



# Esoteric Christianity

Part 5:

Psychological Cleansing of the Temple

# John 2

<sup>9</sup> When the master [*architriklinos*: host or ruler of the three seats] of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and knew not whence it was: (but the servants [*diakonos*, עֶבֶד *obd*] which drew the water knew;) the master [*architriklinos*] of the feast called the bridegroom,

<sup>10</sup> And saith unto him, Every man at the beginning doth set forth good [*kalon*, טוֹב *tob*] wine [οἶνος, *oinos*, וַיִּין *vayin*]; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse [*elasson*, less]: but thou hast kept the good [*kalon*, טוֹב *tob*] wine until now.

<sup>11</sup> This beginning [*arche*] of miracles [σημεῖον, *sémeion*, sign, נֹסֵף *nes*] did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth [*ephanerosen*: to bring into light] his glory [*doxan*; כְּבוֹד *kabowd*]; and his disciples believed on him.



# John 2: Jesus Cleanses the Temple

<sup>12</sup> After this He went down to Capernaum [Καφαρναούμ, כפר נחום, City of Consolation], He, His mother, His brothers, and His disciples; and they did not stay there many days.

<sup>13</sup> Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem [ירושלים Yerushalayim, “foundation of peace”]. <sup>14</sup> And He found in the temple those who sold oxen [βοῦς bous, פרה parah, cow] and sheep [πρόβατα probata, כבש kebes] and doves [περιστερὰς peristeras, יונה jonah], and the money changers doing business. <sup>15</sup> When He had made a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen, and poured out the changers’ money and overturned the tables.



# John 2: Jesus Cleanses the Temple

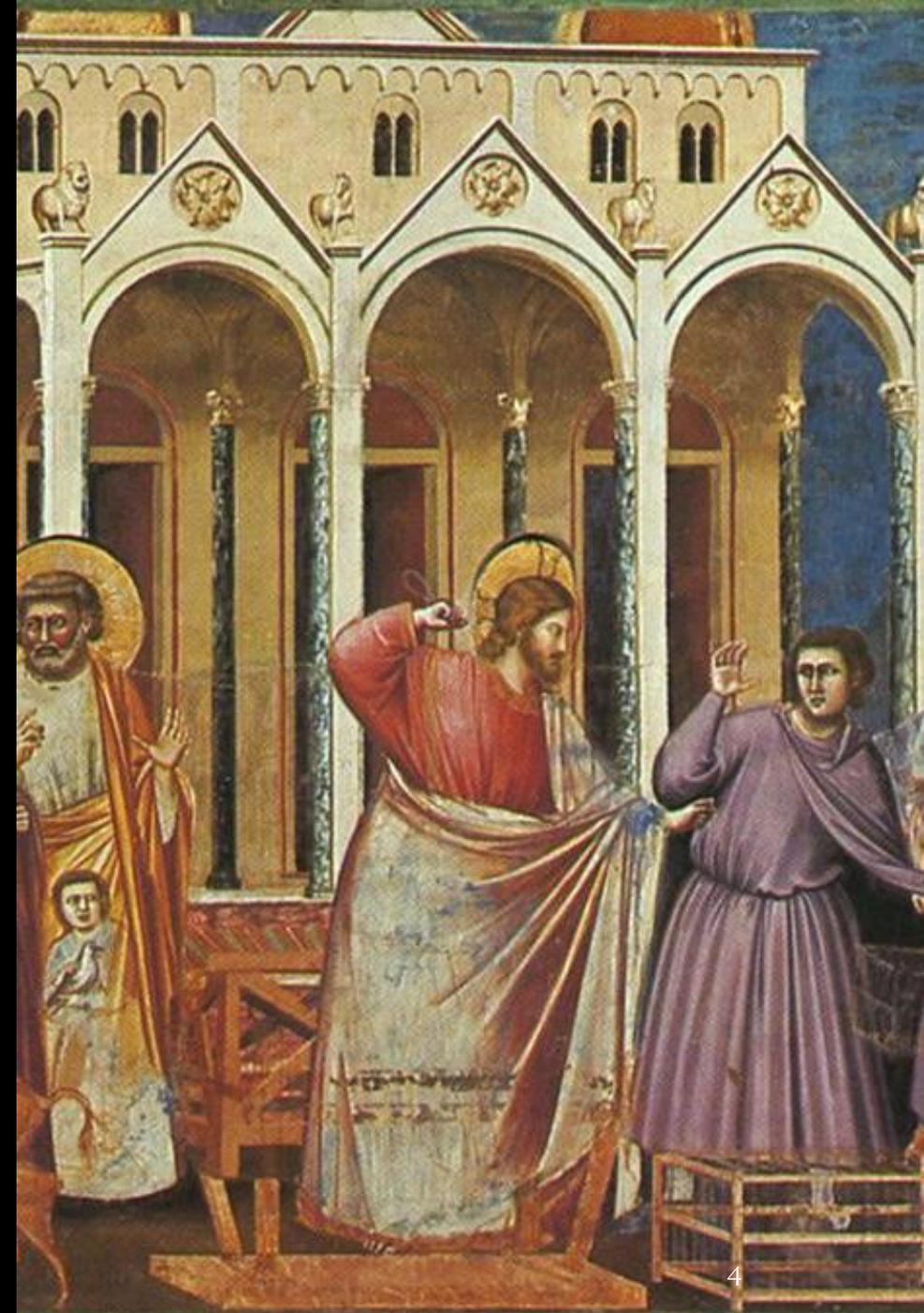
<sup>16</sup> And He said to those who sold doves [יונה *jonah*], “Take these things away! Do not make My Father’s house a house of merchandise!” <sup>17</sup> Then His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for Your house has eaten Me up.” (Psalm 69:9).

<sup>18</sup> So the Jews answered and said to Him, “What sign do You show to us, since You do these things?”

<sup>19</sup> Jesus answered and said to them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”

<sup>20</sup> Then the Jews said, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?”

<sup>21</sup> But He was speaking of the temple of His body. <sup>22</sup> Therefore, when He had risen from the dead, His disciples remembered that He had said this to them; and they believed the Scripture and the word which Jesus had said.



# Sophisms Preventing Psychological Work

There is  
Nothing **To Be**  
Done



“Our true nature  
is Spirit.”

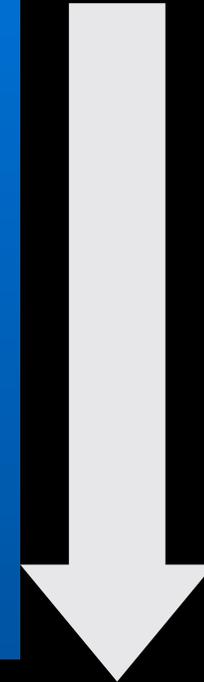
“We will all return  
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“Just believe in  
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“I am completely  
hopeless.”

“There is no way I  
can change  
myself.”

“There is no  
God.”



There is  
Nothing **That**  
**Can Be** Done

# What are we?

Barbelo

- Uncreated Light, Abstract Space
- Aelohim, a Negative or Non-Being. Beyond Being.

Christ

- Manifested Light, Trinity, Logos, Three Amens, Cosmic Christ
- Universal forces needed to initiate, protect, and sustain creation.

Spirit

- “That Which Already Is”
- Our unique, individual, Divine Spark from Barbleo.

Soul

- “That Which Must Be Acquired”
- Triumphs or Fails, Ascends or Descends, Angelic or Demonic

Body

- Final Embodiment of All Elements and Forces
- The Throne of God or Satan

# Mark 5: A Demon-Possessed Man Healed

1 Then they came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gadarenes. 2 And when He had come out of the boat, immediately there met Him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, [...]

5 And always, night and day, he was in the mountains and in the tombs, crying out and cutting himself with stones.

6 When he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and worshiped Him. 7 And he cried out with a loud voice and said, “What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I implore You by God that You do not torment me.”

8 For He said to him, “Come out of the man, unclean spirit!” 9 Then He asked him, “What is your name?”

And he answered, saying, “My name is Legion; for we are many.”

11 Now a large herd of swine was feeding there near the mountains. 12 So all the demons begged Him, saying, “Send us to the swine, that we may enter them.” 13 And at once Jesus gave them permission. Then the unclean spirits went out and entered the swine (there were about two thousand); and the herd ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and drowned in the sea.

# Demon of Evil Will: Caiaphas

Caiaphas is the essence of loving one's self before everyone else. Pride, false righteousness, and indignation towards others.

Selling sacraments, sexual exploitations, excommunications, betrayal of sacred trusts...

Caiaphas has lost the ability to venerate the Lord, because he believes himself to be super transcendent, independent, and all powerful.



# Demon of the Mind: Pilate

Pilate justifies whatever Judas and Caiaphas have done.

Everyone thinks they are a good person. Everyone thinks their daily behavior is justified. Yet the world is full of suffering.

Pilate always washes his hands of any responsibility.



# Demon of Desire: Judas Iscariot

Judas will seek out pleasure even at the cost of selling the Lord for 30 coins of silver.

Our inner “Judas” enjoys material things, money, liquors, luxury, animal pleasures, etc.

“Judas” is a miserable sinner, always seeking to replace the Lord with useless and empty things.

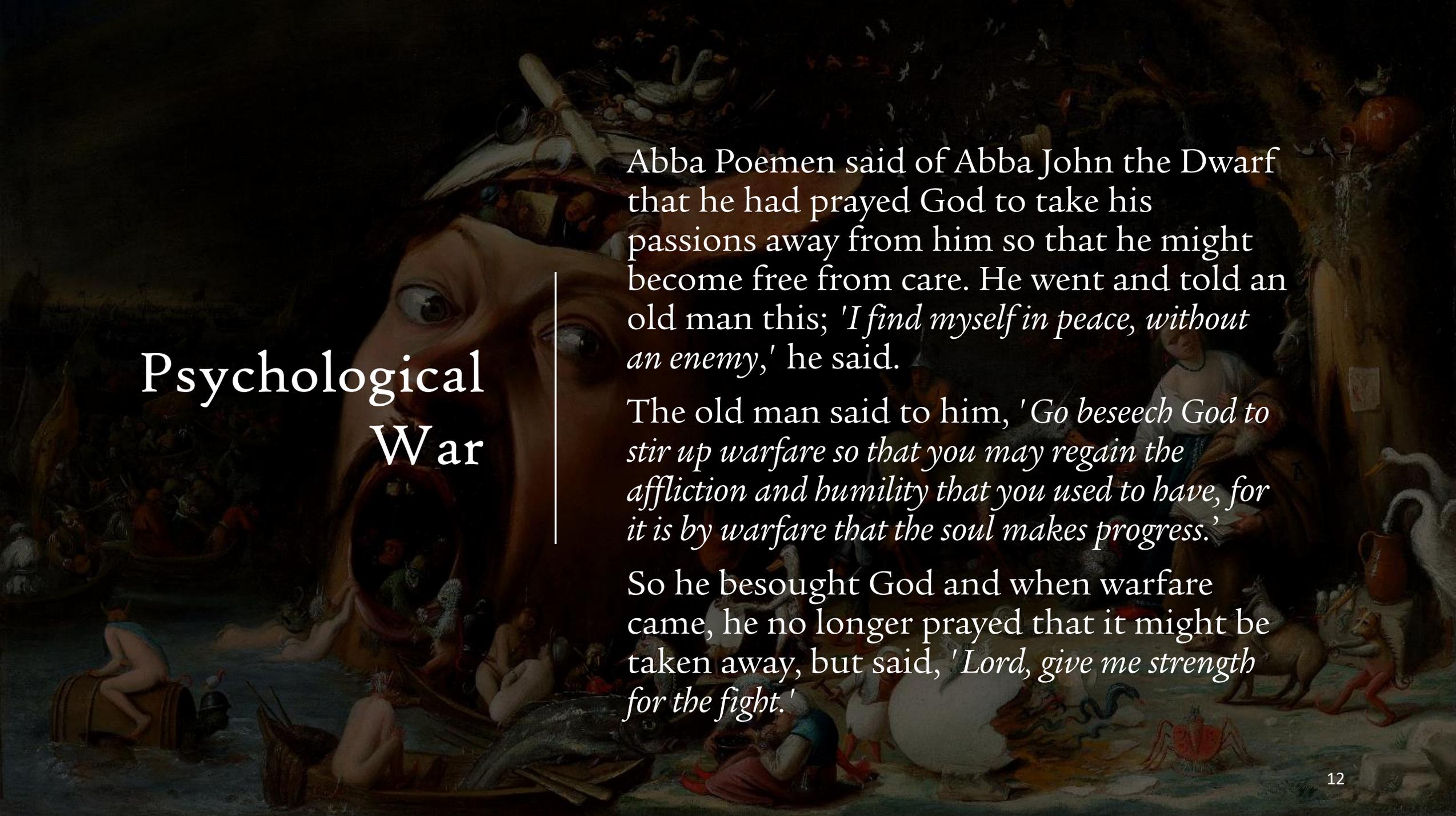


# Christian Meditation

If the soul is vigilant and withdraws from all distraction and abandons its own will, then the spirit of God invades it and it can conceive because it is free to do so.

Abba Cronius, Christian Desert Father





# Psychological War

Abba Poemen said of Abba John the Dwarf that he had prayed God to take his passions away from him so that he might become free from care. He went and told an old man this; *'I find myself in peace, without an enemy,'* he said.

The old man said to him, *'Go beseech God to stir up warfare so that you may regain the affliction and humility that you used to have, for it is by warfare that the soul makes progress.'*

So he besought God and when warfare came, he no longer prayed that it might be taken away, but said, *'Lord, give me strength for the fight.'*

# Qualities for Psychological Work

1. Vigilance: to be present and watchful.
2. Honesty: to add no fantasy to your experience. Be factual.
3. Humility: to not be something other than what you are.
4. Discernment: in meditation, seeking truth from lies.
5. Diligence: lifelong continuity of practice.
6. Perseverance: to not give up despite failures and mistakes.
7. Persistence: to not rest upon yesterday's triumph.

# Imitation of Christ: On Self Examination and the Purpose of Amendment

CHRIST. It is fitting that a priest be endowed above all else with humility of heart and profound reverence, and that when he celebrates, handles or receives this Sacrament, he does so with firm faith and with the sacred purpose of giving glory to God. Therefore carefully examine your conscience to the best of your ability, cleansing and purifying it by true contrition and humble confession. Thus will you retain no grave matter on it that may keep you from approaching the Sacrament. Grieve for your sins in general, and for your besetting sins in particular. And, if time allow, confess to God from the depths of your heart all the misery of your passions. (Ps.32:5)

# Imitation of Christ: On Self Examination and the Purpose of Amendment

Grieve that you are still so carnal and worldly; so undisciplined in your passions, and so full of bodily cravings ; so unguarded in your outward sense ; so often engrossed in vain fancies; so absorbed in worldly affairs and so indifferent to spiritual; so easily moved to laughter and levity, so disinclined to sorrow and penitence ; so eager for ease and self indulgence, so averse to zeal and self-discipline; so anxious to hear news and see fine sights, so reluctant to accept humble and simple things ; so greedy for great possessions, so miserly in giving, so tenacious in keeping ; so intemperate in speech, so unwilling to keep silence ; so disorderly in manners, so impetuous in action ; so greedy for food, so deaf to the Word of God ; so quick to rest, so slow to work ; so wide-awake to listen to idle tales, so sleepy at holy vigils ; so hurried in your devotions, so wandering in attention; so careless in reciting the Hours, so lukewarm at the Eucharist, so lacking in devotion at Communion; so easily distracted; so suddenly roused to anger, so quick to take offence; so ready to judge, so severe in reproof; so cheerful in prosperity, so weak in adversity; so frequently proposing many good deeds, and so seldom doing them.

# Imitation of Christ: On Self Examination and the Purpose of Amendment

When you have confessed and grieved over these and your other faults with deep sorrow and contrition at your own weakness, make a firm resolve to amend your life and to advance in holiness. Then surrender yourself and your will entirely to Me, and offer yourself on the altar of your heart as a perpetual sacrifice to the honour of My Name. Faithfully commit yourself to Me, body and soul, that you may worthily approach and offer this Sacrifice to God, and receive the Sacrament of My Body to the health of your soul.

There is no more worthy offering nor fuller satisfaction for the cleansing of sins than to offer one's self wholly and purely to God, together with the offering of the Body of Christ in the Eucharist and in Communion. When a man is truly penitent and does his best, then whenever he comes to Me for pardon and grace, I will remember his sins no more, but will forgive them all. `I live,' says the Lord, `and do not desire the death of a sinner, but rather that he be converted and live.(Ez.18:22; Isa.43:25; Heb.10:17)

# כפר נחום, Capernaum

Expiate (כפר kaphar) thy people Israel, whom Thou hast saved, O יהוה, and let not innocent blood suffer in the midst of Thy people Israel; and let the blood atoned (כפר kaphar) them.

– Deuteronomy 21:8

# Passover

God said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt: “This month shall be the head month to you. It shall be the first month of the year. Speak to the entire community of Israel, saying: On the tenth of this month, every man must take a lamb [a symbol of Christ] for each extended family, a lamb for each household [of man and woman]. [...] The entire community of Israel shall then slaughter [their sacrifices] in the afternoon.

They must take the blood and place it on the two doorposts and on the beam above the door of the houses in which they will eat [the sacrifice].

Eat the [sacrificial] meat during the night, roasted over fire. Eat it with matzah [unleavened bread] and bitter herbs.

Do not eat it raw or cooked in water, but only roasted over fire [Shin: Christ], including its head, its legs, and its internal organs.

Do not leave any of it over until morning. Anything that is left over until morning must be burned in fire. You must eat it with your waist belted [in chastity], your [marriage] shoes on your feet, and your staff [spine: willpower] in your hand, and you must eat it in haste. It is the Passover (Pesach) offering to God. – Exodus 12

# Passover

They must take the blood and place it on the two doorposts and on the beam above the door of the houses in which they will eat [the sacrifice]. - Exodus 12:22

- $\text{ת} = \text{ד} + \text{נ}$
- Tav = Daleth + Nun
- Seal = Door + Fish
- The Nun is the “fish” (sexual energy) that ascends the Vav “doorposts” (spinal column) in order to achieve the Seal (Tav) and Judgment (Dan)
- $\text{דן}$  – Dan “Judgment”, Book of Daniel

