

“Beautiful Outward” Matthew 23:1-39 12/10/23

Today, we'd like to see the title of "Beautiful Outward" in Matthew 23:1-39.

To Online Word's souls, *through MP3 or YouTube Channel*, on the earth, we'd like to suggest the 3 expositional Questions. (*Maranatha Worship Songs*, _____ Videos are watchable upon the click on the website). ***YouTube Channel is not Available in China, Iran, Germany, etc. where only MP3 is available***

Q1. In verses 6-7, "They love the best places at feasts, the best seats in the synagogues, ⁷ greetings in the marketplaces, and to be called by men, 'Rabbi, Rabbi,'" what do these mean in the context? And how can we apply these to our lives?

Q2. In verse 11, "But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant," what does it mean? And what can we learn from here?

Q3. In verse 26, "Blind Pharisee, first cleanse the inside of the cup and dish, that the outside of them may be clean also," what does it mean in the context? And what can we learn from here?

(Background for context of this text on Daily Bible Reading and Studying Weekly Book Basis)

In the last chapter 22, the Pharisees, the Sadducees, and Herodians have just had a confrontation with Jesus to plot to put Him into death.

In Matthew 22:45-46, "If David then calls Him 'Lord,' how is He his Son? ⁴⁶ And no one was able to answer Him a word, nor from that day on did anyone dare question Him anymore," Jesus asked the Pharisees, "Whose son is the Christ or Messiah?" God told eternal kingdom to David through Nathan. God told through Isaiah about the Spirit of the Lord resting upon a Rod from the stem of Jesse, David's father. So, the Christ or Messiah is David's descendant, as they answered, "The Son of David." 2 Sam 7:16; Isaiah 11:1-2.

TEXT: NKJV [KJV]

Inductive **Explanation** in context & syntax

¹Then Jesus spoke to the multitudes and to His disciples, ² saying: "The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat. ³ Therefore whatever they tell you to observe, *that* observe and do, but do not do according to their works; for they say, and do not do. ⁴ For they bind heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay *them* on men's shoulders; but they *themselves* will not move them with one of their fingers. ⁵ But all their works they do to be seen by men. They make their phylacteries broad and enlarge the borders of their garments.

1-2= (Moses' seat is a teaching place seen by everybody. But not only a teacher but all the scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat "to be seen by men" in verse 5)

3-5= (Whatever they tell you about the Scripture, you should observe the words in the Scripture and do their consequent practices, but you should not learn their inconsequent practices because they know the Scripture but do not live by the Scripture. To be seen by people, draw attention from people, or to impress people, they make a small leather box containing the Scripture verses and long tassels.)

⁶ They love the best places at feasts, the best seats in the synagogues, ⁷ greetings in the marketplaces, and to be called by men, ‘Rabbi, Rabbi.’

⁸ But you, do not be called ‘Rabbi’; for One is your Teacher, the Christ, and you are all brethren. ⁹ Do not call anyone on earth your father; for One is your Father, He who is in heaven. ¹⁰ And do not be called teachers; for One is your Teacher, the Christ.

¹¹ But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant.

¹² And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.

¹³ “But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut up the kingdom of heaven against men; for you neither go in *yourselves*, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in. ¹⁴ Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you devour widows’ houses, and for a

6-7= Q1 (They love the best seat at feasts or in the synagogues, greetings in the marketplace, and to be called Teacher by people, because they hunger for more money, more power, and higher position. So, they don’t want to impress God but people, even with heartless emotional play. We’re all of us just brothers and sisters in Christ. None of us have any higher position of hierarchy but we have variety of gifts, ministries, or operations of the same Spirit who works all in all. Especially teachers or word ministers have higher responsibility than other ministers, subject to stricter judgment against inconsistent teaching with the Scripture. *1 Cor 12:4-6, 25-26; James 3:1-2*¹⁾)

8-10= (An ultimate teacher is Christ because all other word ministers, such as a bible teacher or a pastor, are servants of Christ. Our ultimate forever Father is God the Father, not an earthly father. Also, we should love Christ supremely above any creatures *Mat 10:37-38*²⁾)

11=Q2 (Christ is the greatest among us because He served us with even His death on cross; Jesus showed His disciples how to serve one another by washing their feet; so, be conscious of His presence, be humble, and do from heart to others, then you will be rewarded by the Lord in heaven. *John 13:12-15; Mat 18:4; James 4:10; Col 3:17, 23; Mat 10:42*³⁾)

12=(If you exalt yourself, the Lord will debase you. If you humble yourself, the Lord will exalt you. *James 4:6*⁴⁾)

13-15 = (The “woe” is great sorrow. Scribes and Pharisees are hypocrites or pretenders, “a pretense” in verse 14, the people who say the Scripture but do not its consequent practices or do not live by the Scripture. They take material advantages of widows and pretend long prayers, being subject to greater judgment at their inward fleshly hearts. They go everywhere, land and sea, and bring a proselyte – a converter from an idea or religion to another idea or religion, here Judaism – to fall into the hell twice worse than themselves).

¹ *1 Cor 12:4-6, 25-26*⁴ There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵ There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. ⁶ And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all;²⁵ that there should be no schism in the body, but *that* the members should have the same care for one another. ²⁶ And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with *it*; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with *it*. *James 3:1-2* My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment. ² For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, he *is* a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body.

² *Mat 10:37-38* He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. ³⁸ And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.

³ *John 13:12-15* So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you?” ¹³ You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. ¹⁴ If I then, *your* Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. ¹⁵ For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you; *Mat 18:4* Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven; *James 4:10* Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up; *Col 3:17, 23*¹⁷ And whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. ²³ And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men; *Mat 10:42* And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold *water* in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward.”

⁴ *James 4:6* But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: “God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.”

pretense make long prayers. Therefore you will receive greater condemnation.
¹⁵ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel land and sea to win one proselyte, and when he is won, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves.

¹⁶ “Woe to you, blind guides, who say, ‘Whoever swears by the temple, it is nothing; but whoever swears by the gold of the temple, he is obliged to perform it.’ ¹⁷ Fools and blind! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that sanctifies the gold? ¹⁸ And, ‘Whoever swears by the altar, it is nothing; but whoever swears by the gift that is on it, he is obliged to perform it.’ ¹⁹ Fools and blind! For which is greater, the gift or the altar that sanctifies the gift? ²⁰ Therefore he who swears by the altar, swears by it and by all things on it. ²¹ He who swears by the temple, swears by it and by Him who dwells in it. ²² And he who swears by heaven, swears by the throne of God and by Him who sits on it.

²³ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone.

²⁴ Blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel! ²⁵ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisee hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of extortion and self-indulgence.

16-22= (While scribes and Pharisees interpreted the Scripture, they made additional laws equal to or greater than God’s law itself, although God disallows any addition or deletion of His word. And they bound people to their made laws and so they the blind guides guided people into ditch, not into the Lord light. Since to swear oath or vow binds people, their made oath law designs to draw money, power, or glory from people. So, enforceable oath or vow is by gold, not by the temple, and by gift, not by the altar, although the altar and the temple are the greater things. Jesus explained the greater things of the temple over gold and of the altar over gift, as the one swears by heaven, where God sits on the throne of God, although Jesus doesn’t recommend to swear oath to believers. *Deu 4:2; Luke 6:39; Mat 5:33-34⁵*)

23= (Inward heart of mind is weightier or more important than the outward of doing because the outward doing should be the former’s consequent practice. Here, the tithe without the mind of love, justice, mercy, and faith of the Lord is not accepted by the Lord. Note in NT tithe is commendatory, while in OT tithe was mandatory. *Luke 11:42; 2 Cor 8:12⁶*)

24-25= (They as blind guides took out an unclean insect the gnat but their inward hearts are all fleshly minded such as full extortion and self-indulgence.)

⁵ *Deu 4:2* You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you; *Luke 6:39* And He spoke a parable to them: “Can the blind lead the blind? Will they not both fall into the ditch?; *Mat 5:33-34* “Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform your oaths to the Lord.’ ³⁴ But I say to you, do not swear at all: neither by heaven, for it is God’s throne.

⁶ *Luke 11:42* But woe to you Pharisees! For you tithe mint and rue and all manner of herbs, and pass by justice and the love of God. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone. *2 Cor 8:12* For if there is first a willing mind, *it is* accepted according to what one has, *and* not according to what he does not have.

²⁶ Blind Pharisee, first cleanse the inside of the cup and dish, that the outside of them may be clean also.

²⁷ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead men’s bones and all uncleanness. ²⁸ Even so you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

²⁹ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous, ³⁰ and say, ‘If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets.’

³¹ “Therefore you are witnesses against yourselves that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. ³² Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers’ guilt. ³³ Serpents, brood of vipers! How can you escape the condemnation of hell? ³⁴ Therefore, indeed, I send you prophets, wise men, and scribes: *some* of them you will kill and crucify, and *some* of them you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute from city to city, ³⁵ that on you may come all the righteous blood shed on the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar.

26=Q3 (Not to be blind, they should first cleanse the inward heart which may be followed by the outward appearance because the inward is weightier, greater, or more important than the outward.)

27-28= (They have beautiful outward appearance like white washed tombs but inward heart such as full hypocrisy and violation of God’s law like the full decay of the dead body and bones.)

29-34= (Although Scribes and Pharisees had the same heart as their fathers’ heart against the ministers of the Lord such as prophets, wise men, or scribes, they covered their inward fleshly heart by building the tombs of the prophets, adorning the monuments of those righteous or those who lived by faith, and witnessing against the fathers’ fleshly heart. And so they pretended to be righteous before people. Jesus called them as serpents, brood of vipers, because their heart to kill Jesus and His followers would be followed by its consequent practices to kill, crucify, scourge, and persecute the ministers of God, as Jesus and His disciples would be done so by them.)

35=(Abel’s sacrifice to the Lord by faith was accepted by God but God rejected Cain’s sacrifice. Cain was mad at God and at Abel, killing Abel the innocent or righteous man. Zechariah prophesied against Joash returning to idolatry after Jehoiada the priest died. Jehoiada may be the grandfather of Zechariah, as the son of Berechiah, because the grandfather of Belshazzar was Nebuchadnezzar but was written as “his father Nebuchadnezzar” the important name in history in the Scripture, although the father of Belshazzar was Nabonidus. What an inerrant Scripture! *Gen 4:10; 2 Chron 24:20-22; Dan 5:1-27*)

⁷ *Gen 4:10* And He said, “What have you done? The voice of your brother’s blood cries out to Me from the ground; 2 *Chron 24:20-22* Then the Spirit of God came upon Zechariah the son of Jehoiada the priest, who stood above the people, and said to them, “Thus says God: ‘Why do you transgress the commandments of the LORD, so that you cannot prosper? Because you have forsaken the LORD, He also has forsaken you.’ ” ²¹ So they conspired against him, and at the command of the king they stoned him with stones in the court of the house of the LORD. ²² Thus Joash the king did not remember the kindness which Jehoiada his father had done to him, but killed his son; and as he died, he said, “The LORD look on *it*, and repay!”; *Dan 5:1-2* Belshazzar the king made a great feast for a thousand of his lords, and drank wine in the presence of the thousand. ² While he tasted the wine, Belshazzar gave the command to bring the gold and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken from the temple which *had been* in Jerusalem, that the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines might drink from them.

<p>³⁶ Assuredly, I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation. ³⁷ “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under <i>her</i> wings, but you were not willing! ³⁸ See! Your house is left to you desolate; ³⁹ for I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, ‘Blessed <i>is</i> He who comes in the name of the LORD!’ ”</p>	<p>36-37= (Jesus told these to come upon everyone in this generation. But God’s mercy endures forever. Even if they persecute the Lord and His ministers, the Lord still wants to forgive them if they will – God never violates human free will in grace time, before His rule with a rod of iron. That’s Amazing love. Praise the Lord and give thanks to Him. <i>Luke 13:34; Psalm 106:1⁸</i>)</p> <p>38= (Jesus prophesized Jerusalem to be desolate. In 70 AD, Titus the general destroyed Jerusalem and scattered Israelites into the world.)</p> <p>39= (Jesus’ 2nd coming is prophesized by Jesus. Then, during the great tribulation, the remnant Israelites would acknowledge the pierced Jesus, the death suffering Jesus, the firstborn and only son of God. Then, they would bless the coming Lord Jesus Christ the Savior. <i>Heb 2:9; Zechariah 12:10; 1 Cor 16:22; Mark 11:9; Rev 22:20⁹</i>)</p>
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Note: Most Christians say the Bible is important, but rarely study every word in the Bible and commit it to the Lord. So, it’s better to study it and live accordingly after the Spirit for the Lord (2 Tim 2:15). This online word for global crusade in effect develops from the expositional sermon (KJV), into spiritual transformation in daily love fellowship with the Lord throughout the Bible Study (NKJV) -- *All Scripture Expository Study from verse by verse Inductive Studies* -- of which application is the Discipleship and Spiritual Formation, closer to the image of Christ. We think that “Any human opinion is not really important rather than what God says. So, the best commentary on the Bible is the Bible per se. But the opinion to make us understand God’s Word is acceptable (2 Corinthians 10:5).” Further, for the application, a life or spiritual experience might be helpful to understand how to apply an understood word in the text column, but it is temperately used like Paul, because nobody should think above that actual experience (2 Cor 12:6, Jer 23:28; Ne 8:8).

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⁸ *Luke 13:34* O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen *gathers* her brood under *her* wings, but you were not willing!; *Psalm 106:1* Praise the LORD! Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for *He is* good! For His mercy *endures* forever.

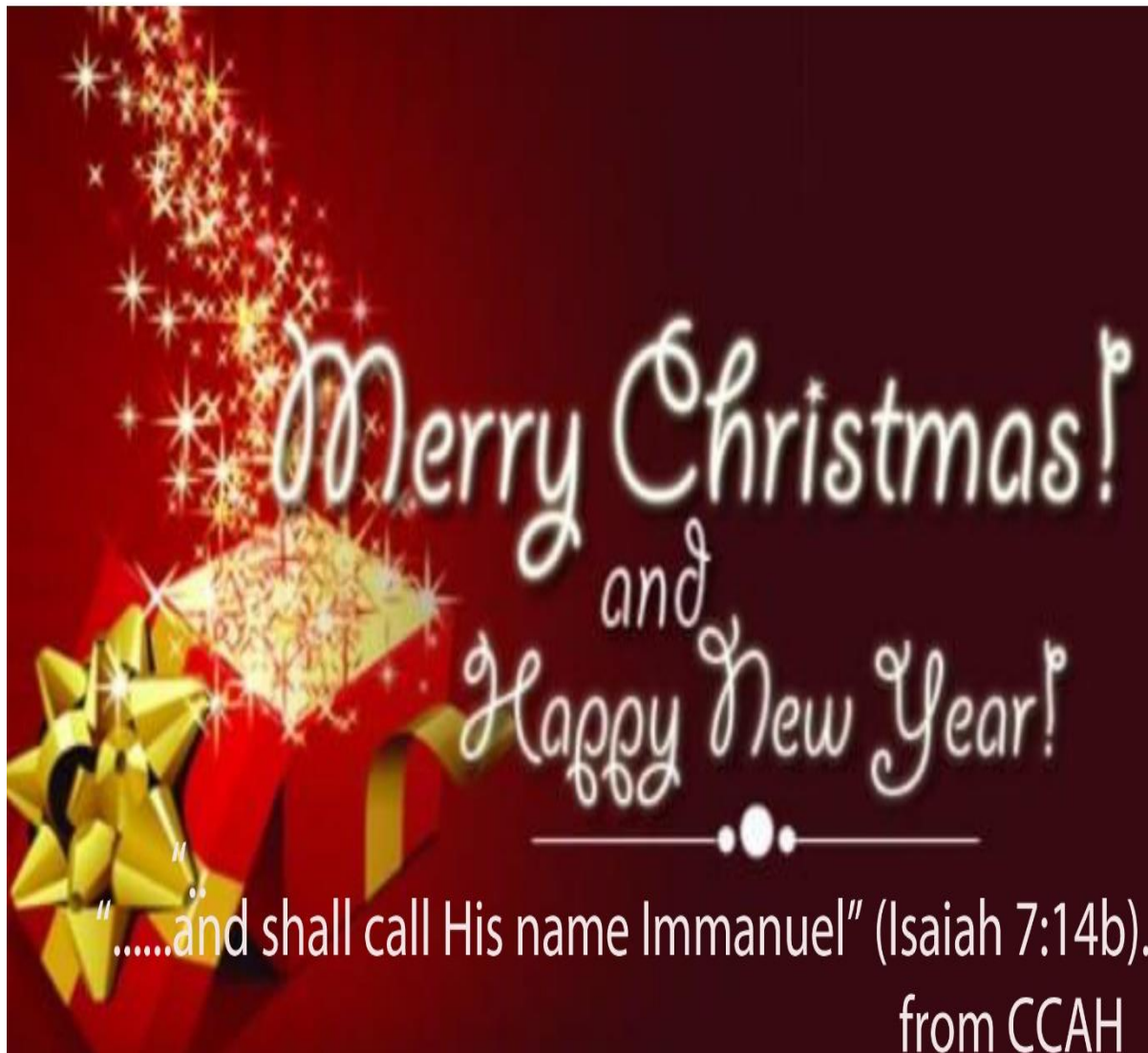
⁹ *Heb 2:9* But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone; *Zechariah 12:10* And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for *his* only *son*, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn; *1 Cor 16:22* If anyone does not love the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be accursed. O Lord, come! anathal; *Mark 11:9* Then those who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: “Hosanna! ‘Blessed *is* He who comes in the name of the LORD!’; *Rev 22:20* He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming quickly.” Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

Truth matters, regardless of online, offline, indoor, outdoor, at sea, or in sky services.



<https://www.calvarychapelanaheimhills.com/OnlineSermon2023.htm>

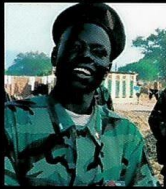
Thank you everybody. Come to Jesus!



Pray and Love for the co-ministers and bereaved families of the killed 71 men in the service of the Lord in S Sudan during Christmas season.

KILLED IN THE SERVICE OF OUR LORD

The first Sunday in November is the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church. Often, when I share that we have lost 71 men, I think many do not know how to process this and I am sure some doubt. But Far Reaching Ministries has a rich history of men who have valued the lives of others more than their own. I can remember one incident in particular where a soldier was badly wounded on the battlefield and could not walk. Two of our chaplains went out under heavy fire and dragged the man to safety. In the process, they were both mortally wounded and died. They fully knew that death for them meant eternity with Christ, but they knew the other man had not yet given his life to Christ so death would mean eternal separation. They chose to die so that others might live. Scripture says that no greater love than this that a man lay down his life for a friend. This man was not even a friend but a lost soul. I know that when they stood before the Lord they heard, well done my sons, well done. We have before you the photos of 61 who have given their lives, not all were shot but most were killed in combat.



Tombek Marcello Daniel



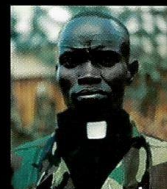
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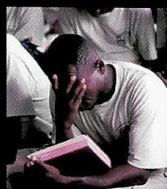
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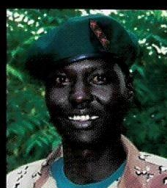
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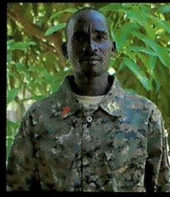
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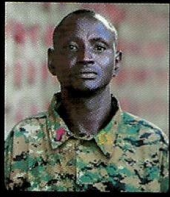
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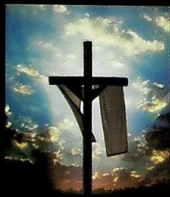
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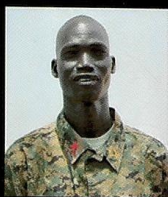
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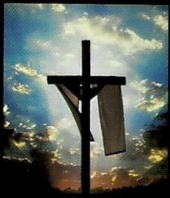
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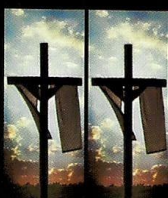
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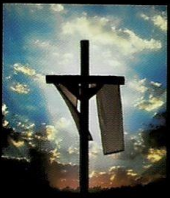
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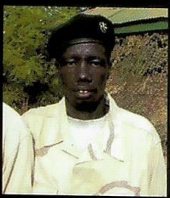
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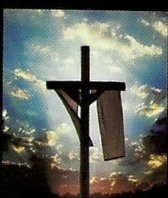
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