

*These Perilous Times*  
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“Are We Saved by Our Name or Heritage?”

Part II

Orthodox Jews are still celebrating some of the ancient feast days, and ordinances that God commanded them to keep: <sup>1</sup> *before, Jesus* hung on the cross, tearing the veil between the Holy, and Most Holy places, *ending the Jewish economy*, and the Levitical priesthood as God’s appointed human intercessors.

Christians should know that Jesus, the true Passover Lamb, whom the Jews condemned, plotted to kill, and eventually murdered, by the hand of Pagan Rome {see Matt. Chapters 26 & 27} during the Passover Feast, is now mediating, and interceding for His people, {literal Jews included} in the most Holy place—*for those who accept His sacrifice.* <sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Ex. 12:11, 12, 14, 43

<sup>2</sup> Read all of Hebrews Chapter 9

“The next day John saw Jesus coming unto him, and said, *Behold, the **Lamb of God** which takes away the sin of the world.*” John 1:29

On Wednesday, Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> of this year, 2014 marks the beginning of “Rosh Hashanah,” {Feasts of trumpets} and “Yom Kippur,” {Day of Atonement} begins on Friday, Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> at sunset, during a “New Moon.”

We know that God commanded Ancient Israel to keep the Passover perpetually for all their generations, and the Day of Atonement, and other feast days etc. Today however, God’s followers are not required to keep those ancient feast days and festivals.

### **Ordinances – temporal laws**

{Nailed to the cross}

“And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with Him, having forgiven all your trespasses, blotting out the handwriting of

ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way. Nailing it to the cross..." Colossians 2:13, 14

**What does this mean for us?**

### *Obvious Signs Do Tell The Season*

Why do you suppose that many religious people think that only they are righteous, and their way is always right regardless of what the Holy Bible states? The Jews had it right outwardly, but their insides were as dead man's bones.

Are we, "Spiritual Israel," in the same kind of danger as "Literal Israel" of antiquity—displaying an outward, religious zealousness, but inside are like "whited sepulchers?"<sup>3</sup> John, in Revelation, clearly states that the characteristics of the last church before Christ returns is wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Matthew 23:23-39

<sup>4</sup> Revelation 3:14-22

## Words from God's inspired messenger

### {Cursing of the fig tree}

“The cursing of the fig tree was an acted parable. That barren tree, flaunting its pretentious foliage in the very face of Christ, was a symbol of the Jewish nation.

The Savior desired to make plain to His disciples the cause and certainty of Israel's doom. For this purpose he invested the tree with moral qualities and made it the expositor of divine truth.

The Jews stood far distinct from all other nations, professing allegiance to God. They had been specially favored by Him, and they laid claim to righteousness above every other people. But they were corrupted by the love of the world, and the greed of gain.

They boasted of their knowledge, but were ignorant of the requirements of God, and full of hypocrisy. Like the barren {fig} tree they spread their pretentious branches aloft, luxuriant in appearance, and beautiful to the eye, but they yielded “nothing but leaves.”<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Matthew 21:19; Mark 11:13, 14; Luke 13:6-9

The Jewish religion with its magnificent temple, its sacred altars, its mitred priests, and impressive ceremonies, was indeed fair in outward appearance, but humility, love, and benevolence were lacking.<sup>6</sup>

The warning is for all time. Christ's act in cursing the fig tree which His own power had created stands as a warning to all churches, and to all Christians. No one can live the law of God without ministering to others...

God created them to live in a world where unselfish service must be performed. He designed them to help their fellow man in every possible way...

Those who thus live for self are like the fig tree which made every pretension but was fruitless... In every age there is given to men their day of light and privilege, a probationary time in which they may become reconciled to God.

But there is a limit to this grace, mercy may plead for years and be slighted and rejected; but

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<sup>6</sup> E. G. White. Desire of Ages, "A Doomed People," Chapter 64.

there comes a time when mercy makes her last plea.”<sup>7</sup>

Are we saved by being part of the Adventist heritage, or having our names registered on the Seventh-day Adventist church books? I think not Friends!



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<sup>7</sup> Ibid. Chapter 64. Also see Matthew 7:15-20