will be distinguished from the wicked people for salvation.