

## WHAT DOES GOD'S REMNANT CHURCH LOOK LIKE? By Terri Hill

According To The Book Of The Revelation (the unveiling) Of Jesus Christ, Chapters Two And Three, There Are Certain Rewards Given To "Him That Overcometh". The SEVEN churches (perfection, the complete number) Who are addressed by Jesus, not only allude to the churches in existence at the time of its writing, but it is also a picture of the entire Church throughout the ages. "And it shall come to pass, that he that is left in Zion, and he that remaineth in Jerusalem, shall be called holy, even every one that is written among the living in Jerusalem"; Isaiah 4:3. See also Romans 11:5; Isaiah 37:32; Haggai 1:14; Revelation 12:1.

Webster's Dictionary Defines A REMNANT As:

"what is left over; remainder; residue, a small remaining part, quantity, or number of persons or things"

**GOD GENERALLY USES A SMALL PORTION OF PEOPLE, GATHERED FROM A LARGER GROUP, TO ACCOMPLISH HIS GREAT PURPOSES, TO BRING DELIVERANCE TO NATIONS.**

Isaiah 4:1-6 reveals a picture of the Church as a whole (the professing church and the Remnant), as "SEVEN women", who shall take hold of "ONE MAN", a picture of Jesus. These SEVEN women want their reproach removed: they want forgiveness of sin and guilt; they want the shame and condemnation taken away, but they want it on their own terms. These SEVEN women say we want to "eat our own bread", and "wear our own apparel".

A. They want to **EAT THEIR OWN BREAD** - many want to feed upon that which appeals to their fleshly appetites, a diet to sustain their "itching ears"; 2 Timothy 4:3-4.

B. They want to **WEAR THEIR OWN APPAREL** - many want to cover themselves with false coverings: self-righteousness, self-appointed mantles, religious traditions; Matthew 23:5.

The Scriptures tell us that the filth of the daughters of Zion must be washed away; the blood of those in Jerusalem must be purged. From this passage in Isaiah, we see that The Church is purged by:

1. The Spirit Of Judgment; 1 Corinthians 11:31; 1 Peter 4:17.
2. The Spirit of Burning (Purifying Fire); Jeremiah 23:29; Matthew 3:11-12.

**THERE IS A TRUE CHURCH (A REMNANT) AND A "PROFESSING CHURCH". BOTH CAN BE IDENTIFIED BY THEIR FRUIT.**

True Ministry prepares the "way of the Lord"; it calls for individuals to "bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance". Like the Forerunner, John The Baptist, this ministry is found in the wilderness, and it brings a clear message of returning to God; it arises before the appearance of The Messiah. It brings the "spirit of righteous judgment" - it discerns and separates the precious from the vile; it comes with the "spirit of burning"- it ushers in a baptism of fire. Jesus said that a Tree can be recognized by the fruit that it produces; Matthew 3:8; 7:16; 12:33; Luke 6:44; Galatians 5:22.

HERE ARE SOME OF THE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD'S REMNANT CHURCH:

1. They Are A Called-Out People Who Follow The Lamb Wherever He Goes, Who Seek To Know Him Intimately, And Thereby Experience An Increasing Degree Of Separation From The World, Its Values And Its Pursuits, And The Works Of The Flesh; 2 Corinthians. 6:17.
2. A People Who Appropriate His Grace, But Do Not Abuse Or Misrepresent That Grace, Which Covers The Believer As He Purposely Endeavors To Walk In The Present Light Of God's Truth, After The Spirit; John 12:35-36.
3. A People Who Know That Eternal Life Is The Gift Of God, Received By Faith, Made Possible By The Finished Work Of The Cross, Through The Shed Blood Of Jesus Christ, Who Then Receive The Righteousness Of Christ Himself; Romans 6:23.
4. Those Who Believe His Word, And Demonstrate A Lifestyle Consistent With Their Profession Of Faith, Which Includes Righteous Conduct, Godly Behavior, The Fruit Of The Holy Spirit And Obedience Toward God; John 14:15.
5. Those Who Represent Jesus Christ Are Living Epistles; They Are Politically Incorrect, The Salt And Light Of The World, A Sting And Rebuke For A Wicked Generation, An Offense To The Religious, And A Hope For The Lost; Mark 9:50.
6. They Are A People Who Embrace The Full Counsel Of God; They Believe And Teach All Of The Scriptures In Season And Out Of Season, With Signs And Wonders Following, Which Confirm The Preaching Of His Word; Acts 20:27.
7. A People Who Take Up The Cross To Follow Him, Whose Quest and Purpose Is TO KNOW HIM, AND TO MAKE HIM KNOWN, Whose Love For Him Surpasses Anyone Or Anything; Philippians 3:10-11.
8. A People Who Love His Appearing, And Look For His Imminent, Bodily Return, As They Overcome In Their Present Life, While Pressing Through Tribulation, Toward The Mark For The Prize Of The High Calling Of God In Christ Jesus; Philippians 3:14.

