

A testimony for God's truth: First, concerning new and heavenly Jerusalem, and Jerusalem from below.

By George Fox

The apostle writes to the church of Christ, and said, 'Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all.' All Jerusalem's children are born of the spirit, and led by the spirit of God. 'And as many as receive Christ, he gives them power to become the sons of God; even to those who believe in his name. And whosoever believes that Jesus is the Christ, is born of God; and those who believe in the light, the life in Christ, do become the children of light, as in John 1:12, 12:36, 1 John 5:1-4.

And now in this heavenly light, power, and spirit, they come to be heavenly Jerusalem's children, that is from above. For such as hate the light, and do evil, are condemned by it, and those who have not the spirit of Christ are none of his; but all the true christians, in the new covenant, and new testament, in Christ Jesus, to whom Christ has given his life, which is his light and his power, those who believe in it, and receive him, do become the children of light, and the sons of God; so they are heavenly Jerusalem's children, born from above, of the spirit and the light.

The apostle said to the converted Hebrews, 'You are come unto Mount Zion, unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, and to the general assembly and church of the first born, which is written in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of the new covenant;' and to Mount Zion, Jerusalem's children had come then, while they were still upon the earth.

The children of God, that were born of the spirit, and the children of the light, they had come there in the apostles' days, they had come to that heavenly Mount Zion, that looks over the whole world. For natural Zion, the watchtower, looked over into Canaan; but this heavenly Zion, spoke of in the new testament, which is the joy of the whole earth, looks over all the earth, and in this joyful Zion, Christ the elect and precious was laid. 1 Pet 2:6. Christ the deliverer comes

out of this Zion. Rom 11:26. The children of heavenly Jerusalem, which is the city of the living God, see the innumerable company of angels. Is not this the city that Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob sought for, which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God; is not this heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God, that they sought for? And are not all heavenly Jerusalem's children written in heaven? seeing the apostle said, 'Jerusalem that is above, is the mother of us all' that believe in Christ, and receive him, and are born of the spirit, and they were come 'to the General Assembly, the church of the first born, written in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect.' All these were and are born of the spirit that come to heavenly Zion and Jerusalem, and to God and his son, and to the just men's spirits made perfect; for it is the spiritual birth, heavenly Jerusalem's children, that sees these things and knows them; that which is born of the flesh is flesh, and may know fleshly things, and that which is born of the spirit is spirit, and knows spiritual things.

John in the Revelation saw the great holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God, out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband, having the glory of God; and her light was like unto a precious stone, and the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, nor of a candle, for the glory of God does enlighten it, and the lamb is the light thereof. This heavenly Jerusalem is and was the mother of all those who receive Christ, who gives them power to become the sons of God, and those who believe in the light are the children of the light, and walk in the light of their mother, new Jerusalem.

And you may read how this new Jerusalem is garnished with pearls, figuratively, and there is written on the wall the names of the twelve tribes, and twelve apostles, and of the lamb; the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day, for there shall be no night there.

So here you may see there is no night here, but always day, in the holy city, new and heavenly Jerusalem, that is from above. All the children of the light, and that are born of the spirit from above, see it their mother; and the nations of those who are saved shall walk in the light of this city, new Jerusalem, that is from above. And all Jerusalem's children, that have overcome, have right to the tree of life, and drink of the water of life in this new and heavenly Jerusalem. And in this heavenly Jerusalem there shall be no more curse, and none that are defiled enter into it, but those who are written in the lamb's book of life. And he that overcomes said Christ, 'I will make a pillar in the house of my God, and he shall go no more out, and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from my God; and I will write upon him my new name.'

Here you may see New Jerusalem's children, and the name of God, and the holy city, and the name of Christ written upon them, and their father's name written

in their foreheads, that they may know that they are the children of New Jerusalem, and of God and Christ; and they shall see his face, and his name shall be in their foreheads. Rev 22:4, 3:12. 'He that has an ear, let him hear what the spirit said to the churches,' heavenly Jerusalem's and Zion's children. And therefore all that are born of the spirit, the children of the light, that believe in Christ, and receive him, their mother is new and heavenly Jerusalem; and this spiritual birth cannot own any mother below this new and heavenly Jerusalem. All heavenly Jerusalem's new born babes are nourished with the sincere milk of the word; and the bondwoman's children, that are born after the flesh, persecute new and heavenly Jerusalem's children, that are born after the spirit. The bondwoman's children are in slavery, but Jerusalem's children, which is from above, are free and give glory to the Lord God over all for evermore.

So new and heavenly Jerusalem brings forth a new and heavenly generation, a spiritual household, heavenly and spiritual citizens, and a royal priesthood, that offer up living and spiritual sacrifices.

And in the apostles' days, before the apostasy, all the true believers and followers of Christ, had Jerusalem that was above for their mother. But since the apostles' days, in the apostasy the outward christians have gone into many sects, and they have got many mothers, and by law they force others to them. But those who are brought out of the night of apostasy, by the light, power, and spirit of Christ Jesus, have come to new and heavenly Jerusalem; these cannot acknowledge any of the outward Christians' mothers, whom have been set up [invented] since the apostles' days. These invented mothers of Christians are below heavenly Jerusalem, which is from above, in whom there is neither sect nor schism, rent nor division, contest nor strife, for no unclean thing comes into it.

And the Lord said, 'Behold, I create new heavens, and a new earth, and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind.' Isaiah saw this by prophecy. Isa 65:17. And John said, 'I saw a new heaven and a new earth, and the first earth was passed away, and there was no more sea.' Rev 21:1. And the Lord said, 'Behold I create Jerusalem a rejoicing and her people a joy, and I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people, and the voice of weeping and crying shall be heard no more in her.' Is not this heavenly Jerusalem that Isaiah prophesied of? Isa 65:18-19. And is not this the heavenly Jerusalem that John saw in Revelation? 21:2-4. This new and heavenly Jerusalem that is above, it shines over all the nations, for the nations of those who are saved walk in the light of it, where it is always day, and there is no night there, for the Lord God and the lamb is the light of it, in which light the nations of those who are saved walk.

Natural men may know natural sciences, and the natural tongues and languages, and the natural arts, and natural philosophy; for the natural Jews and Pilate could set their natural tongues, which began at Babel, over Christ, and yet crucify him. The whore of Babylon and confusion,* the mother of harlots, she has power over the natural tongues, which have whored from the spirit of God [to love of the world], and so these natural men, with these natural things, that know nothing, but follow their own spirits, and see not the things of God, they are foolishness to them; but God is pouring his spirit upon all natural men, upon all flesh, that with his spirit they may know the things of God, and serve and worship him in spirit and truth, and know heavenly Jerusalem their mother, with the spirit that God pours upon them.

*[Fox says that Babylon means confusion. Certainly we can witness the confusion of Babylon, as most of us have walked through the false churches, perplexed, confused, and fooled, until we began to clearly see the lies, one by one; until the number of lies, and the severity of the lies drove us out, seeking truth. For the lies justify the love of the world, being a whorish spirit from God with other lovers. The elect cannot stand to listen to lies and so have come out of her.]

John saw the mother of harlots drunk with the blood of the saints and martyrs of Jesus, and their blood was found in the mother of harlots, the mystery Babylon, the false church. And were not these saints, martyrs of Jesus, and prophets, of heavenly Jerusalem's children, whose blood was and is found in the mother of harlots, the false church, the mystery Babylon? Rev 17:6,18:24.

He that was born after the flesh, persecuted him that was born after the spirit, even so it is now, Gal 4:29 ; and the children of new Jerusalem, that is above, and is your mother, they and their mother never persecuted any. But the mother of mystery Babylon, and of harlots, she and her harlots were and are the persecutors, in whom is found the blood of the righteous, 'the free born children of Jerusalem from above.'

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