

The Holy bible is one of the most wonderful and most interesting books that we human's can ever read some people can see something which is cleverly hidden within the bibles pages sadly other peoples eyes may not see the same thing.

When i first read the bible i could see nothing but words on a page and i admit those words made absolutely no sense to me at all just a lot of sheep olive trees and wars.

Maybe the words were meant to be like that when i first read the bible maybe i had to really want to understand what i was reading **before** my eyes would or could see past the words on the page to actually see what God had purposely hidden there buried there just waiting for me to seek and find and then after finding i then had to want to learn more so that i might begin to understand.

The bible is full of stories and each story is like a part of a puzzle each story is just one piece of another story which is located somewhere else in the bible so that when all the pieces of the puzzle are put together we see the finished picture we see the beautiful colours and picture woven in the tapestry of time.

Now most of all the jigsaw puzzle pieces begin their scattering in the book of Genesis and i must add the picture which these puzzle pieces form are not completed until we get to the new Testament or to the book of Revelation.

What i would like to do today is to sort out a few pieces of a wonderful puzzle and then put these pieces together its an amazing puzzle a puzzle that you might as i spread the pieces out before your eyes slowly see some beautiful threads being set out in the loom of time.

I will start with Jacobs blessing upon his sons and remember this Jacob is a man with lets say two names or two natures there is Jacob **the man** who is the man of flesh whereas Jacob whose name was changed to **Israel** is spiritual in nature this name was given to him in **Genesis 32:24-32** this is his spiritual name as we read in **verse 28** **Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed..**

The use of the word prevailed in that verse is indeed Interesting. to prevail is to overcome to endure and to dominate over. Anyway i will keep moving on with our puzzle.

Now we begin with another piece of our puzzle in **Genesis 48:16** The Angel who has redeemed me from all evil, **ble^ss the lads**; and let my name be perpetuated in them, and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac; and let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth.

Genesis 48:20 And he blessed them that day, saying, In thee shall Israel bless,

In **Genesis 49:2** gather yourselves together and hear, sons of Jacob, and hearken to Israel your father.

Please take note as to who it is who blesses the sons of Jacob it is not **Jacob** but Israel who blesses the sons of Jacob.

It is the spiritual natured man Israel not the earthly natured man Jacob. look at **Genesis 49:26** and this is important **the blessings of your father are greater than the blessings of my ancestors, to the utmost bound of the everlasting hills.**

Notice that Israel said that with great confidence knowing full well that his blessings would prevail.

Remember Jacob blessed his children in his spiritual name being that of Israel which means Triumphant with God or who prevails with God.

Now reading from **Genesis 49:27** this reveals to us the nature of Benjamin Jacob's youngest son. **Benjamin is a wolf that tears in pieces, in the morning he shall devour the prey, and at night he shall divide the spoil.**

Now there is another interesting piece to our jig saw puzzle which we now have to find other pieces to match up with.

Ok to scavenge as a wolf to me means to go out and plunder to prowl snatch and eat voraciously.

We all know that a wolf is a carnivorous animal akin to a dog who is swift intelligent crafty and has an insatiable appetite when hungry.

So when the term is used for a person then that person i believe is considered to be very cunning and almost heartless.

Put all these words together describing Benjamin's role in history from his blessing and we have a very involved and complicated character indeed to deal with.

What else do we know about the tribe of Benjamin within Israel that brings out this character in scripture.

Well we can read about Benjamin's ferocity in the story of his cruelty towards a concubine in Israel this is found In the book of **Judges chapter 19 verses 20-21.**

This ferocity of Benjamin culminated into a fight to the death between themselves and all the other tribes of Israel at that time.

In this story which continues into chapter 20 we read that through the great cunning of the tribe of Benjamin in verse 16 of chapter 20 that they chose 700 left handed men who were capable of slinging stones within a hairs breathe and not miss their mark.

We also read in verse 15 that they had twenty six thousand men that drew the sword who were all men of war.

When Benjamin faced the other tribes of Israel on the first day they destroyed twenty two thousand men in their anger.

On the second day the Benjamite's killed another eighteen thousand men of the tribes of Israel.

However on the third day Benjamin killed only some but they were themselves cunningly lured away from their city so that the children of Israel caught Benjamin off guard and on that 3rd day the destruction of Benjamin was great twenty five thousand one hundred men of Benjamin fell on the battlefield.

Benjamin would have stood his ground and showed his nature almost to the last man had God not intervened and allowed some of Benjamin to escape into the woods.

So we can see plainly that Benjamin certainly had a taste for blood and cruelty.

Now lets look back to his birth in [Genesis 35:18](#) Benjamin was born at the expense of the life of his mother Rachel who had called him Benoni which means "son of my sorrow".

Jacob however changed his name to Benjamin which means "son of my right hand" and to be on ones right hand is an honour.

Had Rachel lived to see Benjamin's ravaging of his brothers she would have been very sorrowful and she would have also been very sorrowful about the treatment of the poor concubine at his children's hands.

More pieces of the puzzle of Benjamin is found in the story of Joseph in Egypt

When Benjamin grew and was a young man his brother Joseph who was by the same parents when he was in Egypt yearned to see his younger brother.

So in order to see Benjamin his brother Joseph set in motion a chain of events which then necessitated his Father Jacob to give in and to allow his brother Benjamin to go down into Egypt.

And it was Judah being the fourth son of Jacob who made himself responsible for the life of Benjamin.

But in **Genesis 42:37-38** Reuben who was the first born also offered to take responsibility for Benjamin by giving his own 2 sons as security to his father Jacob for Benjamin's life in Egypt.

But Jacob refused his offer saying "my son shall not go down with you" maybe the mistrust in his firstborn son still lingered very strongly on the mind of **Jacob the man**.

Apart from Jacob not trusting Reuben because of past mistakes Reuben and Simon were both of the later house of Israel and Judah from the later house of Judah of which Benjamin would also become a part of interesting again how that worked out Remembering that Joseph kept Simon as surety in Egypt making sure that through this act he would see his younger brother.

Again noticing the duality because the offer for Benjamin's safety is offered twice once by Reuben for the "house of Israel" and once by Judah for the "house of Judah".

This is another endorsement for each lineage or house to follow the threads of 2 individual prophetic pictures as seen through the Scriptures which is still in making right up to this present day.

Just as there are two houses split between the sons of Israel so too is Benjamin divided into two roles within prophecy.

One Benjamin is in the league with Judah or the Jews under the law of the flesh.

And two Benjamin's "spirit" being on the right hand of Israel later is found in the "house of Judah" not Israel with Joseph and Paul Carried to the house of Israel and to Joseph's seed and to the Gentiles the word of God remembering Judah's offer of being responsible for Benjamin's life and both natures of Jacob/Israel accepted that offer.

We read in **Genesis 43:8-9** and Judah said to **Israel** his father **send the boy with me, and we will arise and go, so that we may live and not die, both we and you, and our little ones, I WILL BE SURETY FOR HIM; you shall require him of my hand, IF I do not set him before you, i shall be a sinner against you all the days.**

That vow was also a prophecy because Benjamin is still with his brother Judah to this day.

So Judah's accepted vow has gone surety for Benjamin all through the centuries of their history and the amalgamation was complete within the "house of Judah" as we read in 1Kings 12:19-23.

In the story of Benjamin going down into Egypt, we see in Genesis 45:25-28, that Judah returned to his father Jacob Israel with joyous news **Joseph is alive!** Simeon is released and **Benjamin is safe**. The exhilaration was almost too much for both Jacob and Israel.

So the "second time" of returning from Egypt brought joyous news. That joyous news will i believe be repeated again the "second time" to the house of Judah in modern times as it was in ancient times the news being **Joseph's power is still alive** and all the tribes will come out of the Egypt of the nations.

Another huge piece of the puzzle is one which i could not quite understand i always thought Joseph was just being nice to his younger brother Benjamin-- however there is a lot more hidden behind Joseph's gift to his brother than we see at first glance.

We read in Genesis 45:22 **to all of them he gave each man a change of clothing, but to Benjamin he gave 300 pieces of silver and 5 changes of clothing.**

Now when thinking about that verse i thought about Joseph who when summoned to Pharaoh **changed his clothes before he went and stood before Pharaoh.**

Years later i thought when we die and are called we will stand before the throne of God we will be wearing robes of fine white linen a change of clothing from natural to spiritual.

So i knew deep down that there was something strange even prophetic about that verse.

So lets get back to Benjamin and this strange gift of 5 sets of clothing and 300 pieces of silver and try to connect them together so that we might understand what they mean.

We read in the New Testament that Benjamin's sons of the future almost 1000 years later on still inherited this same wolf like nature.

So lets see if Israel's prophecy about the future of Benjamin has rang true.

When we read the new testament we see a Benjamite acting out that same cruel cunning wolf character during the time of the Roman Empire in Jerusalem and also in neighbouring Nations that is now almost 2,000 years ago and the name of this Benjamite is Saul or if you prefer Paul!

The dual mixed wolf like role or character as foreseen in Paul of the tribe of Benjamin of the house of Judah was foreseen and set into motion centuries before in prophecy as i read before in Genesis 45:22. **to all of them he gave each man a change of clothing, but to Benjamin he gave 300 pieces of silver and 5 changes of clothing.**

Remember also this important thing Joseph from the future house of Israel who gave Benjamin of the future house of Judah these gifts **before Israel who was redeemed by the Angel of God had died while in Egypt and had blessed his children with various strange blessings.**

I find this point remarkable.

Israel foresaw Benjamin's character **before Joseph would have known his fathers blessing upon him** and **before** he himself knew what the man Moses wrote down from the mouth of God on Mt Sinai in the law. Interesting isn't it.

I love a good mystery. but i must admit this is a great mystery which tops any ordinary good mystery and also proves that the word of God is true and that His word will be carried out to the letter. And remember God does know the end from the beginning and what the end picture looks like.

The Apostle who was personally chosen by Jesus Paul and who was also of Benjamin's bloodline was to be honoured in the Gentile nations just as his ancestor Joseph was honoured in Egypt many years before.

Both Joseph being a great guiding force in Egypt and now Paul being a great guiding force in the gentile world who filled men's minds and hearts with magnificent words being that of the gospel the word of truth which he personally received from Lord Jesus.

This task was set in motion by God through Joseph in Egypt when these 2 persons were fulfilling the dual role of power in biblical prophecy as Joseph unknowingly set in motion the 2 houses the house of Israel and the house of Judah.

Through Paul The pattern set out in the law was to work in the following way which i will shortly come to.

Saul or Paul the grandson son of Benjamin was given "5 changes of raiment" by Joseph.

So lets look closer at these 5 changes of raiment first.

Remembering that when Joseph was released from prison in **Genesis 41:14** the first thing he did was change his clothes or raiment and clean himself up.

Just like you and i have to change our raiment before we can stand before the throne of our Great and Glorious God.

When we become a true Christian **not a wishy washy one** we have changed our raiment we have after being baptised taken off our sinful nature and put on our new nature.

You and i cannot sit and sup with the Lord in heaven **if** we do not change our raiment or clothes.

So a change of clothing is like saying you have changed from your ways it is also like the saying wearing another hat.

If we work in the garden before we sit down to dinner we shower and change our clothes the same principle a changed role a change of clothes.

So **Raiment number 1**:- Born Saul a Benjamite.

Philippians 3:5 says **circumcised on the eighth day, of the race of Israel, from the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews.**

So Saul or Paul was an Israelite and a Hebrew and from the tribe of Benjamin.

Raiment number 2: Paul was a Roman citizen and free born.

Read **Acts 22:25-29** in summery verse 25 we read **is it lawful for you to scourge a man who is a Roman and uncondemned** verse 26 **do you realize what you are about to do, For this man is a Roman** 27 **tell me you are a Roman, and he [Paul] said yes.** 28 **and the chief captain answered, with a great sum of money i bought this citizenship, and Paul said, But indeed, i was born free.**

So another change of garments he took off his Jewish clothes and has now changed into his Roman clothes.

Raiment number 3 Of the strict sect of the Pharisee and persecutor of the Christians.

Acts 26:1-5 mainly verse 5 **that according to the strictest sect of our religion, I [Paul] formerly lived as a Pharisee.**

Paul while a Pharisee wore another change of clothes.

Raiment number 4 Was when Paul was converted to Christianity and was baptised into Christ by Ananias.

Acts 9:17-18 you know that story so i wont read those verses. but another change of clothing from Pharisee to Christian.

But Paul who was Saul did not himself receive a name change somehow it just happened.

And Raiment number 5 which is also the number **of divine Grace** Paul was A chosen vessel sent abroad to the Gentiles to the lost children or sheep of Israel in **Acts 9:15-16** we read that Paul is now referred to as being **a chosen vessel to Me, to bear My name before the gentiles, and Kings, and the children of Israel, for I will show him what great things he must suffer for My name..**

By the way what kings well i feel possibly the king of England to Ephraim.

Paul has now been divided into 2 persons just like his father Jacob his flesh is a Jew but his spirit however is now that of a Christian.

Joseph gave Paul 5 sets of garments the last bought him back to the house of Israel which Joseph's sons Ephraim and Manasseh would lead. the other 4 sets of garments he changed as i just showed.

Paul was sent to the Jews and to the house of Israel who lived in the gentile world who were as was the Jews part of the daughters of Zion or to use the Lord's own words **the daughters of Jerusalem.**

Zion was a Jebusite stronghold as we read in **2 Samuel 5:7** which later became the city of David.

The "daughters of Zion" is mentioned several times in the Old Testament usually in prophecy.

Generally speaking from what i have read "Zion" refers to the city of Jerusalem the city of the Great King and also to Israel as the people of God who reside in Zion.

Revelation 21:9-10 **Come here, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife." And he [the angel] carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God"**

The Holy city Jerusalem remember a city must have inhabitants for it to be a living city otherwise its a ghost town as we so often hear the term in the old western movies.

So the Daughter or daughters of Zion i feel does not refer to a specific person It is i feel **a metaphor for the whole combined house of Israel** who are inhabitants of this Holy city Jerusalem and to the loving caring patient relationship God that has with all of His chosen Holy people and Paul was sent out with the gospel message to preach in the gentile world.

Paul as we read went to the synagogues first then when the Jews refused to listen he then went to the gentiles of whom some would have been from the house of Israel and we here are still receiving Paul's words if we have ears to hear them to this very day.

Other references to Zion and the virgin daughter of Zion can be found in **2 Kings 19:21-22 Isaiah 1:8-9 Jeremiah 4:31 Micah 4:1-8 and 13 and also Zechariah 9:9 Isaiah 37:22 37:32**

The word Daughter tells us that God **is** a loving father. And he cherishes and loves His people even while they reject Him.

By using the metaphor “daughter or daughters of Zion,” God the Father i feel is showing how He felt for the rebellious Israelites and just like any father i believe that He felt frustrated and angry but He always had His eye clearly focused to the future when the relationship would once again be restored to a time when we His chosen people would willingly and i **do mean willingly** out of our own **free will** repent and will truly want to come to Him through His Son Lord Jesus Christ.

And then Our Father could once again return to His people His children His sons and His daughters and He will welcome them into His Loving arms welcome them into His family.

A virgin daughter in the bible i feel is someone who has not been defiled someone who has not chased after someone else that someone else being another lover such as Baal or any other god which is not a god but although living apart from the true God still worships and knows that there **is** a true living God.

Luke 23:28 Lord Jesus said **Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for Me, but weep for yourselves, and for your children.**

Jesus knew troubles times were ahead for the daughters of Jerusalem the people and Jesus also knew that they the people would face a life and death struggle but if they remained **true and undefiled** one day they would be reunited **one day they would be called home.**

If you read closely Paul was to have another "raiment" a Sixth one but this one was dropped at his feet which again i feel may have been another prophetic act pointing to his own death.

This happened at the stoning of Stephen who was the first Christian martyr this story is found in [Acts 7:58-60](#).

As i pointed out Paul received 5 changes of raiment as given to Benjamin's heir Paul where he changed each raiment as the need arose sometimes with great ferocity of a wolf and at other times with crafty wisdom and zeal.

Another example is during his journeys within Greece his "wolfly cunning" was seen in the occasion to teach the people about the "Unknown God" at Mars Hill in Athens.

John and Marian Sianidis bought Julie and i back some books about Rome and in it there were some pictures of Marris hill where Paul stood and preached.

Paul used his Roman citizenship with "cunning" to get himself out of many a scrape within that Empire. (**Acts 22:25-29**).

He used his coat as a Pharisee with cunning in order to be heard before the priests. (**Acts 23:6**).

Paul or Saul had been a terrible marauding wolf in his early life howling with the pack and hunting the blood of the just of Israel when he persecuted his fellow man both Jew and Israelite for believing who he **believed was a false Messiah** Lord Jesus Christ.

Just as the Genesis blessing for Benjamin prophesised he killed trapped or caught his prey in the morning then handed his spoil over to the priests in the evening.

Indeed his carnivorous appetite as a wolf made him swift and vicious.

And when Paul became an apostle of Christ people were still afraid of him because of his fierce reputation.

Even his own remembrance of his past and the stench of his own conscience troubled him in later life which was to drive him relentlessly onwards always trying to **blot out his past** so that he might have peace of mind.

Paul was fully aware of his own "crafty" nature when he said in [2 Corinthians 12:16](#) **i did not burden you, but being crafty, i caught you with guile.**

[2 Corinthians 12 :7-10](#) tells us of Paul's torment but realize this when i read these verses ask yourself who did Paul persecute insult deprive of necessitates and put in great distress of their lives Christians that's who Men and women who believed that Lord Jesus Christ was the true Messiah the Son of God and they accepted Jesus as their saviour and Jesus and the Father accepted them. But in order that i might not be exalted by the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, an angel of satan to buffet me, so that i might not be exalted. **I besought the Lord 3 times for this**, [i want you to remember those words **I besought the Lord 3 times**] that it might depart from me, but He said to me, My Grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness, therefore most gladly will i boast in my weakness that the power of Christ may dwell in me, for this reason i take pleasure in weaknesses, in insults, in necessitates, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ, for when i am weak, then i am strong.

Who did Paul persecute and who is now on the receiving end of what he himself did to others. Paul.

Now that brings us to the 300 pieces of silver which Joseph gave to Benjamin when he was in Egypt which has now also been passed down to Paul to spend wisely remember Paul is Benjamin's great great whatever grandson of many centuries later.

Paul made Three Documented missionary trips and The 300 pieces of silver which Benjamin received from Joseph's hand went towards the cost of those 3 missions or journeys which Paul Benjamin's great grandson was to make in the future and each of those three journeys took Paul further and further away from the Holy Land and deeper and deeper into Europe looking for the lost sheep of the house of Israel as well as any Jew or gentile who also believed.

The first missionary journey Paul made can be read in [Acts 13:4-14:26](#) and was from Antioch to Selucia to Cyprus Salamis Paphos Perge Pamphylia Antioch of Pisidian, Iconium Lyconia, Lystra, and Derbe Prisida Attalia back Antioch.

His second missionary journey Acts 15:32-18:23 brought him to Antioch Lystra Galatia, Troas, Philippi, Thessalossia, Berea Athens, Corinth and Ephesus.

And Paul's **third missionary journey Acts 18:23-21:15** included stops in Ephesus, Corinth, Assos, Miletus, Rhodes, and Tyre, ending back in Jerusalem.

Some historians say that Paul went to Spain and perhaps he may very well have travelled as far as and possibly into the British Isles where British folklore says he visited many towns? Glastonbury being one of those places.

Paul set out on each of his 3 missionary journeys with the Holy Spirit directing his life and his path.

And Paul was always seeking out the "lost sheep of the house of Israel" who were swallowed up after their scattering in the Gentile world.

But as i said Paul's mission was to also convert all people to Christ from all the other nations who would willingly listen to his words of truth and life. (**Hosea 8:8**).

And Paul where ever he went gladly taught Christ to both Jew and Gentile to anyone and everyone who looked for something better than this world offered them!

And we all know that there is something so much greater so much better waiting for us than this world this Earth can ever-ever offer us this Earth is our school room.

Paul knew that the "**dishonoured**" bride of Israel was out there somewhere scattered in the Roman Empire and now Paul had to pay the price for them he had to help them clear their tainted name and by them i do mean us at this time as well because Paul's words are still echoing down to us now through time.

Again we must remember that both houses of Israel were eventually scattered swallowed and submerged somewhere inside of the other nations.

The 10 tribes of the "house of Israel" were all but lost to mankind but not to God

They were submerged becoming strangers in strange lands But God knew exactly where they were.

Amongst these nations were the 2 houses of Israel the dishonoured future bride of Christ which is called or referred to as the "daughter of Zion" and the "daughters of Jerusalem by Jesus Himself".
For confirmation look at these scriptures Look at **2 Kings 19:21** **Isaiah 62:11** **Micah 4:13** and **Zechariah 9:9**

It was to their inner spirits that Paul had been sent to and Paul was called upon to open their ears. Who when their ears and minds of understanding were opened **that is if that big IF word if they were willing to hear and to understand** then they would be able to hear and understand the wonderful words of life and they would understand the wonderful gospel which Paul preached.

These children had fled for their lives from so much cruelty and persecution and Paul as **the wolf pack leader who himself in the beginning** tracked down persecuted then tore and ripped and gnawed on their bones exactly as Israel had prophesised about Benjamin.

So the people fled with sorrowful hearts having been swallowed up amongst the nations where they hoped they would find a small place of peace and quiet for themselves.

Some were shy unassuming people who behaved in a quiet manner keeping to themselves in the nations around them hoping not to be noticed but always just like us praying to God for His peace in their lives.

In other words they still possessed **the tokens of their virginity of which the law speaks**.

Paul's ever expanding 3 journeys into the western nations were "paid" by him through his past mistakes **and the 300 pieces of silver**.

Because Paul persecuted and dishonoured God's people who would one day become Christ's future bride.

A lot of people believe that the law has been done away with completely - some believe that some of the old laws are still in force some believe it is written firmly in our hearts and minds.

Well i feel that God made **some laws for a reason** and yes some laws like the one i will read out soon may sound to us as though it is now outdated done away with but i also feel There are some ridiculous traffic laws dating back to the horse and cart days which are still in force today and believe it or not they are also ridiculous.

So the "old law" had set Paul's price of "guilt" for giving the bride an evil name and by searching out his victories like a wolf. Paul had to seek out **and find** the future bride in Israel so that she might be vindicated and the tokens of her virginity acknowledged.

Benjamin's grandson Paul had to journey out into the big wide world as it was back then and through the Holy spirit which he was given him for his work and through the 5 raiments and 300 pieces of silver this would enable him to complete his mission.

And that mission was to seek out those lost children of Israel in the West because she the daughters of Jerusalem were being pushed together and preserved by Joseph's power through God in that direction.

So these missions took Paul along the roads of Greece and Rome as well as along the known routes of traffic and trade and as i said possibly into Spain and England.

The British Isles or Isles afar eventually taking a lot of those wandering people in and housing the tribes which were gleaned from the other nations and drawing them across the English Channel to hopefully safety!

The patterns in the "old law" were clearly set down in Deuteronomy 22:13-19 which gave Paul 300 pieces of silver to help him buy back the "future virgin bride of Israel" and each of the 3 journeys which Paul made would cost him it seems 100 pieces of silver each.

Both Joseph and Jesus had already paid the Bride's price. Joseph with the 300 silver coins for Paul's journey and Lord Jesus Christ our LORD and Saviour with **His precious blood.** Deuteronomy 22:13-19 says **If any man takes a wife and goes into her and hates her, and makes shameful charges against her, and brings up an evil name on her and says, i took this woman and when i came to her, i did not find in her the tokens of virginity, then shall the father of the girl, and her mother, take and bring tokens of the girl's virginity to the elders of the city in the gate, and the girl's father shall say to the elders, i gave my daughter to this man to wife, and he hates her, and lo, he has made shameful charges against her, saying, i have not found in your daughter the tokens of virginity, and yet these are the tokens of my daughters virginity, and they shall spread the cloth before the elders of**

the city, and the elders of that city shall take that man and punish him, and they shall fine him a hundred shekels of silver and give them to the father of the girl because he has bought an evil name on a virgin of Israel, and she shall be his wife, he may not put her away all his days.

Deuteronomy 22:13-19 is the law of the innocent wife protected. This law was applicable to Paul **before** the "garment" he wore as a Christian Israelite and martyr.

In other words Deuteronomy 22 is an "allegory" a parable applicable to a situation of a Jew and Christian under the law as Paul was when he proudly wore his Pharisee garment gladly persecuted accused and killed all innocent Christians.

The Virgin being the future bride of Christ which Paul was hunting down and persecuting and remember Paul as a wolf was accusing the future bride of being unfaithful in his eyes because she chased after and embraced another lover being Jesus Christ the true Messiah. Who in Paul's eyes was nothing more than a clever impostor.

Those "virgin" children were among the Christians who Saul was so offended by and so wanted to put away in destruction because of their unfaithfulness this is Paul acting as a wolf.

So Saul was "judged" in the heavenly court when Jesus said to him on the road to Damascus in **Acts 9:3-5** "Saul, Saul, why persecutest you me? It is hard for you to kick against the pricks".

Possibly Jesus is saying to Paul Saul you are kicking your feet against Me you are walking in opposition to me.

Your actions and accusations and persecutions are **against Me My people and against My future bride.**

Saul or Paul took his prey without reason or remorse and his actions caused great misery against the innocent "virgin bride" within Israel.

That same "virgin daughter of Israel" remains all through biblical history and is always at the mercy of an evil name being spoken against her.

Remember well Paul was a Pharisee he was a teacher of the law and Paul **as a Pharisee did not believe that Lord Jesus Christ was the true Messiah** so Paul in this garment which he wore is accusing the future bride of Christ as being **unfaithful** to the still to come bridegroom the true Messiah when He appeared.

Paul is accusing the future bride of being unfaithful by following this Jesus character who he **Paul** thought to be **an impostor** so he persecuted the Lord's future bride and he bought an evil name against her and against all who believed that Jesus was **and is** the true Messiah.

Paul accused them of being unfaithful to God and therefore lost their virginity to a false Messiah so now **Paul had to clear their defamed and tainted name which he Paul was the main ringleader why because he accused the bride of Christ of being unfaithful to her future husband.**

The daughters of Jerusalem are the people in the city they are the people of God they are His children His sons and His daughters. Remember Christ's bride is a virgin and she cannot be **anything else but that.**

If someone like Saul in the beginning persecuted and bought an evil name against the bride of Christ then Saul was required to prove her guilt or else **vindicate her now tarnished name.**
Corinthians 11:2 says i am jealous over you with the jealousy of God, because i have espoused you to one husband, so that **i** may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

The "virgin of Israel **today**" is Gods clean untarnished church and those in it which is kept by God as their Father and her tokens of virginity are in the Lord's church in what and **in whom** they follow.

She is scattered within mankind's variety of churches and nations but she is faithful.

Mankind since Paul have set up and arrayed all kinds of accusations against the "virgin daughters of Israel" in an uneducated fashion speaking and thinking falsely against her **why** because she dares do things **which are different than they think she should do.**

During his life as a Pharisee Paul in a way played the role of the husband who refused to hear the voice or belief of the innocent "virgin wife" within the law.

The "brides" Father The Great and Glorious Holy Father in Heaven was to show and guide Paul by the power of His Holy Spirit His daughter's cloth of virginity.

Paul's chastisement for unbelief and his persecutions and accusations against **the daughter** was his "first journey" into other lands seeking all Israel within the Gentile nations for which **100 shekels were paid and required by law.**

The "second journey" he also paid **100 shekels** for the "daughter of Jerusalem" out of the house of Judah.

The "third journey" he paid 100 shekels under the law of chastisement for the "daughter of Zion" out of the "house of Israel" who could not be put away!

Paul paid for his wolfy unbelief in full and he tells about his chastisement. as recorded in **2Corinthians 11:22-31.**

Paul's conscience pricked him so many times about when he once lived as a ravaging wolf against the Lord's children.

And now Paul in his thoughts remembered the cruel sights and painful cries of the people whom he had tortured and killed in his hunting days.

We find the "reason" for his 3 journeys each costing 100 shekels apiece paid for the "bride of Israel" during his life remember i read to you a minute ago from **2Corinthians 12:7-8** **there was given to me [Paul] a thorn in the flesh, an angel of satan to buffet me, so that i might not be exalted. I besought the Lord 3 times for this.**

In other words Paul was always acutely aware of how he "kicked against the pricks" which Jesus spoke to him about on the road to Damascus.

These flash backs which plagued him also kept him humble of mind and purpose always remembering he had a lot of evil to repent of **the Lord told Paul that His grace would be sufficient for him for My power is made perfect in weakness.**

Paul suffered dreadfully for the "bride of Israel" and for his earlier denouncing of her and his accusing her and Paul used well the 5 raiments and 300 shekels given to Benjamin by Joseph.

Not one of us can stand up here today and say that we have lived a perfect and clean life we have all kicked against the pricks at one time or another i know i have.

We all have various wars raging on inside of us that constantly remind us that **we need our Saviour** because without Lord Jesus Christ in our hearts and mind we are lost to this sick world.

And please do not forget Israel's prophecy to his sons because it still stands to this day.

I read this interesting piece when i was writing this message something which i never really thought about before.

Benjamin's blessing for the latter days which are these days which we are now living in is one of wolfish ferocity. (**Genesis 49:27**).

Judah's hand will be on the neck of his enemies. (**Genesis 49:8**).

Levi's blessing is, "cursed be their anger for it was fierce; and his wrath cruel." (**Genesis 49:7**).

Now join this "triangle" of brothers prophecies together as it is today within the land of Israel and you will see they are a powerful and cunning nation and they will fight to **the last man if necessary to defeat their enemies**.

The warning to other nations from their prophetic blessings is there is no defeat in their make up for the last days.

Look at Hanukkah before Christ was manifest and the war of independence which they fought in 1948 and also the 1967 six day war you will see all 3 brothers fighting together **united as one** with **one purpose** as you will also witness God's great hand at work as well.

Their "triangle" of strength cunning and swift **death is forged together with no weaknesses** that one might find in disunity.

With the "star" of the warrior King David in their flag seems to be rather fitting in the "last days".

The "star" takes the shape of 2 triangles of blue on a white background. It seems to be a prophetic pointer to their present situation.

From Jacob's blessings in Genesis 49 for his 3 sons which make up the "house of Judah" in the land of Israel is as one triangle.

The "second triangle" was set by their great lawgiver Moses when he blessed the tribes in Deuteronomy 33:7-12.

Thus putting Judah Levi and Benjamin together from out of their birth lineage which we read of in Jacob's blessing in Genesis 49.

Moses blessing was for their 3 sided strength through history to save their lives which even today remains very strong in the land of Israel.

Small is the "house of Judah" compared to the "house of Israel" **but strong are his bulwarks in understanding this situation**.

Nevertheless Judah the Jew must strengthen his position further and his people must stand back to back in wisdom as the world is in turmoil!

As you now see some of Joseph's gift to his younger brother may have seemed odd but I feel that it was a prophecy now looking back in time we can clearly see that there was a special purpose to what Joseph gave his younger brother who **belonged to another House of Israel** which Joseph would not have known about at the time when he gave Benjamin the gifts.

We can now see the Lord's hand at work **behind this gift** and now just how Benjamin **used that wonderful gift**.