

Forsaken Truths ...



... not heard in Mega Churches!

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Introduction

Saints who have been around for years may remember a time when Christians had a completely different vocabulary than what is heard in churches today, once we used to use words like: hell, holiness, the blood of Jesus, sin, repentance, worldliness, sanctification, the fruit of the Spirit, Satan, demons, dying to self, being crucified with Christ, and so forth. More important than the missing jargon is the absence of the principles those words represent, revealing how shallow and self-centered the popular easy belief-ism messages are today. Paul said we preach Christ and him crucified, which is a message of total surrender to do the will of God. Mega pastors will not call sin to repentance, teach being crucified with Christ, or warn of eternal judgment and hell because that would empty the seats. This book covers some of the essential teachings that have been forsaken, forgotten, or forbidden in many modern churches.

The first section is a teaching about the **Fear of God**, which is the beginning or starting point for believers. Without the fear of God, there is no repentance, no salvation, no separation from sin, and no holiness or presence of God. The second section is about the **Judgment of God**, which may make us feel uncomfortable but will give us a vision of living for eternity in this life, knowing that we will stand before God to give an account. The third section is about the **Resurrection of the Dead** being the backbone of the faith by which we stand. Because Jesus lives, we shall live forever, and his victory on the cross is our eternal salvation. Everyone will be resurrected, either to life or condemnation, forever. The last section is about the **End Times Prophecies** and the second coming of Christ. When we understand what the Bible says will happen in the end times, we can recognize how the stage is getting set up with prophecies fulfilled before our eyes that signal the return of Christ. Our blessed hope is that Jesus takes us in rapture before the wrath of God judges the earth during the coming tribulation and second coming of Christ.

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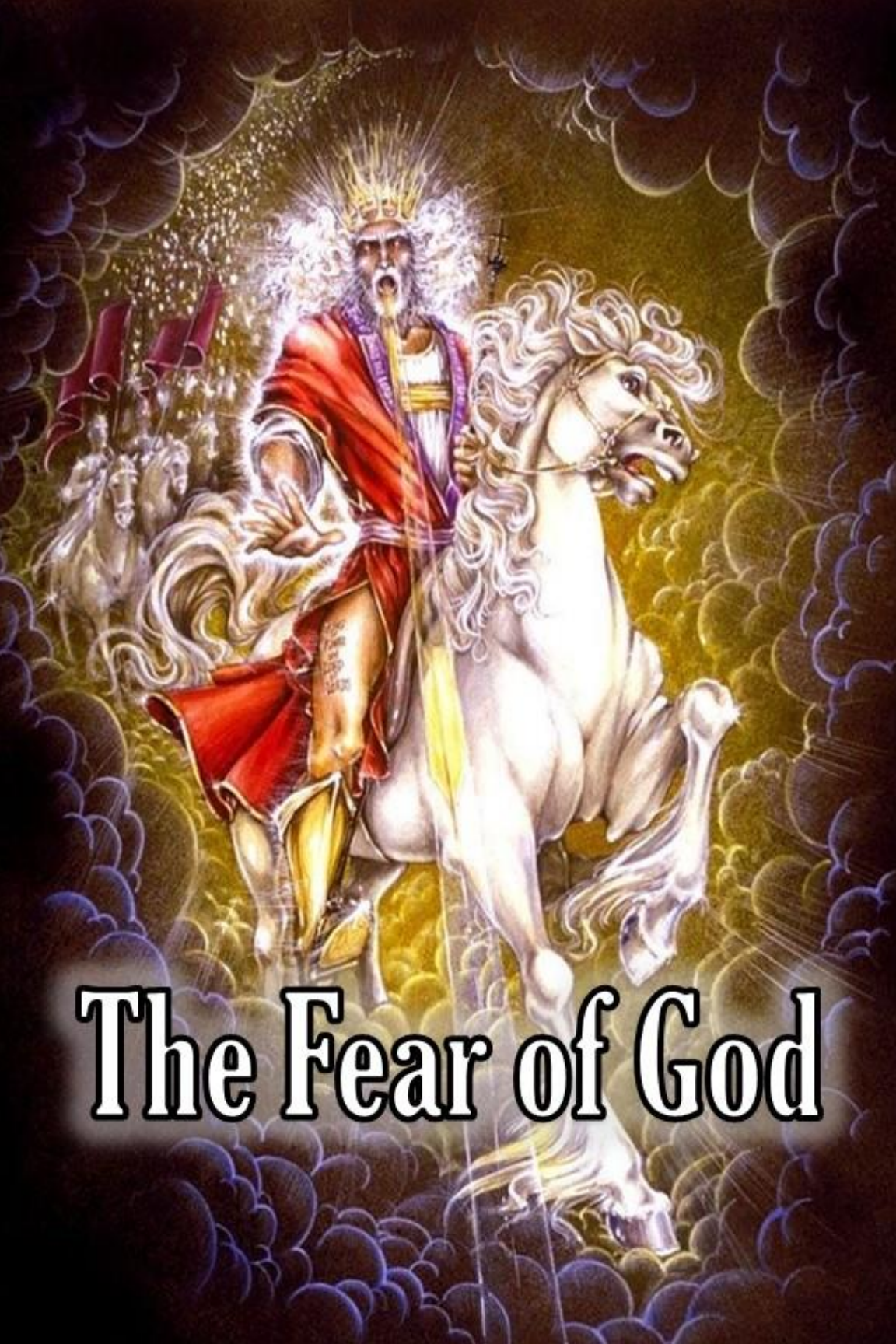
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Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it,

Matthew 7:13-14



The Fear of God

The Fear of God

This is the Beginning

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom and is also the beginning point on our journey to know God. Almighty God is supremely Holy and will not tolerate sin. He desires to have fellowship with us, but our sin separates us from him. The more we understand the distance between his holiness and our sinfulness, the more we will grow in our fear of the Lord.

Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.

Psalm 8:3-4 When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained, what is man that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit him?

The fear of God has existed in eternity past, in the present, and in eternity future. During a time in the future called the great tribulation, an angel will preach the everlasting gospel to everyone on earth, and his eternal message is, "Fear God!"

Revelation 14:6-7 Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people saying with a loud voice, "Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."

Adam

In the garden of Eden, Adam and Eve had one simple rule: Don't eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. When they disobeyed and ate the fruit of the tree, they realized they were naked and hid from God in fear.

Whenever our sins are exposed, we are afraid of judgment and react one of two ways; either by repentance and submission to God or by attempting to escape or make excuses.

Genesis 3:6-10 ... *She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings. And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, "Where are you?" So, he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself."*

Isaiah

Isaiah had his moment of truth in the presence of God. He was a fiery prophet who prophesied and pronounced judgment against the nations. But when he had a vision and saw God exalted and sitting on his throne, he realized his unworthiness and became afraid.

Isaiah 6:5 *So I said: "Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, The LORD of hosts."*

Hebrews 10:30-31 ... *The Lord shall judge his people. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.*

When someone enters the presence of God, the natural reaction is to be overwhelmed with fear. As we draw closer to God, we will become more aware of His holiness and our unworthiness. This fear purifies us and motivates us to separate from sin and anything unclean or defiling.

Psalms 19:9 *The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever*

2 Corinthians 7:1 Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, **perfecting holiness in the fear of God.**

2 Corinthians 7:10-11 For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death. For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, what clearing of yourselves, yea, what indignation, yea, what fear, yea, what vehement desire, yea, what zeal, yea, what revenge! **In all things ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter.**

Proverbs 3:7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: **fear the LORD, and depart from evil.**

Proverbs 16:6 By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by **the fear of the LORD men depart from evil.**

Noah

When God told Noah to build a boat, it had never rained before. The ark was a massive project, and he did not have a Home Depot or electric tools. They had to cut down the trees, move them by hand, cut them into boards, construct and waterproof the ark with primitive hand tools. It's hard to imagine how hard Noah worked year after year, but he knew a flood was coming. His fear of God motivated him to get ready for it.

Hebrews 11:7 By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, **moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.**

When God gives prophetic warnings of events or coming judgment, the fear of God should motivate his people to take action. Bible prophecy tells us that Jesus will return, and he will snatch the church up to meet him in the air. But someone might say that has never

happened before. That's true, but it will happen, and we need to move with fear to be ready!

2 Peter 3:10-12 *But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?*

Philippians 2:12 *Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.*

Job

Job is known for his patience and endurance in a time of severe testing. But how did his afflictions begin? In a rare glimpse of a conversation between God and Satan, we see that Job was the topic. God was boasting about how Job feared God and was blameless, upright, and avoided evil.

Satan questioned the sincerity of Job because he had great wealth, a great family, and was blessed. So, God permitted Satan to put him through an onslaught of painful events. God will test our sincerity by allowing circumstances that reveal our true character, whether we fear God or not. You know a Christian not by how they act but by how they react.

Job 1:7-11 *And the LORD said to Satan, "From where do you come?" So, Satan answered the LORD and said, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it." Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a*

blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?" So, Satan answered the LORD and said, "Does Job fear God for nothing? "Have You not made a hedge around him, around his household, and around all that he has on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. "But now, stretch out Your hand and touch all that he has, and he will surely curse You to Your face!"

Job had lost everything, but he still maintained his integrity, so he passed the first series of tests. And again, God boasted to Satan about how Job kept his integrity. Then Satan replied to God that Job would curse God if he suffered pain in his body. Then God permitted Satan to attack Job physically by putting running sores all over his body.

***Job 2:3** Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil? And still he holds fast to his integrity, although you incited Me against him, to destroy him without cause." So Satan answered the LORD and said, "Skin for skin! Yes, all that a man has he will give for his life. "But stretch out Your hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will surely curse You to Your face!"*

These tests stripped Job of his wealth and his children and left him with excruciating pain in his body. Yet he would not curse God, or compromise his integrity, or lose his fear of God. Job endured and passed every test. In the end, Job had a better understanding of God and greater wisdom. God also restored his health and blessed him with double the number of children and the wealth he previously had.

***Job 23:8** "Look, I go forward, but He is not there, and backward, but I cannot perceive Him; 9 When He works on the left hand, I cannot behold Him; When He turns to the right hand, I cannot see Him. 10 But He knows the way that I take; When He has tested me, I shall come forth as gold.*

The apostle Peter was familiar with being tested by fire, and he also could testify that suffering refines us and produces a genuine faith that is more precious than gold.

1 Peter 1:6-7 *In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that your faith of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.*

Job compared searching for wisdom with searching for gold or jewels. Men will dig deep into the heart of the earth, building mine shafts and sifting through tons of dirt to find something precious. Those who mine for wisdom are solitary and hidden from the view of other humans, animals, and birds. Their work and experiences are in secret places, known only to themselves and the Lord.

Proverbs 25:2 *It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, But the glory of kings is to search out a matter.*

Psalms 25:14 *The secret of the LORD is with those who fear Him, And He will show them His covenant.*

From the bottom of a mine, Job comes to the surface to reveal the precious jewels that he discovered. What was the discovery? He found that the fear of the Lord is wisdom!

Job 28:1-28 *"There is a mine for silver and a place where gold is refined. Iron is taken from the earth, and copper is smelted from ore. Man puts an end to the darkness; he searches the farthest recesses for ore in the blackest darkness. Far from where people dwell he cuts a shaft, in places forgotten by the foot of man; far from men he dangles and sways. The earth, from which food comes, is transformed below as by fire; sapphires come from its rocks, and its dust contains nuggets of gold. No bird of prey knows that hidden path, no falcon's*

*eye has seen it. Proud beasts do not set foot on it, and no lion prowls there. Man's hand assaults the flinty rock and lays bare the roots of the mountains. He tunnels through the rock; his eyes see all its treasures. He searches the sources of the rivers and brings hidden things to light. **"But where can wisdom be found? Where does understanding dwell? Man does not comprehend its worth; it cannot be found in the land of the living. The deep says, 'It is not in me'; the sea says, 'It is not with me.' It cannot be bought with the finest gold, nor can its price be weighed in silver. It cannot be bought with the gold of Ophir, with precious onyx or sapphires. Neither gold nor crystal can compare with it, nor can it be had for jewels of gold. Coral and jasper are not worthy of mention; the price of wisdom is beyond rubies. The topaz of Cush cannot compare with it; it cannot be bought with pure gold. **"Where then does wisdom come from? Where does understanding dwell? It is hidden from the eyes of every living thing, concealed even from the birds of the air. Destruction and Death say, 'Only a rumor of it has reached our ears.' God understands the way to it and he alone knows where it dwells, for he views the ends of the earth and sees everything under the heavens. When he established the force of the wind and measured out the waters when he made a decree for the rain and a path for the thunderstorm, then he looked at wisdom and appraised it; he confirmed it and tested it. And he said to man, 'The fear of the Lord that is wisdom, and to shun evil is understanding.'"*****

Solomon said we should search for wisdom the same way people search for hidden treasures. In other words, we should be highly motivated, enthusiastic, creative, and work hard to gain godly wisdom.

Proverbs 2:1-5 My son, if you receive my words, and treasure my commands within you, so that you incline your ear to wisdom, and apply your heart to understanding; Yes, if you cry out for discernment, and lift up your voice for understanding, if you seek her as silver, and search for her

as for hidden treasures; Then you will understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God.

Isaiah 33:6 Wisdom and knowledge will be the stability of your times, And the strength of salvation; The fear of the LORD is His treasure.

In 1848, a miner struck gold in California and started a gold rush. By the year 1849, over 300,000 people from all over the world traveled there with dreams of riches. These 49'ers were willing to forsake their home, family, friends and relocate thousands of miles away. They worked tirelessly for hours without end, day after day, enduring primitive living conditions with privations, and many lost everything. If people do this for material riches that won't last, how much more should we sacrifice for heavenly treasures that last forever?

If we were paid ten thousand dollars per hour to read the Bible and pray, would that suddenly change how much time we spend in Bible reading and prayer? What are we willing to do to find God's hidden treasures? If we find that treasure, we will find the fear of the Lord and wisdom.

Matthew 13:44 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

1 Corinthians 2:6-7 ¶ However, we speak wisdom among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory,

Proverbs 22:4 ¶ By humility and the fear of the LORD Are riches and honor and life.

Proverbs 15:16 ¶ Better is a little with the fear of the LORD, Than great treasure with trouble.

Abraham

When Abraham was seventy-five years old, God promised him a child. Abraham waited twenty-five years for the son to be born, and he raised him for about twenty years. Then, after forty-five years of placing all his hopes and dreams on this son, God asked Abraham to give him as a human sacrifice on the altar. The elderly Abraham immediately obeyed, but God stopped him as he raised the knife above his son. He had unquestioning obedience because he believed God would raise his son from the dead. Abraham walked with God for 45 years, yet it took the most extreme test of obedience to prove that he feared God.

*Genesis 22:10-13 And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. But the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" so he said, "Here I am." And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; **for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me.**" Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So, Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son.*

*Hebrews 11:17-19 By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, of whom it was said, "In Isaac your seed shall be called," **concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense.***

Moses

When Moses led the children of Israel out of Egypt, he brought them to Mount Sinai, where he received the ten commandments. God came down on the mountain in thick clouds, thunders, and a loud trumpet. The sight was so terrifying that the people begged not to speak to God and asked Moses to talk to him. Moses himself was terrified. God was testing them so that the fear of God would keep them from sinning.

Exodus 19:16 Then it came to pass on the third day, in the morning, that there were thundering's and lightnings, and a thick cloud on the mountain; and the sound of the trumpet was very loud, so that **all the people who were in the camp trembled.**

Exodus 20:18-20 Now all the people witnessed the thundering's, the lightning flashes, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking; and **when the people saw it, they trembled and stood afar off.** Then they said to Moses, "**You speak with us, and we will hear; but let not God speak with us, lest we die.**" And Moses said to the people, "**Do not fear; for God has come to test you, and that His fear may be before you, so that you may not sin.**

Moses had his Mount Sinai shaking experience, but when Jesus returns, the heavens and the earth will shake. We are approaching a time that Jesus said would be the most terrifying in all human history, so what kind of people should we be?

Hebrews 12:21-29 And so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "**I am exceedingly afraid and trembling.**" But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels... **For if they did not escape who refused Him who spoke on earth, much more shall we not escape if we turn away from Him who speaks from heaven, whose voice then shook the earth; but now He has promised, saying, "Yet once more I shake not only the earth, but also heaven."** Now this, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of those things that are being shaken, as of things that are made, that the things which cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, **let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. For our God is a consuming fire.**

David

From the moment David was anointed to be the next king of Israel, his life changed. First, he defeated Goliath, and then king Saul became insanely jealous and repeatedly tried to kill him. Finally, David decided that he would be safer living with his enemies than living in Israel while Saul relentlessly hunted him down to kill him. So, David went to the Philistine city of Gath and asked king Achish for refuge. That move was either unbelievably brave or extremely crazy because Gath was Goliath's hometown (1 Sam 17:4, 23).

So, while David was asking for refuge from the Philistine king, the Philistine army officers reminded the king that David had killed Goliath and that Israel sang songs about how David had killed tens of thousands of the Philistines. The situation was unbelievably stressful and perplexing, and he had to do something.

So here was David's wise master plan for the situation, pretend to be insane! And by God's favor, it worked! The king allowed him to live there (1 Sam 21:10-15). It seems like David was dumb like a fox, again. After that incident, David wrote the following song.

Psalm 34:1-11** I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make its boast in the LORD; The humble shall hear of it and be glad. Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt His name together. I sought the LORD, and **He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.** They looked to Him and were radiant, and their faces were not ashamed. This poor man cried out, and the LORD heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles. **The angel of the LORD encamps all around those who fear Him, and delivers them.** Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good; **Blessed is the man who trusts in Him! Oh, fear the LORD, you, His saints! There is no want to those who fear Him.** The young lions lack and suffer hunger, but those who seek the LORD shall not lack any good thing. **Come, you children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

Because David feared the Lord, the angel of the Lord protected him. David wanted to share what he learned from this experience with others, saying, “I will teach you the fear of the Lord.” Experience gives wisdom, and wisdom teaches the fear of the Lord.

Eventually, Saul died then David became king. Once David was established in his kingdom, he decided to bring the ark of the covenant to Jerusalem. David made this a big celebration, with huge crowds. It was a joyful procession with music and dancing. But suddenly disaster struck, Uzza put his hand on the ark and fell dead. Immediately the music stopped, the crowd went home, and they moved the ark to a different location.

*1 Chronicles 13:8-12 Then David and all Israel played music before God with all their might, with singing, on harps, on stringed instruments, on tambourines, on cymbals, and with trumpets. And when they came to Chidon's threshing floor, Uzza put out his hand to hold the ark, for the oxen stumbled. Then the anger of the LORD was aroused against Uzza, and He struck him because he put his hand to the ark; and he died there before God ... **David was afraid of God that day**, saying, "How can I bring the ark of God to me?"*

Only Levites from the priestly tribe were allowed to move the ark, and they were supposed to carry it on their shoulders. Uzza was not a priest, and the ox cart idea came from the Philistines. They were doing the right thing with good intentions but in the wrong way.

We may think that because we are busy with all kinds of church activities, surrounded by a crowd of sincere people, that we are serving God. We can be doing our own thing (even good things with good intentions), but by doing it outside the boundaries of the will of God and the word of God, we may bring judgment against ourselves. It is frightening to think that when we stand before Jesus for judgment, expecting a great reward, that we could be shocked to hear Him say, “Depart from me, I never knew you.”

Matthew 7:21-23 ¶ "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. "Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'"

King David had become complacent towards the Law, and this incident with Uzzah shocked him into reality. The fear of God came upon David, so he organized the priesthood and the order of worship for the Temple in compliance with the Law given by Moses. David's instructions became the standard that Israel followed for hundreds of years. David wrote the following songs to be used to worship God.

Psalm 2:11 Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.

Psalm 5:7-8 But as for me, I will come into Your house in the multitude of Your mercy; In fear of You I will worship toward Your holy temple. Lead me, O LORD, in Your righteousness because of my enemies; Make Your way straight before my face.

Psalm 96:8-9 Give to the LORD the glory due His name; Bring an offering, and come into His courts. Oh, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness! Tremble before Him, all the earth.

David had another experience that put the fear of God in his heart. He took a census of the military-age men, which greatly displeased God. As a result, the Lord sent a plague that killed seventy thousand people. When David and the elders saw the angel of the Lord standing over Jerusalem with a drawn sword in his hand, they immediately fell on their faces.

1 Chronicles 21:16 Then David lifted his eyes and saw the angel of the LORD standing between earth and heaven,

having in his hand a drawn sword stretched out over Jerusalem. So, David and the elders, clothed in sackcloth, fell on their faces.

After David escaped the Philistines, he declared that the Angel of the Lord protects those who fear him. When David sinned, he was in fear of the Angel's drawn sword. The sword has two edges, one for our enemies and one for us. There is no partiality, no favoritism, no exemptions with God, even if you are king David.

Hebrews 4:12-13 For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.

Solomon -What Wisdom?

The premise for this whole study comes from Solomon's proverb stating that the Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. We must be careful to identify which type of wisdom we are referring to, there is God's wisdom, and there is ungodly, worldly, and demonic wisdom. God's wisdom is considered foolish by the ungodly people of the world.

Proverbs 9:10 "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

*1 Corinthians 1:20-25 Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this age? **Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. For Jews request a sign, and **Greeks seek after wisdom**; but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, **Christ the*****

power of God and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

Not all wisdom comes from God. You have heard of being "street smart," meaning sly, shifty, clever, and deceptive. The devil's wisdom is motivated by evil and is proud, worldly-minded, sensual, or demonic.

*James 3:13-17 Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth. **This wisdom does not descend from above but is earthly, sensual, demonic.** For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there. **But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.***

God gave Solomon wisdom, but he lost sight of God. He disintegrated into worldly wisdom, which became sensual and ended in the demonic realm. If the world's wisest man could fall into this trap, how easy would it be to deceive ourselves, and how careful should we be?

*1 Kings 11:1-9 King Solomon, however, loved many foreign ... **He had seven hundred wives of royal birth and three hundred concubines, and his wives led him astray. As Solomon grew old, his wives turned his heart after other gods, and his heart was not fully devoted to the LORD his God, as the heart of David his father had been. He followed Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, and Molech the detestable god of the Ammonites. so, Solomon did evil in the eyes of the LORD; he did not follow the LORD completely, as David his father had done. On a hill east of Jerusalem, Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the detestable god of Moab, and for Molech the detestable god of the***

Ammonites. He did the same for all his foreign wives, who burned incense and offered sacrifices to their gods. The LORD became angry with Solomon because his heart had turned away from the LORD, the God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice.

Spiritual Adultery

Before we look at Solomon's sayings, let's establish that adultery can happen on multiple levels. There is literal adultery, sneaking in the back door after the spouse has gone to work. There is adultery in the heart, looking on a woman or man with lust (Matthew 5:27-28).

Then, there is spiritual adultery when we give things that should belong only to God to anyone or anything else. The first commandment is to love God with all your heart, mind, soul, and strength. So, if we love or put anything above God, we are spiritual adulterers.

James 4:4 Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

Spiritual adultery plays into end-time prophecy (the times we live in) because there will be a great falling away from the faith. The backslidden church is called the woman or the mother of harlots in the book of Revelation. We need wisdom and discernment to stay away from that church.

Revelation 17:3-6 ...The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication. And on her forehead, a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

The apostle Paul feared that Satan would deceive the church and cause it to be unfaithful to Christ. He warned them not to be seduced, to follow a different Jesus, a different gospel, or a different spirit. Our goal is to stay focused only on Jesus and not pay any attention to the serpent's voice.

***2 Corinthians 11:2-4** For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. **But I FEAR, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.** For if he who comes preaches **another Jesus** whom we have not preached, or if you receive a **different spirit** which you have not received or a **different gospel** which you have not accepted you may well put up with it!*

***2 Timothy 2:22** Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.*

***2 Corinthians 7:1** Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.*

When we read Solomon's sayings about the adulteress, it can have dual meanings. He could be speaking of a literal adulteress or the spiritual harlot church and false religions. We will comment on the harlot church with correlating verses about the adulteress to show the parallel meanings.

The immoral woman flatters her victims. We hear the same message from prosperity preachers, self-help gurus, and hirelings in the harlot church. These churches preach that **YOU** can be a better **YOU** and how **YOU** can be healthy, wealthy, and blessed, and **YOU** sing about who **YOU** are in Christ. If you're in a church like that, run for your life. Christ should have preeminence in all things. Paul said we don't preach ourselves, but Christ and him crucified.

Proverbs 7:1-5 My son, keep my words ... That they may keep you from the immoral woman, **From the seductress who flatters with her words.**

The harlot will not stay home, is dressed to kill, and is hunting for souls. Like a wandering star, she has left her assigned position. She goes away from the word of God. She is being blown about and tossed here and there by every wind and wave of strange teachings. The harlot church departs the true gospel that Jesus and the apostles had once for all delivered to the saints.

Proverbs 7:6-11 For at the window of my house I looked through my lattice, and saw among the simple, I perceived among the youths, A young man devoid of understanding, ... And there a woman met him, **With the attire of a harlot, and a crafty heart. She was loud and rebellious; her feet would not stay at home.**

Ironically this harlot boasts about her religious offerings while trying to seduce someone into a bed of immorality. She brings sensuality and entertainment into the church. Skinny jeans, big screens, fog machines, and rock concerts will fill the seats and build the new tower of Babel. The message is that her bed allows any expression of sexual preference or activities, with no shame and no accountability.

Proverbs 7:14-16 ... **"I have peace offerings with me; Today I have paid my vows. (Religious) I have spread my bed with tapestry, Colored coverings of Egyptian linen. (Rev 2:20-23 Jesus will cast her on a sickbed in the great tribulation)**

This woman says her husband is not home and is away on a long journey. Jesus described his return at the second coming in the same way. Jesus gave his servants responsibilities and expected them to work and watch. The harlot church mocks the return of Christ, is doing business as usual, is having fun, and could care less about Jesus' return.

Proverbs 7:19-20 ... For my husband is not at home; He has gone on a long journey; He has taken a bag of money with him, and will come home on the appointed day."

Mark 13:33-35 "(Jesus) Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is. "It is like a man going to a far country, who left his house and gave authority to his servants, and to each his work, and commanded the doorkeeper to watch. "Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning

The immoral woman has cast many strong and great men down to hell. Solomon was very wise but got duped by crafty and cunning women. No one was stronger than Samson, but he got his eyes poked out by a woman. Both men and women need the fear of God to protect us from falling into the sensuality, seduction, and deceptions of the harlot in these last days.

Proverbs 7:25-27 Do not let your heart turn aside to her ways, do not stray into her paths; For she has cast down many wounded, and all who were slain by her were strong men. Her house is the way to hell, Descending to the chambers of death.

Revelation 17:6. I saw the woman (harlot church), drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement.

Jesus

The Holy Spirit descended on Jesus after he was water baptized and led him into the wilderness for forty days, and he returned from there in the power of the Spirit. Once the Holy Spirit anointed and empowered Jesus, he began his ministry and announced it by reading from Isaiah in the synagogue.

Luke 4:18-21 "The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD." Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

The Spirit & Fear

Jesus moved in the power of the Spirit by doing miracles, signs, wonders, and healings. We recognize the Holy Spirit by his divine attributes. Isaiah reveals that the Spirit of God is a Spirit of **wisdom**, understanding, and **the fear of the Lord**.

*Isaiah 11:2-3 The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him (Jesus), **The Spirit of wisdom and understanding**, The Spirit of counsel and might, **The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD. His delight is in the fear of the LORD**, And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, nor decide by the hearing of His ears;*

The Spirit of wisdom, knowledge, and counsel directed every step that Jesus took. Jesus walked in the anointing with the oil of gladness, and the fear of the Lord was his delight.

*Hebrews 1:8-9 But to the Son He says: "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your Kingdom. **You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of gladness more than Your companions.**"*

If we have a delight in fearing God, loving righteousness, and hating sin as Jesus did, we will experience the same godly joy in the face of any situation and the most extreme persecutions as he did.

Galatians 5:22-23 *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.*

Acts 5:41 *So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name.*

Jude 1:24 *Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,*

1 Peter 4:12-14 ¶ *Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy. If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.*

Although Jesus had the oil of joy, he was also called the man of sorrows. Persecution and the cross are inescapable realities. The advice that Jesus gave regarding the fear of God was straightforward, to the point, and universal in its application. If we live holy lives, we will suffer persecution.

Matthew 10:28 *Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell.*

1 Timothy 3:12 *In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,*

The Followers of Jesus

There were many times in Jesus' ministry when people were in fear as they realized that he was not a mere man but the very presence of

God. When Jesus demonstrated the power of God, people became overcome with fear. Let's follow some of those incidents.

After a great catch of fish

So, how do you impress a person who is a fisherman? Ask Peter, who was a fisherman by trade. One time Peter had fished all night but failed to catch a single fish. Jesus got into his boat and asked him to cast his net again. Peter was skeptical, but he did it. When they cast out the nets, they caught so many fish that the boat was about to sink (we need Jesus in our boats!). Peter realized that he was in the presence of God. The fear of God came upon him, and he became convicted of his sin and asked Jesus to go away.

*Luke 5:5-8 But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless, at Your word I will let down the net." And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. so, they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. **When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!"** For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "**Do not be afraid.** From now on you will catch men."*

After healing a cripple

Jesus was teaching, and a large crowd gathered around the house. Some men brought a lame man on a stretcher but could not enter the house because it was too crowded. So, they went on the roof, made an opening, and lowered the man in front of Jesus. Then Jesus looked at the religious leaders and spoke to the lame man, forgiving his sins.

Then he posed a question to the religious zealots. "Which is easier to say: 'your sins are forgiven' or 'arise and walk?' So, you know that I (the Son of Man) have the power to forgive sins, I say, rise and walk."

The lame man stood to his feet and walked, and the people were amazed and filled with fear. Just for the record, healing is easy for Jesus!

Luke 5:25-27** Immediately he rose up before them, took up what he had been lying on, and departed to his own house, glorifying God. **And they were all amazed, and they glorified God and were filled with fear, saying, "We have seen strange things today!"

After raising the dead

One day Jesus and his disciples were entering a city when a large funeral procession was approaching. The deceased was the only son of a widow, and Jesus felt compassion for her. When Jesus approached them, he touched the coffin and spoke, and the dead son came back to life. Then the fear of God came over everyone who was there.

Luke 7:14-16** Then He came and touched the open coffin, and those who carried him stood still. And He said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." So, he who was dead sat up and began to speak. And He presented him to his mother. **Then fear came upon all, and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen up among us"; and, "God has visited His people."

After calming a storm

Jesus and the Disciples got into a boat to cross the lake. A big storm came up that was so violent that the experienced commercial fishermen on board thought they would die. Meanwhile, Jesus was taking a nap, and his panicked disciples came and woke him, fearing for their lives. Jesus commanded the storm to be calm, and the storm ceased. When they saw his power over the storm, they realized (again) they were in the presence of God and became afraid.

Luke 8:25** But He said to them, "Where is your faith?" **And they were afraid, and marveled, saying to one another,

"Who can this be? For He commands even the winds and water, and they obey Him!"

After casting out demons,

When Jesus and the disciples landed on the shore, a demon possessed man encountered them. Jesus asked the demon his name, and the demons said their name is legion. A Roman legion is between 4,000 to 6,000 troops. The demons begged not to go to the pit of hell and asked to go into a herd of pigs. Jesus permitted the demons to enter the pigs, and the demons drove the pigs over a cliff to their death.

So, here are Jews herding possibly 4,000 pigs or more, which are unclean under Jewish law. Pig herding would be considered an abomination to any orthodox Jew. No wonder these Jews were afraid when they sensed the power and presence of God, and they begged Jesus to leave. Who knows, maybe the demons left the pigs and entered the people. After all, these people preferred the presence of demons over Jesus.

***Luke 8:37** Then the whole multitude of the country of the Gadarenes round about besought him to depart from them; for they were taken with great fear: and he went up into the ship, and returned back again.*

After healing a woman

Crowds surrounded Jesus, and one woman there suffered a blood loss (hemorrhage) for twelve years. She had tried every available medical treatment and only got worse. Jesus was her only, best, and last hope. She pressed through the crowd and touched his garment, and power from Jesus touched her. She was healed and became afraid because she knew she was in the presence of God.

***Mark 5:29-33** Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering. At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my*

*clothes?" "You see the people crowding against you," his disciples answered, "and yet you can ask, 'Who touched me?'" But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. **Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth.***

Pilate and his Wife

The Jews wanted the Romans to kill Jesus, so they brought Jesus into the Roman court system and demanded that they give him the death penalty. And although Pilate sat in judgment of Jesus, he seemed to be the one on trial when he questioned him. Pilate wanted no part in condemning Jesus to death and tried to wash his hands of him. Pilate felt something different about Jesus and feared.

Mark 15:4-5** So again Pilate asked him, "Aren't you going to answer? See how many things they are accusing you of." But Jesus still made no reply, and **Pilate was amazed, (marveled).

John 19:7-9** The Jews insisted, "We have a law, and according to that law he must die, because he claimed to be the Son of God." **When Pilate heard this, he was even more afraid, and he went back inside the palace. "Where do you come from?" he asked Jesus, but Jesus gave him no answer.

Pilates' wife had nightmares concerning Jesus, and she tried to warn him not to judge Jesus. She feared judgment for her husband's treatment of Jesus. Maybe they didn't realize it, but Pilate was judging the great judge of all mankind.

***Matthew 27:18-19** For he knew it was out of envy that they had handed Jesus over to him. While Pilate was sitting on the judge's seat, his wife sent him this message: "**Don't have anything to do with that innocent man, for I have suffered a great deal today in a dream because of him.**"*

Pilate's wife feared for good reason. Those involved in condemning Jesus met with untimely and horrible deaths. For example, Herod gave a speech and accepted praise from the crowd, claiming he was a god. His judgment was swift and painful.

Acts 12:21-23 So on a set day Herod, arrayed in royal apparel, sat on his throne and gave an oration to them. And the people kept shouting, "The voice of a god and not of a man!" Then immediately an angel of the Lord struck him because he did not give glory to God. And he was eaten by worms and died.

After Pentecost

The church was born on the day of Pentecost, with the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Multitudes were coming to Christ. They witnessed the Holy Spirit move powerfully with supernatural signs and wonders, and the fear of God came upon every one of them.

Acts 2:41-43 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

Correcting Sin in the Church

People were so committed to Christ that they were selling their houses and lands and donating the money to support the work of God. One married couple sold a house and brought the money but lied by saying they gave everything from the sale. The truth was they had kept some of the money for themselves. Let's put this story in today's setting. This married couple goes to church, and after the deacon prays to receive the offering, the couple stands up and wants to make an announcement. They take the microphone and testify; we have just sold a house and are giving all the money to the church. They hold up the check and say, here is \$250,000 for the work of the Lord, praise the Lord!

What do you think should happen if the Pastor knew they had received \$275,000 for the house? Should he ignore the lie and go along with their story? Should there be any consequences for lying to the church?

Money was not the issue for Peter (unlike modern preachers). Peter stood against lying, hypocrisy, and pride in the church. God would not allow sin to enter his church back then. What about today? Can Churches tolerate or even celebrate sin and still be called God's holy people?

Acts 5:4-11 "(Peter) While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? **You have not lied to men but to God.**" **Then Ananias, hearing these words, fell down and breathed his last ... Then Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out."** **Then immediately she fell down at his feet and breathed her last. And the young men came in and found her dead, and carrying her out, buried her by her husband.**

Hebrews 12:14 **Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:**

Psalms 93:5 **Your testimonies are very sure; Holiness adorns Your house, O LORD, forever.**

You would think after Ananias and Sapphira died in the church, people would have shouted, "Run for your life! They are dropping dead in that church!" No! It was very much the opposite. Great fear came on everybody who heard about it. Great signs and wonders followed the apostles, and multitudes joined the church!

Acts 5:10-14 **So great fear came upon all the church and upon all who heard these things. And through the hands of**

*the apostles, many signs and wonders were done among the people. And they were all with one accord in Solomon's Porch. Yet none of the rest dared join them, but the people esteemed them highly. **And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women ...***

Peace after Persecution

Saul was a zealous Pharisee, and he persecuted, imprisoned, and was responsible for having Christians killed. One day, as he was traveling to attack Christians, he met Jesus, and everything changed. Saul became a Christian, changed his name to Paul, and became a powerful preacher of Christ. Following Paul's conversion, the Christians enjoyed a time of peace, their faith grew strong, and the fear of the Lord was present in their lives.

***Acts 9:31** Then the churches throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were edified. And **walking in the fear of the Lord** and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they were multiplied.*

Salvation to the Gentiles

The Jews were very strict about not mingling with the gentiles (non-Jews) to prevent becoming defiled by heathen culture. But one day, Peter had a vision repeated three times not to call anything unclean that God had called clean. At the same time, in a different city, a gentile named Cornelius had an angel appear to him and told him to send for Peter to tell him what to do.

***Acts 10:1-6** Cornelius ... **a devout man and one who feared God** with all his household, ... he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God saying to him, send for Simon whose surname is Peter. ".... He will tell you what you must do."*

Peter began to preach at Cornelius's house, but in the middle of his message, everyone in the house received the Holy Spirit, spoke in tongues, and then got baptized. That convinced Peter (and all the

apostles) that God was offering the gentiles eternal life the same as the Jews.

Acts 10:34, 35 Then Peter opened his mouth and said: "**In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. "But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him.**

Acts 11:18 When they heard these things they became silent; and they glorified God, saying, "**Then God has also granted to the Gentiles repentance to life.**"

Paul and Felix

The Apostle Paul made all unbelievers uncomfortable with his uncompromising message, including judges, military leaders, and politicians. Paul was a formidable force in every aspect except his scarred, beaten, and deprived body and physical appearance. The Holy Spirit used the mental genius of Paul to debate Jewish law experts, with Greek philosophers, and in laying the foundation of faith for all churches of all ages. The Roman governor Felix was no match for Paul. When he questioned Paul, Felix was the one on the hot seat. Paul spoke to him about self-control, righteousness, and the coming judgment, which frightened Felix.

Acts 24:24-25 And after some days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, who was Jewish, he sent for Paul and heard him concerning the faith in Christ. Now as he reasoned about righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come, **Felix was afraid** and answered, "**Go away for now; when I have a convenient time, I will call for you.**"

John

Jesus had an inner circle of three disciples: Peter, James, and John. But John was the closest to Jesus, and he was called the disciple that Jesus loved. But when John saw the risen Christ in his glorified body, with power and glory, he was so overwhelmed with fear that he collapsed like a dead man. John was overwhelmed by the fear of God.

Revelation 1:14-17 His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire; His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters; He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength. And **when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead.** But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "**Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last.**"

If John, who was closest to Jesus, collapsed in fear at the sight of the resurrected Christ, how much more will sinners be terrified when they stand before him in judgment. Everyone who has ever lived will one day bow before Jesus and acknowledge that he is Lord.

Philippians 2:9-11 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that **at the name of Jesus every knee should bow**, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that **every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

1 Peter 4:17-18 For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God? Now "**If the righteous one is scarcely saved, where will the ungodly and the sinner appear?**"

The Key to Holiness

Holiness is a separation from sin, and the world's systems of doing things, so that we can be separated exclusively to the Lord and to be obedient to his will. The fear of God will make us depart from evil. It will produce holiness and self-control in every area of our life.

2 Corinthians 7:1 Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, **perfecting holiness in the fear of God.**

1 Thessalonians 5:21-23 Test all things; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil (all appearance of evil). **Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

1 Peter 3:10-12 Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?

We are on a lifelong journey of learning God's ways, his character while realizing our weaknesses and flaws. Anyone that sincerely wants to follow, serve, and love Jesus, will grow closer to him by the fear of the Lord or drift farther away from him for lack of it. Let us make every moment count by making the fear of God preeminent in our lives.

2 Corinthians 5:9-11 Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well-pleasing to Him. **For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are well known to God, and I also trust are well known in your consciences.**

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: **Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man's all. For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing, Whether good or evil.**



Judgment

Judgment

Introduction

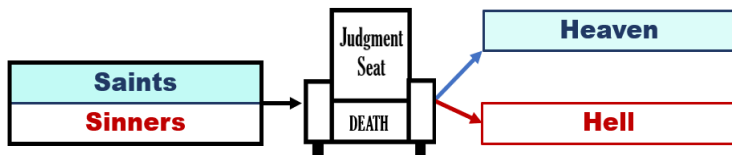
God's judgment is vast and surpasses human comprehension, but grasping the basics will impact our lives and transform our character to be more like Jesus as we walk with carefulness and purpose in the light of eternity.

Judgment Attitudes

First of all, the judgment of God is divinely orchestrated and beyond human comprehension, and should not be confused with being judgmental, which is human, flawed, and sinful. Usually, when we think about judgment, the idea of finger-pointing, condemnation, and guilt comes to mind. People who are self-righteous and judgmental have misrepresented God and how he judges. Having a "holier than thou" attitude that condemns others without mercy is not the right spirit. And on the other hand, to excuse sin is like ignoring a cancerous growth that can lead to death. We need to have the right balance in our understanding of God's judgment.

Usually, we don't associate love with judgment, but there is a strong correlation between the two. When a society judges a savage murderer as worthy of the death penalty, you can accuse them of acting in vengeance and wrath, or you could say they loved their community enough to protect their people from a dangerous monster. Similarly, God must judge every person, separating the righteous from the wicked, or there could be no heaven, which is also why he created a jail for sin called hell. That is why Jesus came, to separate his people from the wicked, and take his people to safety.

John 9:39 Then Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment [to separate those who believe in Me from those who reject Me to declare judgment on those who choose to be separated from God], so that the sightless would see, and those who see would become blind," (Amplified Bible).



Throughout the Bible, we see that God is a God of separation, infinitely Holy, separate from sin, and without equal. Beginning on the first day of creation, God separated the light from darkness, and on day two, he separated the firmament (heavens) from the waters (Gen 1:3-8). The first step we take to give our lives to God is to separate from the darkness and come into the light.

2 Corinthians 4:6 For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ

1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

God is the supreme judge, and judgment is part of his character, along with His holiness, righteousness, justice, wisdom, knowledge, and other attributes. Seemingly opposite aspects of God's character are a counterbalance of each other, goodness and severity, love and hate, forgiveness and judgment.

Deuteronomy 32:3-4 ... ascribe ye greatness unto our God. He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he.

Romans 11:22 Therefore consider the goodness and severity of God: on those who fell, severity; but toward you, goodness,

*if you continue in His **goodness**. Otherwise, you also will be cut off.*

God is love, and he is also absolutely holy and just and cannot tolerate sin. Therefore, judgment is a righteous consequence of his character. To abide with a holy God, we must be separate from sin, be honest, and discern the difference between right and wrong.

***Philippians 1:9-10** And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ.*

Borrowing from a few different translations (NIV, BBE, WNT) of that verse, we get a better picture of God's love and judgment.

*And this I pray, **that your love may abound**, increasing in clear knowledge, with keen perception for testing things that differ **with a depth of insight in judgment**, so that you may be men of transparent character and may be able to discern what is best and true.*

God is a father, and his holy character requires holiness (separation from sin) in his children. When we sin, his judgment will follow with a good spanking for his children. Unlike earthly fathers who discipline out of anger, God's corrective discipline is always because he loves us and for our good, leading us to repentance, restoration, and the formation of our character.

Hebrews 12:5-11** And you have forgotten that word of encouragement that addresses you as sons: "My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, because **the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes everyone he accepts as a son.**" Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father? **If you are not disciplined

*(and everyone undergoes discipline), then you are illegitimate children and not true sons. Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of our spirits and live! Our fathers disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but **God disciplines us for our good**, that we may share in his holiness. No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, **it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.***

Judging Ourselves

As those verses implied, if we refuse to obey him, we prove that we are not his children, and if we remain unrepentant, we judge ourselves unworthy of him, with eternal consequences. But we don't have to wait for the final judgment to deal with our sin. We can proactively judge ourselves and ask God to forgive us immediately after sinning.

Acts 13:46** Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold and said, "It was necessary that **the word of God should be spoken to you first; but since you reject it, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles.

***1 Corinthians 11:28-34** A man ought to **examine himself** before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and **drinks judgment on himself**. That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep (dead). **But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment. When we are judged by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we will not be condemned with the world...** So then, my brothers, when you come together to eat, wait for each other. If anyone is hungry, he should eat at home, so that when you meet together it **may not result in judgment.** And when I come, I will give further directions.*

1 John 1:7-9 But if we walk in the light (confessing our sins to God), as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Psalms 32:5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." And you forgave the guilt of my sin.

One of the core concepts of the Christian faith is that God will judge everyone, but he also offers forgiveness, which should produce reverence, respect, and the fear of God in our lives.

Hebrews 9:27 Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment,

Hebrews 6:1-2 Therefore let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death, and of faith in God, instruction about baptisms, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment.

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: **Fear God** and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. **For God will bring every deed into judgment**, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.

Judge of All

God is the judge of all in heaven and earth. God will judge Satan and all the fallen angels, as well as every human being. Unlike earthly

judges who can be corrupt, God is no respecter of persons, and all his judgments are righteous and justified.

Ps 19:9** The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever: **the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

Hebrews 12:23** To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are **written in heaven**, and to **God the Judge of all**, and to the **spirits of just men made perfect.

God the Father has given all judgment to God the Son, Jesus Christ. Because he never sinned, he conquered sin, death, and defeated the Devil, Jesus has all power and authority to judge all things in heaven and earth.

John 5:22-30** Moreover, **the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son ... And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man ... By myself I can do nothing; I judge only as I hear, and my judgment is just, for I seek not to please myself but him who sent me.

2 Timothy 4:** I charge you therefore before God and **the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom:

No one will have any excuses before Jesus. He went through every kind of situation and temptations but did not sin. He felt hunger and pain, and was acquainted with sorrow and grief, was betrayed and rejected, he was persecuted and beaten, mocked and spit on, was unjustly sentenced to death, he took 39 lashes with a barbed whip, and was left to bleed to death hanging on a cross. Yet, he never sinned. Yes, he is worthy to Judge.

***Hebrews 4:14-16** Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, **Jesus the Son of God**, let*

*us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one **who has been tempted in every way, just as we are yet was without sin.** Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.*

Judging Intentions & Motives

The Holy Spirit anointed Jesus to have spiritual discernment and insight, not being guided by outward appearances and what he saw and heard, but he judged righteously in the Spirit.

***Isaiah 11:1-4** And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And **the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him**, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; **And shall make him of quick understanding** in the fear of the LORD: and **he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: But with righteousness shall he judge the poor**, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.*

We just read that Jesus was quick of understanding, or an alternate translation would be quick of smell or discernment. We can understand how to discern things spiritually with the following example: when you wake up in the morning, you smell a strong aroma of coffee coming from the kitchen, but how do you know it was coffee? Do you have to go to the other side of the house, go into the kitchen and look inside the coffee pot to prove that coffee was making that smell? No, you discerned the smell of coffee and recognized it immediately without seeing it, even from the other side of the house. In the same way, Jesus was quick to discern different spirits, motives, sins, and other factors that were not seen or heard outwardly.

Matthew 9:2-4 *Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you." And at once some of the scribes said within themselves, "This Man blasphemes!" But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts?"*

Luke 16:15 *He said to them, "You are the ones who justify yourselves in the eyes of men, but God knows your hearts. What is highly valued among men is detestable in God's sight.*

Luke 6:6-8 *... The Pharisees and the teachers of the law were looking for a reason to accuse Jesus, so they watched him closely to see if he would heal on the Sabbath. But Jesus knew what they were thinking and said to the man with the shriveled hand, "Get up and stand in front of everyone." So, he got up and stood there.*

Judging Others

Jesus is our example, and he taught us about righteous judgment. The first thing we notice is that Jesus discouraged us from judging and condemning others. If we are judgmental of others, our criticisms will be reversed and turned against us as our judge, exposing our hypocrisy.

John 7:24 *Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment.*

John 8:15-16 *You judge by human standards; I pass judgment on no one. But if I do judge, my decisions are right, because I am not alone. I stand with the Father, who sent me.*

Matthew 7:1-2 *"Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.*

Luke 6:36-37 *Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. "Do not judge, and you will not be judged. **Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned.** Forgive, and you will be forgiven.*

Roman 2:1-3 *You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point you judge the other, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things. Now we know that God's judgment against those who do such things is based on truth. So, when you, a mere man, pass judgment on them and yet do the same things, do you think you will escape God's judgment?*

If we do not want to be judged by God and want God to show mercy to us, we need to show mercy to others. If we refuse to show mercy to others, we can forget about receiving mercy from God for ourselves (Matt 18:22-35).

Jonah 2:7-8 *When my soul fainted within me, I remembered the LORD: and my prayer came in unto thee, into thine holy temple. They that observe lying vanities **forsake their own mercy.***

Micah 6:8 *He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? **To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.***

James 2:12-13 *So speak and so do as those who will be judged by the law of liberty. **For judgment is without mercy to the one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.***

Judged by Exposing Sin

From the beginning with Adam and Eve, people have tried to hide their sins from God. We can't hide sin from God, and he has many

ways to expose our sins and bring them out into the open. Hiding sin is a sin, and God will not tolerate it.

John 3:9, 20-21 This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God."

1 Corinthians 14:24-25 But if an unbeliever or someone who does not understand comes in while everybody is prophesying, he will be convinced by all that he is a sinner and will be judged by all, and the secrets of his heart will be laid bare. So, he will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, "God is really among you!"

Acts 5:3-5 Then Peter said, "Ananias (a church member), how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land? Didn't it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn't the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? **You have not lied to men but to God.**" When Ananias heard this, he fell down and died. And great fear seized all who heard what had happened.

Joshua 7:11-21 (God speaking to Joshua) Israel has sinned; they have violated my covenant, which I commanded them to keep. They have taken some of the devoted things; they have stolen, they have lied, they have put them with their own possessions ... Then Joshua said to Achan, "**My son, give glory to the LORD, the God of Israel, and give him the praise. Tell me what you have done; do not hide it from me...**

Achan replied, "**It is true! I have sinned** against the LORD, the God of Israel. ... I coveted them and took them. **They are hidden** in the ground inside my tent, with the silver underneath."

Judged by Our Own Words

David committed adultery and arranged the murder of the woman's husband, and then tried to hide it. David thought he had gotten away with murder until the prophet Nathan showed up. Nathan asked David to give his judgment on an upsetting situation. The story greatly angered David, and he pronounced judgment on the supposed offender of the story without realizing that he was judging himself with his own words.

2 Samuel 12:1-7 The LORD sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, "There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor ... "Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him." David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, "As surely as the LORD lives, the man who did this deserves to die! He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity." Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man!"

Although David unknowingly pronounced the death penalty against himself, he was very remorseful, profoundly repented, and even published a song about his repentance. Seeing David's repentance, God granted him forgiveness.

2 Samuel 12:13 Then David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD." Nathan replied, "The LORD has taken away your sin. You are not going to die."

However, David did not escape judgment altogether and suffered many severe consequences. The same sins committed by David became his judgments, and his children repeated his sins against him and each other. David had many children, but we will focus on three, the oldest son Amnon, and from a different mother, he had Absalom and his sister Tamar. The judgment played out as follows; Amnon raped Tamar, then Absalom killed Amnon in revenge. Later Absalom had a coup against David and slept with David's concubines, and then Absalom got killed during the coup.

And you thought you had family problems? The whole mess only shows how the consequences that follow us are a type of self-inflicted judgment; you will reap what you have sown, and here Nathan lays out the chain reaction set off by David's sin.

*2 Samuel 12:10-12 Now, therefore, **the sword will never depart from your house, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own.** "This is what the LORD says: '**Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity upon you. Before your very eyes I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you (his son Absalom), and he will lie with your wives in broad daylight. You did it in secret, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before all Israel.**'"*

We must be careful about all our words because life and death are in the power of the tongue, and for every word we speak, we will give account for in the courtroom of heaven.

*Matthew 12:36-37 But I tell you that men will have to **give account on the day of judgment for every careless word they have spoken. For by your words, you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned.**"*

Proverbs 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

James 3:2-6 We all stumble in many ways. If anyone is never at fault in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to keep his whole body in check ... Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

The children of Israel had a bad habit of murmuring and complaining, which doomed an entire generation. The parents complained that their children would die in the wilderness before reaching the promised land. But guess what happened? The complainers died, and the innocent children lived and entered the promised land.

Numbers 14:28-32 So tell them, 'As surely as I live, declares the LORD, I will do to you the very things I heard you say: In this desert your bodies will fall every one of you twenty years old or more who was counted in the census and who has grumbled against me. Not one of you will enter the land I swore with uplifted hand to make your home, except Caleb son of Jephunneh and Joshua son of Nun. As for your children that you said would be taken as plunder, I will bring them in to enjoy the land you have rejected. But your bodies will fall in this desert.

God has called us to be separate and holy, and we should never let anything ungodly or unwholesome come out of our mouths or give an ear to any filthy jokes, dirty talk, cursing, gossip, slander, and so forth.

Ephesians 5:3-6 But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. Nor should

there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person such a man is an idolater has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient.

*1 Timothy 5:13-15 Besides, they (speaking of young widows) get into the habit of being idle and going about from house to house. And not only do they become idlers, but also **gossips and busybodies**, saying things they ought not to. So, I counsel younger widows to marry, to have children, to manage their homes and to **give the enemy no opportunity for slander. Some have in fact already turned away to follow Satan.***

Judged by the Word of God

We are accountable for what we know of the word of God, the same word that causes us to be born again, feeds us with spiritual milk, meat, and bread is the very word that test, judges, and exposes our thoughts and attitudes.

*Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God (Jesus) is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; **it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight.** Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.*

*Ps 105:17-19 He sent a man before them Joseph who was sold as a slave. They hurt his feet with fetters, He was laid in irons. Until the time that his word came to pass, **the word of the LORD tested him.***

John 12:47-48 "And if anyone hears My words and does not believe, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. **"He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.**

When judged by the word, it can be by either the written or the spoken word of God. The written word of God plays an essential part in our spiritual lives in many ways, and we are required to put into practice what we know. Our response to the word of God determines how we live and our judgment.

James 1:21-25 Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly **accept the word planted in you, which can save you. Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.** Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it he will be blessed in what he does.

Matthew 7:24-27 "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

Acts 13:46 Then Paul and Barnabas answered them boldly: **"We had to speak the word of God to you first. Since you reject it and do not consider yourselves worthy of eternal life, we now turn to the Gentiles.**

2 Peter 3:5-7 *But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and by water. By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.*

There are times that God will use people to speak to us through the inspiration of the Spirit of God, and both the speaker and the listener are accountable to God.

Jeremiah 23:26-32 "The prophet who has a dream, let him tell a dream; And **he who has My word, let him speak My word faithfully.** What is the chaff to the wheat?" says the LORD... "Therefore behold, **I am against the prophets,"** says the LORD, "**who steal My words** everyone from his neighbor..." "who use their tongues **and say, 'He (God) says... Yet I did not send them** or command them..."

1 Corinthians 9:16-17 Yet when I preach the gospel, I cannot boast, for **I am compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel!** If I preach voluntarily, I have a reward; if not voluntarily, I am simply discharging the trust committed to me.

1 Timothy 4:13-16 Until I come, **devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching.** Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through a prophetic message ... **Watch your life and doctrine closely. persevere**

in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers.

Judged by a Prophetic Word

By the word of the Lord, people can receive warnings to avoid disaster and receive guidance, or sometimes to deliver a message of judgment in this life. In the case of Ahab and Jezebel, they murdered a man and stole his vineyard. God spoke to Elijah to deliver his sentence of judgment against the Elijah to deliver his sentence of judgment against the ungodly pair and gave specific details.

1 Kings 21:17-23 Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite: "Go down to meet Ahab king of Israel, who rules in Samaria. He is now in Naboth's vineyard, where he has gone to take possession of it. Say to him, 'This is what the LORD says: Have you not murdered a man and seized his property?' Then say to him, 'This is what the LORD says: In the place where dogs licked up Naboth's blood, dogs will lick up your blood yes, yours!' ... "And also concerning Jezebel the LORD says: 'Dogs will devour Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel.'

Later Jezebel threatened to kill Elijah, and he ran away in fear and discouragement. But God spoke to Elijah and gave him a mission that would play a crucial role in fulfilling the judgment against Ahab. God sent Elijah to anoint Jehu to be Ahab's successor and executioner.

1 Kings 19:16 Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet.

Once Jehu was anointed to be king of Israel, he wasted no time bringing the word of the Lord by Elijah to fulfillment. Jehu furiously drove his chariot after Ahab and put an arrow through Ahab's heart, and then he used his horse to trample Jezebel to pieces.

2 Kings 9:25-26 Jehu said to Bidkar, his chariot officer, "Pick him up and throw him on the field that belonged to Naboth the Jezreelite. **Remember how you and I were riding together in chariots behind Ahab his father when the LORD made this prophecy about him: 'Yesterday I saw the blood of Naboth and the blood of his sons, declares the LORD, and I will surely make you pay for it on this plot of ground, declares the LORD.'** Now then, pick him up and throw him on that plot, **in accordance with the word of the LORD.**"

2 Kings 9:34-36 Jehu went in and ate and drank. "Take care of that cursed woman (Jezebel)," he said, "and bury her, for she was a king's daughter." But when they went out to bury her, they found nothing except her skull, her feet and her hands. They went back and told Jehu, who said, "**This is the word of the LORD that he spoke through his servant Elijah the Tishbite: On the plot of ground at Jezreel dogs will devour Jezebel's flesh.**"

Judged by Our Knowledge

If we sin in our ignorance of God, it is still sin. But probably the worst sin is one we willfully commit while knowing it is wrong, which produces a type of guilt or self-condemnation. Also, if we are obligated to do something godly, but we don't do it, we are guilty of neglect and accountable for it. The greater our knowledge of God, His will, and his purposes, the more we will be held to a higher standard of judgment.

Hebrews 10:26-31 *If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God. Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. **How much more severely do you think a man deserves to be punished who has trampled the***

*Son of God under foot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified him, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace? For we know him who said, "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," and again, "**The Lord will judge his people.**" It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.*

Acts 17:30-31 And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commands all men everywhere to repent: Because he has appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained (Jesus); whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

*Luke 12:47-48 And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be **beaten with many stripes**. But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with **few stripes**. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.*

*1 Samuel 3:13-14 "For I have told him that **I will judge his house forever for the iniquity which he knows, because his sons made themselves vile, and he did not restrain them.**" And therefore, I have sworn to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever."*

Judgment on Sexual & Other Immorality

We are accountable for everything we have done with our bodies which are the temple of the Holy Spirit. Because God created us in His image, if we sin against our bodies by disfigurement, immorality, or perversion, we defile the temple of God and bring disgrace to His image and His name, in return, we bring shame and guilt upon ourselves at the judgment.

2 Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that **each one may receive the things done in the body**, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

1 Corinthians 6:18-19 Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but **he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body**. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?

1 Corinthians 6:9-10 Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither **fornicators**, nor idolaters, nor **adulterers**, nor **homosexuals**, nor **sodomites**, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.

Galatians 5:19-21 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: **adultery**, **fornication**, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, **drunkenness**, **revelries**, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, **that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God**.

1 Corinthians 3:16-17 Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? **If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him**. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.

Judgment on Leaders

Those in the greatest peril of judgment will be the religious teachers and leaders because they are responsible for their influence on other people. Ministers, pastors, and teachers who abused their position for

riches, power, or other wrong motives have a more strict and severe judgment before God.

James 3:1 *Not many of you should presume to be teachers, my brothers, because you know that **we who teach will be judged more strictly.** (NIV)*

James 3:1 *Do not be eager, my brethren, for many among you to become teachers; for you know that **we teachers shall undergo severer judgement.** (WNT)*

The worst opposition Jesus faced came from the religious leaders, as they followed, harassed, spoke against him, and had him killed. Bad religious leaders have been around as long as the Devil, always opposing the truth, quenching and resisting the Holy Spirit, but in the end, they will stand in judgment for their deeds.

Matthew 23:13-15 *"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. "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you devour widows' houses, and for a pretense make long prayers. Therefore, **you will receive greater condemnation.***

Matthew 7:21-23 *"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. "**Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'***

2 Peter 2:1-3 *But there were also false prophets among the people, just as **there will be false teachers among you.** They*

*will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the sovereign Lord who bought them bringing swift destruction on themselves. **Many will follow their shameful ways** and will bring the way of truth into disrepute. **In their greed these teachers will exploit you** with stories they have made up. **Their condemnation** has long been hanging over them, and **their destruction** has not been sleeping.*

Galatians 1:7-9** which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. **But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.** As we have said before, so now I say again, **if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.

Judgment by the Church

The church should be competent to judge itself because the saints will judge the world and angels in the future. Everybody in the church is accountable for their actions, and the unrepentant are subject to church discipline. That would include preachers, singers, and elders, and they should not have access to any pulpit, stage, podcast, or ministry until they have been restored to God, right the wrongs, and maintained a good testimony.

***1 Corinthians 6:1-6** If any of you has a dispute with another, **dare he take it before the ungodly for judgment instead of before the saints?** Do you not know that **the saints will judge the world?** And if you are to judge the world, are you not competent to judge trivial cases? Do you not know that **we will judge angels?** How much more the things of this life! Therefore, if you have disputes about such matters, **appoint as judges even men of little account in the church!** I say this to shame you. Is it possible that there is nobody among you **wise enough to judge a dispute between believers?** But instead, one*

brother goes to law against another and this in front of unbelievers!

Matthew 18:15-17 "If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' If he refuses to listen to them, **tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector.**

1 Corinthians 5:1-6 It is actually reported that **there is sexual immorality among you**, and of a kind that does not occur even among pagans: A man has his father's wife. And you are proud! Shouldn't you rather have been filled with grief and have **put out of your fellowship the man who did this?** Even though I am not physically present, I am with you in spirit. And **I have already passed judgment on the one who did this**, just as if I were present. When you are assembled in the name of our Lord Jesus and I am with you in spirit, and the power of our Lord Jesus is present, **hand this man over to Satan, so that the sinful nature may be destroyed and his spirit saved on the day of the Lord ...**

Judgment begins at God's House

Judgment begins with God's people, and those who claim to represent God have a higher standard of morality than the ungodly. There will be severe punishments on groups, denominations, and independent churches that go into apostasy (backsliding, error). Following a crowd does not give a free pass from judgment. We judge ourselves by the affiliations we keep. We are responsible for following the truth and getting out of false or sinful religious organizations. Birds of a feather flock together.

Revelation 18:2, 4 *And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a (bird) cage for every unclean and hated bird! ... And I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues.*

1 Peter 4:17-18 *For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begins at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?*

Jude 1:5-6 *I desire to remind you although the whole matter is already familiar to you that the Lord saved a people out of the land of Egypt, but afterwards destroyed those who had no faith. And angels those who did not keep the position originally assigned to them, but deserted their own proper abode He reserves in everlasting bonds, in darkness, in preparation for the judgement of the great day.*

Ezekiel 9:6 *"Utterly slay old and young men, maidens and little children and women; but do not come near anyone on whom is the mark; and begin at My sanctuary." So, they began with the elders who were before the temple.*

Judged by Creation

You may be thinking if someone has never heard preaching in their life, then how could God judge them? Nobody can use that excuse because all creation is shouting about the creator. Everything in creation proves intelligent design and exhibits irrefutable evidence for God. From the smallest atom to the biggest star, everything has a complex structure of atoms, and a DNA code, making it impossible for the universe to exist by accident. The evidence for God in creation

is so convincing that to reject it, you would have to be intellectually dishonest, have a hardened heart, or have a mind blinded by Satan.

Psalm 19:1-4 ... The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard. Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world. In the heavens he has pitched a tent for the sun,

Romans 10:14-18 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily, their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.

2 Corinthians 4:3-4 And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

Romans 1:18-20 For God's anger is being revealed from Heaven against all impiety and against the iniquity of men who through iniquity suppress the truth. God is angry: because what may be known about Him is plain to their inmost consciousness; for He Himself has made it plain to them. For, from the very creation of the world, His invisible perfections namely His eternal power and divine nature have been rendered intelligible and clearly visible by His works (creation), so that these men are without excuse.

Judged by Conscience

Even small children are born with the ability to know right from wrong. Our conscience is a sensitive tool designed to help us in our relationship with God. But every time we go against our conscience, we damage it, our conscience can get to the point that it can no longer function, and we can lose the sense of guilt for doing wrong.

Our conscience records everything like a body camera, including the audio, video, and every thought and motive as it happens. Everything from our lives will be on display before the throne of God, and we will give an account for everything. Every thought will be a witness, and our conscience will either condemn us or justify us.

Romans 2:14-15 For when Gentiles who have no Law obey by natural instinct the commands of the Law, they, without having a Law, are a Law to themselves; since they exhibit proof that a knowledge of the conduct which the Law requires is engraved on their hearts, while their consciences also bear witness to the Law, and their thoughts, as if in mutual discussion, accuse them or perhaps maintain their innocence.

1 Timothy 1:19-20 ... holding on to faith and a good conscience. Some have rejected these and so have shipwrecked their faith. Among them are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have handed over to Satan to be taught not to blaspheme.

1 Samuel 24:5-6 Afterward, David was conscience-stricken for having cut off a corner of his robe. He said to his men, "The LORD forbid that I should do such a thing to my master, the LORD's anointed, or lift my hand against him; for he is the anointed of the LORD."

2 Corinthians 4:2 *Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.*

1 Timothy 4:1-2 *The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron.*

Judged by the Law

Many people think that by keeping the ten commandments or being good, they can be righteous before God. On the contrary, the Law condemns everyone and makes us guilty before God. There is only one person who could fulfill the Law, live a perfect life of obedience, and satisfy the righteous judgment of God, and that was Jesus Christ. Salvation is the gift of God by faith in Christ, and he alone can save us from the condemnation of the Law.

Romans 3:19-20 *Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to **them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Therefore, by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.***

Galatians 3:24 *Wherefore **the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.** (KJV)*

Romans 4:13-16 *For the promise that he would be the heir of the world was not to Abraham or to his seed through the law, but through the righteousness of faith. For if those who are of the law are heirs, faith is made void and the promise*

*made of no effect, because **the law brings about wrath**; for where there is no law there is no transgression. Therefore, **it is of faith that it might be according to grace**, so that the promise might be sure to all the seed, not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all*

Judgment by Association

They say you can tell who a person is by the company they keep. To take that thought a step further, the customs, ideologies, and philosophies we endorse show which camp we are in, God's or the Devil's. Even if a person does not participate in the evil deeds of others, but they are silent or condone those actions, they are just as guilty as the wrongdoers by association.

Romans 1:32** Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things **but also approve of those who practice them.

***1 John 3:8-10** He who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work. No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God. **This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are:** Anyone who does not do what is right is not a child of God; nor is anyone who does not love his brother.*

***John 8:44** You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.*

The teachers and Pharisees were always trying to trap Jesus with questions. But Jesus shredded them with their own words, and he used their words to show that they condoned the sins of the past, and by their association with the criminal act, they were as guilty as the original offenders.

***Matthew 23:29-35** "Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You build tombs for the prophets and decorate the graves of the righteous. And you say, 'If we had lived in the days of our forefathers, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.' So, you testify against yourselves that you are the descendants of those who murdered the prophets. Fill up, then, the measure of the sin of your forefathers!" You snakes! You brood of vipers! How will you escape being condemned to hell? Therefore, I am sending you prophets and wise men and teachers. Some of them you will kill and crucify; others you will flog in your synagogues and pursue from town to town. And so upon you will come all the righteous blood that has been shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah son of Berekiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar.*

The ultimate sin of association comes from our sinful nature, which we inherited by Adam's sin and passed to everyone through our DNA at birth, making everyone a sinner and guilty before God. But our association with the sacrifice of Christ by faith saves us from the guilt of our sin and makes us righteous before God.

***Romans 5:17-18** For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.) Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in*

condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life.

Judgment by Comparisons

Jesus made comparisons between different cities and people groups regarding judgment. God will contrast the testimony of people from various times, places, and similar circumstances to compare how they reacted to determine their guilt or innocence.

Matthew 12:27** And if I by Beelzebub cast out devils, by whom do your children cast them out? **therefore they shall be your judges.

***Matthew 12:41-42** The men of Nineveh will stand up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it; for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and now one greater than Jonah is here. **The Queen of the South will rise at the judgment with this generation and condemn it;** for she came from the ends of the earth to listen to Solomon's wisdom, and now one greater than Solomon is here.*

Matthew 11:20-24** Then Jesus began to denounce the cities in which most of his miracles had been performed, because they did not repent. "Woe to you, **Korazin!** Woe to you, **Bethsaida!** If the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in **Tyre and Sidon,** they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes But I tell you, **it will be more bearable for Tyre and Sidon on the day of judgment than for you.** And you, **Capernaum,** will you be lifted up to the skies? No, you will go down to the depths. If the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in **Sodom,** it would have remained to this day. But I tell you that **it will be more bearable for Sodom on the day of judgment than for you."

Judgments against Nations

We can look at the life of David to see how God uses judgments to deal with a nation. After a life of hardships and warfare, David finally had peace from all his enemies. Then Satan inspired him to number the people, which angered God, resulting in judgment.

1 Chronicles 21:1 Satan rose up against Israel and incited David to take a census of Israel.

God sent a prophet to David and told him to choose one of three different judgments and let him make his choice. These options typify how God may judge a nation by sending famines, plagues, enemies, and all kinds of natural catastrophes like droughts, floods, and earthquakes.

*1 Chronicles 21:9-14 The LORD said to Gad, David's seer, "Go and tell David, 'This is what the LORD says: I am giving you three options. Choose one of them for me to carry out against you.'" So, Gad went to David and said to him, "This is what the LORD says: 'Take your choice: **three years of famine, three months of being swept away before your enemies, with their swords overtaking you, or three days of the sword of the LORD days of plague in the land, with the angel of the LORD ravaging every part of Israel.**' Now then, decide how I should answer the one who sent me." David said to Gad, "I am in deep distress. Let me fall into the hands of the LORD, for his mercy is very great; but do not let me fall into the hands of men. **So, the LORD sent a plague on Israel, and seventy thousand men of Israel fell dead.***

Another example of national sins, resulting in natural disasters, happened in the reign of David. Israel had been experiencing a famine for three years, so David prayed to the Lord, and the Lord showed him the problem. The children of Israel had a covenant of peace with the Gibeonites (since Joshua's time), and King Saul tried to exterminate

them in violation of the covenant. Therefore, Israel was judged by famine

2 Samuel 21:1 During the reign of David, there was a famine for three successive years; so, David sought the face of the LORD. The LORD said, "It is on account of Saul and his blood-stained house; it is because he put the Gibeonites to death."

When David asked the Gibeonites how he could make restitution, they wanted the execution of seven sons of King Saul. David accepted their request and sent for seven of Saul's descendants.

2 Samuel 21:6 ... let seven of his male descendants be given to us to be killed and exposed before the LORD at Gibeah of Saul the Lord's chosen one." So, the king said, "I will give them to you."

This judgment turns out to be a multiple judgment, dealt with one stroke. First, there was the judgment of famine. Second, in the following verses, you will notice that Saul's daughter Merab was the mother of five sons given for death to make restitution. There is some background to that verse.

Saul had offered his daughter Merab in marriage to David on the condition that he would fight the Philistines for Saul, hoping the Philistines would kill David. Later, Saul lied and gave Merab to another man in marriage, and she had five sons by that other man (1 Sam 18:17-19). But in the end, Merab's five sons had to be executed as part of the restitution agreement with the Gibeonites.

*2 Samuel 21:8 But the king took Armoni and Mephibosheth, the two sons of Aiah's daughter Rizpah, whom she had borne to Saul, together with **the five sons of Saul's daughter Merab**,*

*whom she had borne to Adriel son of Barzillai the Meholathite.
(NIV)*

Here is the third judgment, but it has a little bit of a twist in the story. Saul wanted to have David killed, so he hatched a plot to have the Philistines kill David. Saul offered his daughter Michal to David in marriage if David would pay a wedding dowry of 100 Philistine foreskins, thinking the Philistines would kill David in battle. David killed 200 Philistines and paid the dowry to Saul (1 Sam 18:20-28). But again, Saul tried to kill David, and he fled for his life. Then for a second time, Saul took his daughter away from David, and he gave Michal to another man (1 Sam 25:44). Then after some years, Saul died, then David took Michal back from the man she married, and David remarried her (2 Sam 3:13-14).

Then when David brought the ark of the covenant into Jerusalem, Michal saw David dancing and spinning with all his might before the Lord, and she bitterly criticized him. David responded to Michal's nagging by leaving her as a barren woman for all her days (2 Sam 6:20-23).

Here's the twist in the story, it is apparent that Merab had died before the Gibeonite incident, and her sister Michal had adopted her five sons. So, the scorned barren wife Michal finally had a hope of mothering children, but not for long. The price for reconciliation with the Gibeonites required the lives of those five boys, and she remained barren and without children all her days (2 Sam 6:23).

So, Saul's murders of the Gibeonites, his lies, giving Merab and Michal to others, Michal's criticisms, and her barrenness had all been judged, found guilty, and punished with one stroke.

*2 Samuel 21:8 So the king took Armoni and Mephibosheth, the two sons of Rizpah the daughter of Aiah, whom she bore to Saul; and **the five sons of Michal the daughter of Saul**, whom*

*she brought up for Adriel the son of Barzillai the Meholathite;
(NKJV)*

Whenever any country displeases God for any reason, he may send enemies to fight and conquer them. All the nations of the world will do God's bidding and execute his judgments, whether they realize it or not.

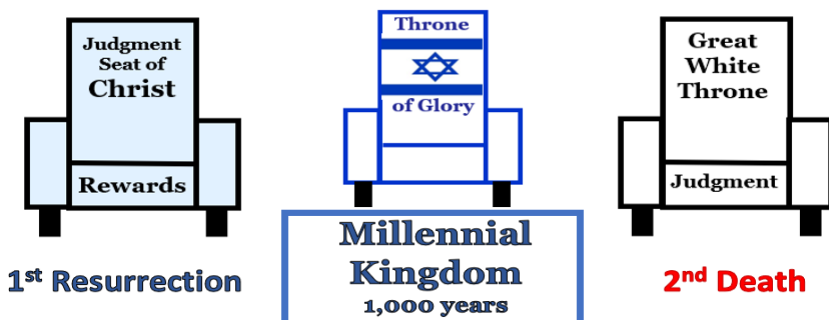
2 Kings 24:2-3 The LORD sent Babylonian, Aramean, Moabite and Ammonite raiders against him. He sent them to destroy Judah, in accordance with the word of the LORD proclaimed by his servants the prophets. Surely these things happened to Judah according to the LORD's command, in order to remove them from his presence because of the sins of Manasseh and all he had done,

When Moses confronted the Egyptian Pharaoh to release the Israelis from slavery, God sent ten plagues in judgment on the gods the Egyptians worshipped. God sent plagues against the Nile, snakes, frogs, flies, gnats, hail, locust, darkness, thunder, and the killing of the firstborn children and cattle.

Exodus 12:12 "On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn-- both men and animals-- and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the LORD.

Judgment and Resurrections

Now we come to the judgments that happen at the resurrections, and these two go hand in hand, and you can't look at one without seeing the other. There are different opinions about the timelines or how the judgment happens. Let's look at two of the most popular viewpoints. And note that only God knows the exact details of the future, and therefore we may speculate on some areas based on assumptions or likely scenarios.

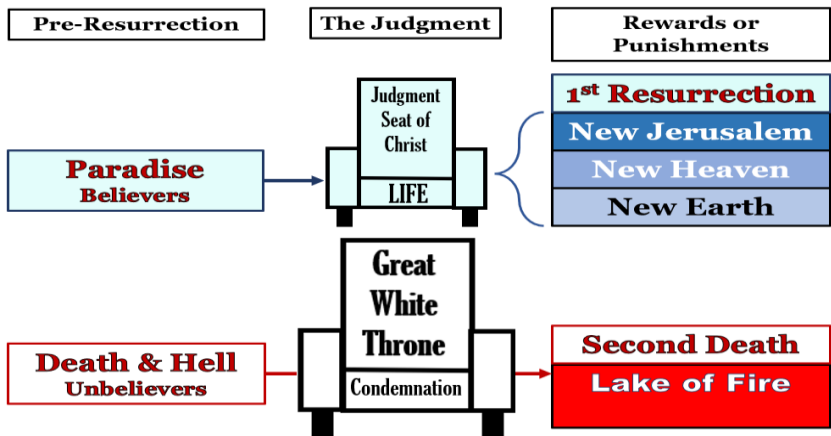


One view holds that judgment is a one-time event for everybody that will happen at the end of time, with God separating the righteous from the wicked and then judging everyone individually. They view the Judgment Seat of Christ, the Throne of Glory, and the Great White Throne as the same event, holding to a single “judgment day.”

The other view is that there will be two main times of judgment, starting with the rapture of the church, the two witnesses, and the martyrs, which go before the judgment seat of Christ to determine rewards and eternal inheritance until the second coming. At the second coming, Christ will sit on the Throne of His Glory to judge who will enter the kingdom and who will go to hell, which completes the first resurrection and judgment.

After one thousand years, when time is no more, every sinner who has ever lived will be brought from death and hell to stand before the Great White Throne in judgment. Their judgment determines their punishment, and they will have their part in the resurrection of condemnation in the lake of fire, which is the final judgment called the second death.

Revelation 20:5-6 *But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power*

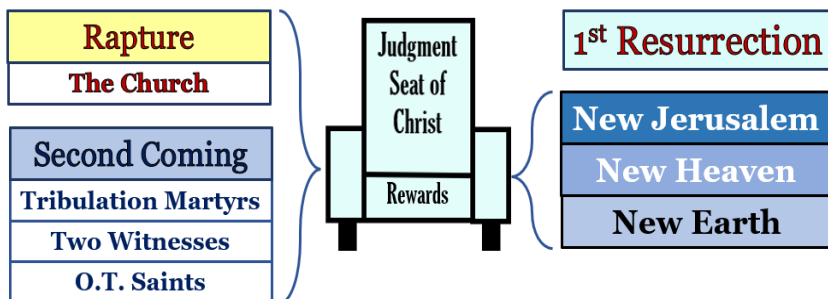


It is appointed for men to die once, then the judgment. In a sense, we are pre-judged because we go to either paradise or hell to wait for our resurrection, and the results of each person's judgment will determine their eternal rewards or punishment.

*John 5:28-29 "Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice "and come forth those who have done good, to **the resurrection of life**, and those who have done evil, to **the resurrection of condemnation**."*

Judgment of Rewards

God is a rewarder of those who seek him, and from the rapture of the church to the second coming, God will determine the rewards for the faithful. Each saint will stand before the judgment seat of Christ, and their works will pass through the fires of testing to determine what was approved by God and what was not. First, at the rapture, the church will be resurrected, judged, and rewarded, and then the process repeats for the two witnesses, tribulation martyrs and the Old Testament saints. These resurrections and rewards are called the "first resurrection" and are only for believers. (more details about eternal rewards are in the Resurrection study).



Hebrew 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

1 Corinthians 2:9 But as it is written: Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him."

Judgment During the Tribulation

During the tribulation, there will be a fake church that will be the harlot bride of the antichrist. This state-run global religion is a demonic system that controls through sorcery, deception, persecution and is drunk on the blood of the saints.

Revelation 17:3-6 So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast which was full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication. And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus.

The harlot church gained power through a global coalition with the antichrist (the beast) and ten world leaders (10 horns). These leaders hate the harlot and destroy her, and her judgment is double that of what she dished out, coming with fire, torment, sorrow, plagues, mourning, famine, and death in one day and hour.

Revelation 17:16 "And the ten horns which you saw on the beast, **these will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire.**

Revelation 18:6-10 "Render to her just as she rendered to you, and **repay her double according to her works; in the cup which she has mixed, mix double for her.** "In the measure that she glorified herself and lived luxuriously, **in the same measure give her torment and sorrow ...** "Therefore, **her plagues will come in one day death and mourning and famine. And she will be utterly burned with fire, for strong is the Lord God who judges her.** ... *kings of the earth, standing at a distance for fear of her torment, saying, 'Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! For in one hour your judgment has come.'*

The **antichrist and false prophet** will unleash hell on earth and kill multitudes of saints and sinners. The antichrist will go into the temple of God in Jerusalem and declares himself a god. Then he will set up an image of himself and demand that everyone worship his image, take his mark, or get killed. Those who seek to save their lives by bowing to the image, accepting the mark, receiving the number of his name 666, will automatically be judged guilty and sent to hell.

Revelation 13:7, 15-17 *It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation ... He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not*

worship the image of the beast to be killed. He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

Revelation 14:9-11 Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, "he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. "And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."

The judgment on those with the "mark of the beast" begins while they are still alive, plagued with ugly and painful sores breaking out on their skin (possibly spreading from the mark on their hands and foreheads?).

*... Revelation 16:1-2 Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, "Go and pour out the **bowls of the wrath of God** on the earth." So the first went and poured out his bowl upon the earth, **and a foul and loathsome sore came upon the men who had the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image.***

When God has finished using the antichrist and false prophet for his purposes, they are captured, judged, and sent alive into the Lake of Fire. They are the first inhabitants of the Lake of Fire, and after one thousand years, others will join them.

Revelation 19:20 *Then **the beast** was captured, and with him **the false prophet** who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. **These two were cast alive into the lake of fire** burning with brimstone.*

Judgments at Armageddon

The world's armies will surround and attack Jerusalem, and Christ will return in the second coming to judge the nations with fire, a sword, and a great army of resurrected saints and angels behind him. Christ's appearance will bring a rapid end to the worst time of human suffering in the history of the world (Matt 24:21), where a massive portion of the world's population will die. The judgment for all those who fight against Jerusalem is that their eyes will dissolve in the sockets, their tongue and flesh will dissolve, and the blood from this battle will stretch for 200 miles and be about 5 feet deep in places.

Revelation 16:16 *And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon.*

Jude 1:14-15 *Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men: "See, **the Lord is coming with thousands upon thousands of his holy ones to judge everyone, and to convict All the ungodly of All the ungodly acts they have done in the ungodly way, and of a\All the harsh words ungodly sinners have spoken against him.**"*

Isaiah 66:15-16 *For behold, **the LORD will come with fire And with His chariots, like a whirlwind, to render His anger with fury, And His rebuke with flames of fire. For by fire and by His sword The LORD will judge All flesh; And the slain of the LORD shall be many.***

Zechariah 14:1-14 *Behold, the day of the LORD is coming, and your spoil will be divided in your midst. **For I will gather***

all the nations to battle against Jerusalem; ... The city shall be taken, the houses rifled, And the women ravished. Half of the city shall go into captivity, But the remnant of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations, As He fights in the day of battle. ... Then you shall flee through My mountain valley ... and the LORD my God will come, And all the saints with You. It shall come to pass in that day That there will be no light; The lights will diminish. It shall be one day Which is known to the LORD. And the LORD shall be King over all the earth. In that day it shall be-"The LORD is one," And His name one ... And this shall be the plague with which the LORD will strike all the people who fought against Jerusalem: Their flesh shall dissolve while they stand on their feet, their eyes shall dissolve in their sockets, and their tongues shall dissolve in their mouths.

Isaiah 63:1-4* Who is this who comes from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah, This One who is glorious in His apparel, Traveling in the greatness of His strength? -"I who speak in righteousness (Christ), mighty to save." ***Why is Your apparel red, And Your garments like one who treads in the winepress? "I have trodden the winepress alone, and from the peoples no one was with Me. For I have trodden them in My anger, and trampled them in My fury; Their blood is sprinkled upon My garments, And I have stained all My robes. For the day of vengeance is in My heart, And the year of My redeemed has come.**

Revelation 14:10, 18-20* The same shall drink of ***the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the ***cup of his indignation***; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone ***in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb*** :.. So the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and threw it into ***the*****

great winepress of the wrath of God. And the winepress was trampled outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the horses' bridles (5 feet), for one thousand six hundred furlongs (200 miles).

2 Thessalonians 1:6-9 God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels. He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the majesty of his power

Revelation 6:15-17 And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, and said to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!" For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"

Judgment at Throne of Glory

During the tribulation, many judgments will occur, which will kill multitudes with plagues, famines, martyrdom, war, and by the end of Armageddon, only a remnant of believers will survive.

Matthew 24:21 "For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. "And unless those days were shortened, NO Flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.

Romans 9:28-29 For the Lord will carry out his sentence on earth with speed and finality." It is just as Isaiah said

previously: "Unless the Lord Almighty had left us descendants, we would have become like Sodom, we would have been like Gomorrah (3 survivors)." (NIV)

When Christ comes at the second coming, he will gather the nations to the Valley of Jehoshaphat for judgment, and he will sit on the throne of His glory. First, He divides the people into two groups, herding the good to one side and the bad to the other, like a shepherd with the sheep and the goats. Christ will judge each one individually, and he will purge all evil from the kingdom.

Matthew 25:31-41 "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. "All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats

Ezekiel 34:1-17, 22, 28-31 "And as for you, My flock, thus says the Lord GOD, 'Behold, I judge between one Sheep and another, between the rams and the male Goats [between the righteous and the unrighteous] ... therefore, I will rescue My flock, and they shall no longer be prey; and I will judge between one sheep [ungodly] and another [godly] They will no longer be prey to the Nations, and the predators of the earth will not devour them; but they will live safely, and no one will make them afraid [in the day of the Messiah's reign]. (Amp)



Joel 3:2, 12-14 I will also gather all nations, and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; And I will enter into judgment with them there on account of My people, My heritage Israel, Whom they have scattered among the nations; They have also divided up My land... "Let the nations be wakened, and come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; For there I will sit to judge all the surrounding nations. Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, go down; For the winepress is full, the vats overflow for their wickedness is great." Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.

His judgments of the nations (sheep & goats) are determined by how they treated his brethren, especially during the tribulation, that would be the martyrs and the Jews. Those who gave aid and assistance to “his brethren” will be judged, approved, and welcomed into the kingdom.

Matthew 25:31-41 "And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. "Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: 'for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; 'I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' ..."And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me ...'

On the other (left) hand, the goats will be the nations that went to war against the Jews, ignored the persecution of the Jews, and failed to offer them any help during the tribulation. They will be judged and sent to Hell. Jesus said that ALL sinners had been taken away in the

judgment of Noah's time, relating how ALL sinners will be taken away in the coming judgment and the vultures will eat their bodies.

Matthew 25:41-46 "Then He will also say to those on the left hand (Goats), 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels ...' Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' "Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.'

Ezekiel 20:37-38 "I will make you pass under the rod [as the shepherd does with his sheep when he counts them, and I will count you as Mine and constrain you] and bring you into the bond of the covenant [to which you are permanently bound].³⁸ And I will separate from you the rebels and those who transgress against Me; I will bring them out of the land where they temporarily live, but they will not enter the land of Israel. Thus, you will know [without any doubt] that I am the LORD. (Lev 27:32)

Luke 17:34-37 I tell you, on that night [when Messiah comes again] there will be two [sleeping] in one bed; the one (the non-believer) will be Taken [away in judgment] and the other (the believer) will be left.³⁵ There will be two women grinding [at the mill] together; the one (the non-believer) will be Taken [away in judgment] and the other (the believer) will be left.³⁶ ["Two men will be in the field; one will be Taken and the other will be left."] ³⁷ And they asked Him, "Where, Lord?" He answered, "Where the corpse is, there the Vultures will be gathered." (Amp)

Revelation 19:17-18 Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly

in the midst of heaven, "Come and gather together for the supper of the great God, "that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, both small and great."

*Matthew 24:37-39 "But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. "For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, "and did not know **until the flood came and Took them ALL away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be** (8 survivors out of possibly 2 billion people).*

Matthew 13:41-42 "The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom ALL things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, "and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

Judgment during the Millennium

Christ will rule (judge) the nations with a rod of iron during the Millennium, and the church will rule and reign with him. Jesus promised the overcomers in the church that they also would rule the nations with a rod of iron.

*Psalm 2:6-8 "Yet I have set **My King** (Speaking of Christ) On My holy hill of Zion."(Jerusalem) "I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to Me, '**You are My Son, Today I have begotten You. Ask of Me, and I will give You The nations for Your inheritance, And the ends of the earth for Your possession. You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel.**'"*

Revelation 2:26-27 *"And he who overcomes (speaking to the church), and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations 'He shall rule them with a rod of iron; They shall be dashed to pieces like the potter's vessels' as I also have received from My Father*

Revelation 20:4 *And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.*

1 Corinthians 6:2-3 *Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world will be judged by you, are you unworthy to judge the smallest matters? Do you not know that we shall judge angels? How much more, things that pertain to this life?*

In the resurrection, we will be like the angels of God, and we will function and serve God in the same ways that angels serve God. During John's vision in the book of Revelation, twice John fell at the feet of an angel to worship, only to find out that it wasn't an angel, it was a fellow servant, and of his brethren the prophets. The word angel means messenger, and we will be God's messengers with duties and responsibilities in the millennium and eternity

Matthew 22:30 *"For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels of God in heaven.*

Revelation 22:3 *And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him.*

Revelation 19:10 *And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "See that you do not do that! **I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus.** Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."*

Hebrews 13:2 *Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels.*

Revelation 22:8-9 *Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things. Then he said to me, "See that you do not do that. **For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets,** and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God."*

Jesus told the apostles that he would be sitting on the throne of glory (judgment of sheep & goats) while the apostles would sit on 12 thrones judging the 12 tribes of Israel in the millennial kingdom. Christ will delegate rulership authority to each disciple to rule during the millennium and eternity.

Matthew 19:27-29 *Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore? And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, that ye which have followed me, **in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.** And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, **shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.***

With all that in mind, in the following verses, we see how those who were faithful receive rewards of rulership over multiple cities, similar

to how the twelve apostles will rule over the twelve tribes. God judges each person's trustworthiness and faithfulness and delegates rulership accordingly, which could apply to both the resurrected saints and the kingdom citizens during the millennium.

***Luke 19:12-27** Therefore He said: "A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and to return." So, he called ten of his servants, delivered to them ten minas, and said to them, 'Do business till I come.' "But his citizens hated him, and sent a delegation after him, saying, 'We will not have this man to reign over us.' "And so it was that when he returned, having received the kingdom, he then commanded these servants, to whom he had given the money, to be called to him, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading. "Then came the first, saying, 'Master, your mina has earned ten minas.' "And he said to him, 'Well done, good servant; because you were faithful in a very little, have authority over ten cities.' "And the second came, saying, 'Master, your mina has earned five minas.' "Likewise, he said to him, 'You also be over five cities.' "Then another came, saying, 'Master, here is your mina, which I have kept put away in a handkerchief. 'For I feared you, because you are an austere man. You collect what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow.' "And he said to him, '**Out of your own mouth I will judge you**, you wicked servant. You knew that I was an austere man, collecting what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow. 'Why then did you not put my money in the bank, that at my coming I might have collected it with interest?'...*

Take note in the following verses that the unfaithful servant had his reward stripped away from him without being physically punished. He lost his crown, squandered his opportunities, was empty-handed, but he survived the fires of testing. On the contrary, King Jesus will

have the rebels (goats) who rejected his reign and refused to submit to his authority brought before him and killed

"And he said to those who stood by, 'Take the mina from him, and give it to him who has ten minas.' ('But they said to him, 'Master, he has ten minas.') ***'For I say to you, that to everyone who has will be given; and from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. 'But bring here those enemies of mine (the goats), who did not want me to reign over them, and slay them before me.'"***

Matthew 13:11-12 ***He replied, "The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them. Whoever has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him.***

1 Corinthians 3:11-15 ***... If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.***

Matthew had a different take than Luke, adding that the unprofitable servant should be cast into outer darkness, showing that he was an unbeliever. That should keep us on our toes and not take salvation for granted. Either way, Christ will judge between the righteous from the wicked.

Matthew 25:30 ***... 'And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'***

Christ will establish His government with justice (Isa 9:6-7), and people will have a lifestyle of peace, health, and abundance, living in a world that has become like the garden of Eden, and it will be like

heaven on earth. There will be no idolatry, no false religions, and Satan will be bound. With Christ, the Messiah ruling the nations, there will be a return to the Jewish laws and priesthood, animal sacrifices, and observance of the feasts of the Lord. All the nations will be required to attend the festivals in Jerusalem or face judgments like drought.

Zechariah 14:16-17 *And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles. And it shall be that whichever of the families of the earth do not come up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, on them there will be no rain.*

Isaiah 66:23-24 *And it shall come to pass That from one New Moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, all flesh shall come to worship before Me," says the LORD "And they shall go forth and look upon the corpses of the men Who have transgressed against Me ...*

From the start of the millennium, the earth and all things will be restored, like the garden of Eden, which includes the physical health and longevity of the people. The people will live very long lives, possibly for a thousand years. Those who sin face strict judgment and even death, and if they die at the young age of 100, they are considered cursed, unsaved, and an unbeliever.

Isaiah 65:20 *"No more shall an infant from there live but a few days, Nor an old man who has not fulfilled his days; For the child shall die one hundred years old, But the sinner being one hundred years old shall be accursed.*

Judgment at the End of Time

Salvation is always by faith, and children born to the sheep (believers) are unbelievers unless they come to saving faith in Christ for themselves. These unbelievers live in a paradise much like the garden of Eden, but they still have Adam's sinful nature. And after Satan's release from the pit after 1,000 years, he deceives these unbelievers and incites them to attack Jerusalem. The battle of Gog and Magog brings armies from the four corners of the earth to attack Jerusalem, and God intervenes and sends fire down from heaven and destroys them all. Satan is apprehended at that time and thrown directly into the lake of fire.

Revelation 20:7-10 Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle ... whose number is as the sand of the sea. They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them. The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

Then Christ will call all in the graves to come forth to judgment, and the unbelieving sinners from all ages will stand before the Great White Throne for judgment, sentencing, and sent to the second death.

John 5:25-29 ..."Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live ... Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which ALL who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth.

Revelation 20:13-15 Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God.

As we just read after the battle of Gog and Magog, fire comes from God and consumes them, and the earth and heavens will flee away, meaning the world and the physical universe will cease to exist. At that juncture, the material universe is gone, replaced by eternal spiritual habitations, and time is no more.

2 Peter 3:7-13 But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. But beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Revelation 20:9 And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them.

Matthew 24:35 "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.

Isaiah 34:4 All the host of heaven shall be dissolved, And the heavens shall be rolled up like a scroll; All their host shall fall down as the leaf falls from the vine, and as fruit falling from a fig tree.

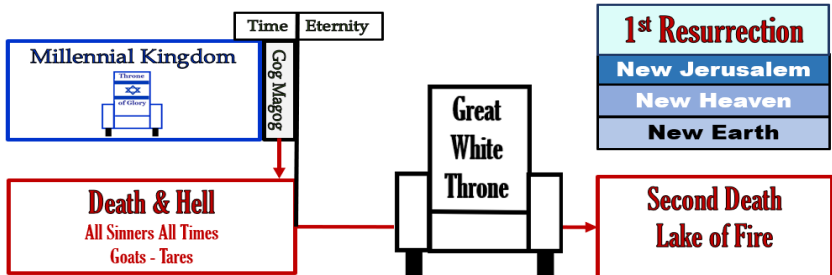
Judgment at the White Throne

The Great White Throne draws a stark contrast from other scenes of the glorious heavenly throne with vibrant colors, encircled by rainbows, pavement of gold, layers of brightly colored jewels, the river of life, and choirs of angels and saints praising God.

There are only two words written to describe the great white throne, great and white. There is no mention of angelic choirs, no colors, no precious jewels, no gold pavement, no rainbow, only the black and white stark reality of eternal judgment before the almighty God. It is where every sinner who has ever lived will stand before the Almighty God and look into the eyes of fire and answer for everything they did in their life.

Revelation 20:11-12 Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God ...

Jesus Christ will be sitting on the great white throne judging all of godless humanity, and there will be no excuses before him. Jesus himself experienced hunger, was mocked, beaten, spit on, and



crucified in a mock trial, but didn't sin and lived a perfect life. Only the ungodly, self-righteous, hypocrites, and wicked sinners who loved darkness and rejected Christ will stand at this judgment of condemnation.

Revelation 20:12-15 ***And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.***

Daniel 7:9-10 ***As I looked, thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of Days took his seat. His clothing was as white as snow; the hair of his head was white like wool. His throne was flaming with fire, and its wheels were all ablaze. A river of fire was flowing, coming out from before him. Thousands upon thousands attended him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. The court was seated, and the books were opened.***

Revelation 1:13-16 ***... One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band. His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire ... His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters; He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength.***

Judgment by the Books

At the great white throne will be a set of books, everyone will be judged, according to what's written in the books. From eternity past, before he created the world, God knew every human who would come into existence, and although everyone has free will to make their own choices, he had foreknowledge of which ones would be righteous and which ones would be wicked. And he wrote a book with the names of all those who would be saved, called the Lamb's book of life.

The book of life validates the salvation of those whose names are in the book. If a person's name is not in the book, they go to the lake of fire. At the great white throne, the book of life is open and testifying against those whose names are not in it. There is another set of books, and a book that holds all the information about everybody who has ever lived, or will live, called the book of remembrance. These books testify about each person's thoughts, motives, actions, and how they affected others.

Revelation 20:12, 15 *And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. ... This is the second death. And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.*



Revelation 13:8 *All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.*

Revelation 17:8 ...And those who dwell on the earth will marvel, **whose names are not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world.**

Malachi 3:16 Then those who feared the LORD spoke to one another, And the LORD listened and heard them; so, **a book of remembrance was written before Him** For those who fear the LORD And who meditate on His name.

Revelation 21:26-27 And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it. But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but **only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.**

Psalms 139:14-16 I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well. My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, and skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your Book they all were written, The days fashioned for me when as yet there were none of them.

Daniel 7:10 A fiery stream issued and came forth from before Him. A thousand thousands ministered to Him; Ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him. **The court was seated, and the books were opened.**

Daniel 12:1 "At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, **everyone who is found written in the book.**

The following verses say that God may blot out names from the Book of Life. To blot out means to smear out, obliterate, erase, wipe away.

So, this brings up the argument of whether it is possible to lose salvation because only people named in the book of life will inherit eternal life. If a name gets blotted out, they will go to the lake of fire. The Lord, Moses, David, and Jesus all mentioned the threat of having names blotted out of the book of life.

Exodus 32:31-33** Then Moses returned (after the golden calf) to the LORD and said, "Oh, these people have committed a great sin, and have made for themselves a god of gold! "Yet now, if You will forgive their sin but if not, I pray, **blot me out of Your book which You have written.**" And the LORD said to Moses, "**Whoever has sinned against Me, I will blot him out of My book.

Psalms 69:27-28** Add iniquity to their iniquity and let them not come into Your righteousness. **Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous.

***Revelation 3:5** "He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not **blot out his name from the Book of Life**; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.*

But the books are not opened until the very end, not until the last person has died, exposing the full effect of each person's life on others. It's like the ripples made when you drop a rock in a pond; likewise, the influence of our life will make ripples long after we are gone. The only question is; how wide (how many people), and how far (into the future) do the ripples go?



We will use Karl Marx as an example (assuming he never repented). His philosophy of communism is responsible for unspeakable torture, suffering, starvation, and death for untold hundreds of millions of lives. Satan has used the communist philosophy as a weapon to destroy belief in the existence of God and to rob, kill and destroy everything in its path. His philosophy continues to have a powerful grip over much of the planet. Nothing from Karl Marx's life and legacy will escape judgment, including each minuscule aspect of every life touched by his philosophy. After the last person on earth has died, the accumulated effect of his evil influence can be totaled and calculated, and his punishment will be according to the impact of his works.

With the books opened and every second of every life exposed, nothing missed, nothing glossed over, the trials begin. The body camera starts the playback of everything seen, heard, known, thoughts, motives, every printed or spoken word, of everyone impacted by Karl Marx and communism.

Hebrews 4:12-15 For the word of God (Christ) is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from HIS sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of HIM to whom we must give account

Everyone who promotes the communist philosophy of Marx will share in his guilt by association. We could also include an endless list of those who condone or benefit from; abortion, LGBTQ agenda, political tyranny, slavery, genocide, etc. Anyone who acts as a propagandist (fake news), makes dirty money, condones, or cooperates with ungodly agendas will be held responsible (especially regarding the rising global antichrist system).

Jesus used guilt by association to condemn the Pharisees (Matt 23:30-35), and later Stephen did the same (Acts 7:51-52). While Dietrich Bonhoeffer was resisting the evils of Hitler and the Nazi movement, he said: "Silence in the face of evil is itself evil: God will not hold us guiltless. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act." God calls us to restrain, hold back and fight against evil, but to condone, tolerate or enable sin will bring judgment on ourselves.

*2 Thessalonians 2:7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only **He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way.***

The discernment needed to sort through the web of intertwined lives over the generations, and every motive, every thought, every action, of everyone who has ever lived is far beyond all human comprehension. Only God Almighty can be the judge.

*Romans 11:33 Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! **How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!***

Judgment of Condemnation

The resurrection of condemnation is the time of reckoning, the punishment for every injustice and every evil deed, with no second chances, no forgiveness, no mercy, and no hope of escape. This eternal prison is for those who have rejected God's mercy and forgiveness; both the surrounding environment and their bodies are filled with unrelenting torment forever, in the place called the second death and the lake of fire.

*Revelation 20:14-15 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was **cast into the lake of fire.***

John 3:19 "And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

John 5:29 "and come forth--those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.

In the second death, unbelievers will have bodies that burn but are not be consumed, unending pain, unquenchable thirst, unrelenting mental anguish, and no hope of ever being released. The worst punishment is for hypocrites and backsliders, whose eternal punishment is according to what they knew, their rejection or perversion of the truth, and the level of their betrayal to Christ.

Hebrews 10:29 How much more severely do you think a man deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified him, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace?

Matthew 24:50-51 ... his portion with the hypocrites. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Luke 12:47-48 "And that servant who knew his master's will, and did not prepare himself or do according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. "But he who did not know, yet committed things deserving of stripes, shall be beaten with few. For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more.

Let's look at what's in store for the ungodly that were greedy; lying, stealing, cheating, and abusers for money. The same treasures that

they hoarded will torment them, and their gold and silver will eat their flesh like fire for eternity.

James 5:1-3 Now listen, you rich people, weep and wail because of the misery that is coming upon you. Your wealth has rotted, and moths have eaten your clothes. **Your gold and silver are corroded. Their corrosion will testify against you and eat your flesh like fire.**

Matthew 6:24 "No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. **You cannot serve both God and Money.**

Consider Judas Iscariot that betrayed Jesus for thirty pieces of silver. The memory of his betrayal and greed will haunt him like a burning fire forever. Judas brought a terrible curse upon himself that entered his body and bones, and his shame will cover him like a garment forever.

Psalm 109:17-18 As he (Judas) loved cursing, so let it come to him; As he did not delight in blessing, so let it be far from him. As he clothed himself with cursing as with his garment, so let it enter his body like water, And like oil into his bones. Let it be to him like the garment which covers him, and for a belt with which he girds himself continually.

In a final word for those who associate with the prosperity gospel of greed, remember that love of money is the root of all evil (1 Tim 6:10) and is like leprosy. Look at Gehazi, Elisha's assistant, who should have been Elisha's replacement. But after Naaman's healing from leprosy, he ran after Naaman to get money. When Gehazi returned from taking the money from Naaman, Elisha pronounced a curse on him, and his descendants (greedy people) prophesied that Naaman's leprosy would cling to them forever. He lost his ministry, his health,

and his soul for money. We should not run after money or things of this world, but we should run to win Christ! (1 Cor 9:24; Phill 3:14)

*2 Kings 5:26-27 Then he said to him, "Did not my heart go with you when the man turned back from his chariot to meet you? **Is it time to receive money and to receive clothing, olive groves and vineyards, sheep and oxen, male and female servants? "Therefore, the leprosy of Naaman shall cling to you and your descendants forever."** And he went out from his presence leprous, as white as snow.*

Those who loved the darkness, and rejected the light, will be cast into a thick darkness that can be felt and causes great pain. These fake Christians, and fake ministers, having empty promises and trendy teachings, are cut off from Christ, and are backslidden, boastful of sin, and have left their calling are reserved for the blackest darkness forever. They will sink deeper and deeper into that darkness and farther from the light forever.

***Jude 1:12-13** These men are blemishes at your love feasts (fake Christians), eating with you without the slightest qualm, shepherds who feed only themselves (fake ministers). They are clouds without rain (empty promises), blown along by the wind (follow trendy teachings); autumn trees, without fruit (cut off from the vine - Christ), and uprooted (Tares uprooted from wheat) twice dead (backslidden). They are wild waves of the sea, foaming up their shame (boastful of their sin); wandering stars (left their calling), for whom blackest darkness has been reserved forever.*

***John 3:19-20** "And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. "For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.*

Revelation 16:10 *Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became full of darkness, and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain. They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores and did not repent of their deeds.*

Exodus 10:21 *And the LORD said unto Moses, stretch out thine hand toward heaven, that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, even darkness which may be felt.*

In the resurrection of condemnation, Satan and the fallen angels, and those who were the godless rulers and leaders of this life, will have the worst punishment and be in the lowest places in hell.

Isaiah 14:9-19 *"Hell from beneath is excited about you, to meet you at your coming; It stirs up the dead for you, All the chief ones of the earth; It has raised up from their thrones All the kings of the nations. They all shall speak and say to you: 'Have you also become as weak as we? Have you become like us? Your pomp is brought down to Sheol, And the sound of your stringed instruments; The maggot is spread under you, and worms cover you.' ..."How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations! Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol (Hell), To the lowest depths of the Pit. ... Like the garment of those who are slain, thrust through with a sword, who go down to the stones of the pit, like a corpse trodden underfoot.*

Judgments Beyond Comprehension

We barely scratched the surface looking at God's judgment, but the reality is that the subject has no end and goes past our ability to fathom. Maybe it's God's mercy to limit our understanding, so we are only held accountable for what little we do know.

Romans 11:33-36 O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! (KJV)

Romans 11:33-36 Oh, how inexhaustible are God's resources and God's wisdom and God's knowledge! How impossible it is to search into His decrees or trace His footsteps! "Who has ever known the mind of the Lord, or shared His counsels?"

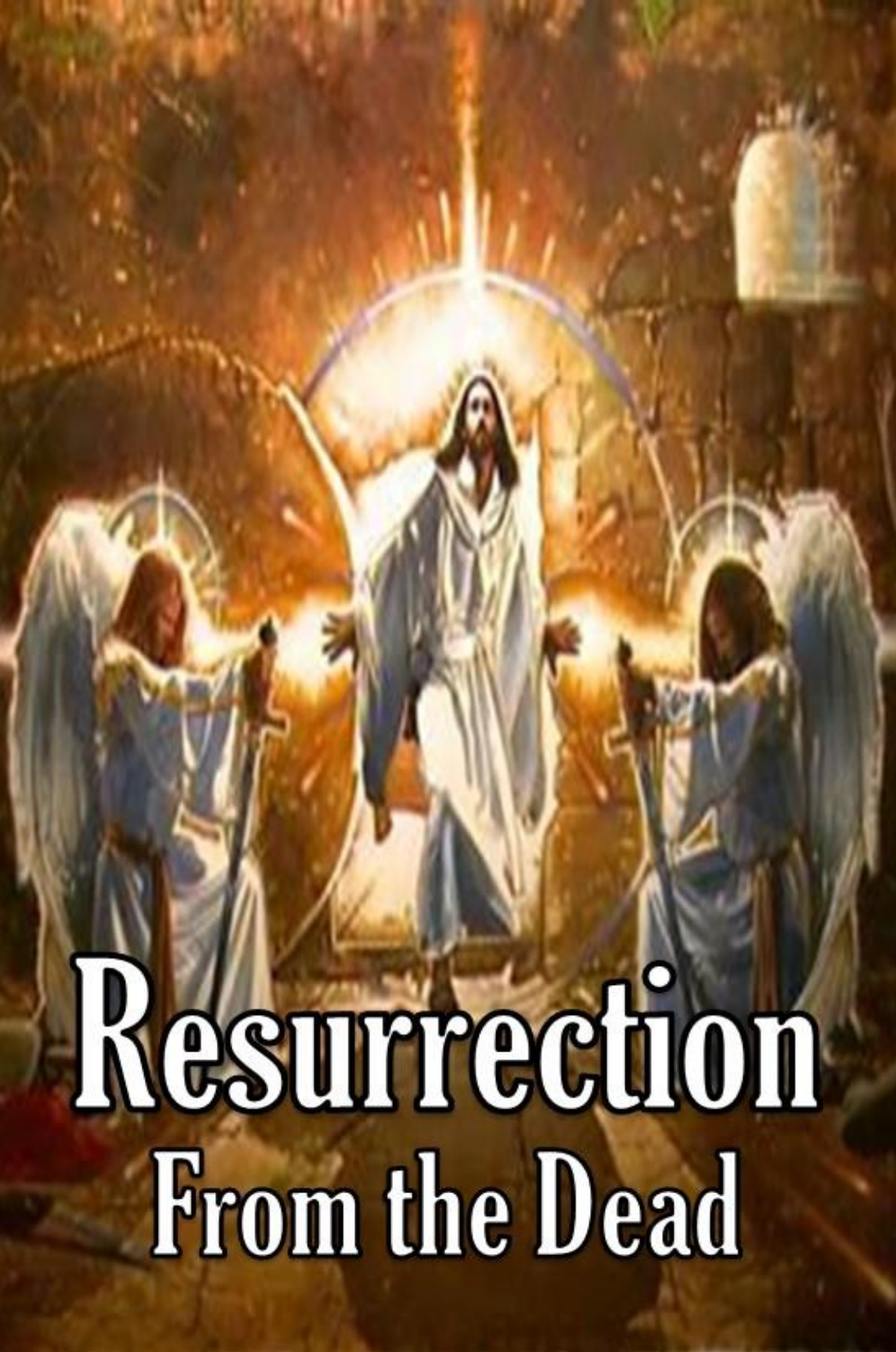
Seeing how sinful and undeserving we are, makes us realize how much we need Christ to save us and have a greater appreciation of God's mercy, forgiveness, and love. That may be the most outstanding mystery of all, how an infinity holy God could love his enemies, who are so unworthy and sinful. This contrast only serves to magnify and glorify God, his amazing divine character, and the monumental sacrifice he paid to save us.

Romans 5:8-10 But God demonstrates His own love toward Ephesians 2:4-8 But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,

Colossians 1:21-22 And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight.

us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

The redeemed should be eternally grateful for the sacrifice of the cross, but we should also be watchmen to warn others and do whatever we can to bring souls out of the darkness and into the marvelous light of the gospel.



Resurrection

From the Dead

Resurrection from the Dead

Important Question

People have always struggled with the question of "is there life after death?" From the beginning, the patriarchs and the saints of the Bible believed there would be a resurrection. The word resurrection means to stand again, everyone will stand again, but the real question is with what body, and where?

Job lived just after Noah's flood, and the book of Job may be the oldest book of the Bible. Even going back that far, Job had a revelation of Christ and the resurrection. Job believed that his redeemer (Jesus) would stand on the earth and that he would see him, an event that would not happen for thousands of years. He also believed that after he was dead and his body had decomposed in the ground, he would stand again and see his God. Job described the resurrection, how our body and spirit come back together after death.

***Job 19:25-26** For I know that **my Redeemer lives**, and He shall stand at last on the earth; And **after my skin is destroyed, this I know, that in my flesh (body) I shall see God**, Whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!*

After Job, come to Abraham, we don't know if Abraham knew of Job, but he had a similar revelation of the dead rising again. Abraham had a personal relationship with God. And God had promised Abraham a son at age 75, and at the age of 100, he and his 90-year-old wife had a son, and about 20 years later, God asked Abraham to put his son Isaac on the altar as a sacrifice and take his life. Holding the knife above Isaac, God stopped him by providing a lamb (Christ) to take the place of Isaac, so Abraham passed his test.

Abraham's faith had been growing step by step for 45 years, and by that time, he believed God could raise Isaac from the dead. Abraham

did not have a Bible, synagogue, or church, but he knew the most important principle of the faith, that God raises the dead. Abraham became the father of faith through that experience, and God considered him to be righteousness because of his faith. And we are also counted righteous by our faith in Christ's resurrection.

Hebrews 11:19 Abraham reasoned that God could raise the dead, and figuratively speaking, he did receive Isaac back from death.

Romans 4:16-25 ... but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all (as it is written, "I have made you a father of many nations") in the presence of Him whom he believed God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did; who, contrary to hope, in hope believed, so that he became the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, "So shall your descendants be." And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb. He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform. And therefore "it was accounted to him for righteousness." Now it was not written for his sake alone that it was imputed to him, but also for us. It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.

Abraham's descendants became a great nation with a legacy of faith and covenant bonds with God. The children of Israel followed in the steps of Abraham's faith, and they did amazing things by faith because they were looking for a "better resurrection."

Romans 4:12 ... who also walk in the steps of the faith which our father Abraham had ...

Hebrews 11:32-35 And what more shall I say? I do not have time to talk about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the prophets, who through faith conquered kingdoms, ... whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies. Women received back their dead, raised to life again. Others were tortured and refused to be released so they might gain a better resurrection.

The Grave

In the Old Testament, everyone who died went down to the grave; the Hebrew word for the "grave" is Sheol, also translated as hell or the pit. The location of Sheol is said to be deep in the lowest parts of the earth and had different regions at that time to separate the righteous from the wicked. The righteous are in a place of comfort, while the wicked go to a place of torment.

Psalm 63:8-9 My soul follows close behind You; Your right hand upholds me. But those who seek my life, to destroy it, shall go into the lower parts of the earth

Psalm 55:15-23 Let death seize them; Let them go down alive into hell (Sheol), For wickedness is in their dwellings and among them ... But You, O God, shall bring them down to the pit of destruction

We see an example of the grave, specifically the pit, with Israel wandering in the wilderness. Led by Korah, Dathan, and Abiram and a group of 250 leaders, they challenged Moses and his leadership. In response to their rebellion, God confirmed His approval of Moses through a dramatic miracle. First, the innocent people moved away from the group of rebels. Then the ground split open and swallowed

Korah, Dathan, Abiram, and their families, and they dropped alive straight down into the pit of hell, and the earth closed back over them.

Numbers 16:30-34 "But if the LORD creates a new thing, **and the earth opens its mouth and swallows them up** with all that belongs to them, **and they go down alive into the pit**, then you will understand that these men have rejected the LORD." Now it came to pass, as he finished speaking all these words, that **the ground split apart under them, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, with their households and all the men with Korah, with all their goods. So, they and all those with them went down alive into the pit; the earth closed over them, and they perished from among the assembly. Then all Israel who were around them fled at their cry, for they said, "Lest the earth swallow us up also!"**

Both the righteous and the wicked go down to the grave, but they arrive in different places and there is a place prepared for the godly whom God has redeemed from the power of the grave.

Psalms 49:13-15 This is the way of those who are foolish, and of their posterity who approves their sayings. Selah **Like sheep they are laid in the grave; Death shall feed on them; The upright shall have dominion over them in the morning; And their beauty shall be consumed in the grave, far from their dwelling. But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave, For He shall receive me.**

Saul & Samuel

We get another picture of life after death by looking at a conversation between King Saul and the deceased prophet Samuel. Saul was in great fear, being threatened by war and vastly outnumbered. In desperation, Saul went to a witch and held a séance to speak to the prophet Samuel, who was dead.

1 Samuel 28:13-14 And the king said to her, "Do not be afraid. What did you see?" And the woman said to Saul, "**I saw a spirit ascending out of the earth.**" So, he said to her, "What is his form?" And she said, "**An old man is coming up, and he is covered with a mantle.**" And Saul perceived that it was Samuel, and he stooped with his face to the ground and bowed down.



Being in the lower parts of the earth, Samuel ascended from the grave, and Saul recognized him and the mantle he was wearing. They acknowledged each other, and there was no loss of memory or identification, showing that we will remember and know each other in eternity.

1 Samuel 28:15 Now Samuel said to Saul, "**Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up?**" And Saul answered, "I am deeply distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God has departed from me and does not answer me anymore, neither by prophets nor by dreams. Therefore, I have called you, that you may reveal to me what I should do."

Samuel could see and speak and complained about being disturbed and brought up. He showed intelligence, memory, a range of emotions and had all his speaking and communication skills. The fact that he felt disturbed showed he preferred where he was, implying it was better.

1 Samuel 28:16-18 Then Samuel said: "Why then do you ask me, seeing the LORD has departed from you and has become your enemy? **And the LORD has done for Himself as He spoke by me.** For the LORD has torn the kingdom out of your hand and given it to your neighbor, David. **"Because you did**

not obey the voice of the LORD nor execute His fierce wrath upon Amalek, therefore the LORD has done this thing to you this day.

Samuel remembered details of his past life, the words he spoke to Saul, his disobedience, and how he lost the kingdom to David. Adding to Saul's problems was the séance he just had with the witch. God strictly forbids communication with the dead, and that seance was like the straw that breaks the camel's back, and it shattered Saul's chances of any victory. Finally, Samuel delivered a prophecy from the grave, saying how Saul would die the next day, which happened as predicted.

1 Samuel 28:19 "Moreover the LORD will also deliver Israel with you into the hand of the Philistines. And tomorrow you and your sons will be with me. The LORD will also deliver the army of Israel into the hand of the Philistines".

Samuel's prophecy was true, and the next day Israel was defeated, and Saul and his sons died and went down into the grave, but probably not to the same area where Samuel was. Samuel was a saint, but Saul was a rebel against God, demon-oppressed, shed innocent blood, sought counsel from a witch, and spoke to the dead. Saul is probably in a place of torment.

Abrahams Bosom

When Abraham died, they said that he “was gathered to his people.” That was the same thing they said when Isaac, Jacob, Moses, and Aaron died. After they died, they joined all the saints who went before them, like a big family reunion. (Gen25:17, 29, 33, Num 20:24-26, Duet 32:50)

Genesis 25:8 Then Abraham gave up the ghost, and died in a good old age, an old man, and full of years; and was gathered to his people.

Jesus told a story of two men who died and went down into Hades. The Greek word Hades is the equivalent for Sheol and correlates to Hell or the pit. This story contrasts two different places and two different men who were there. Notice it was called Abraham's bosom, he is the father of faith, so it would be like being welcomed and comforted with a big hug from a loving father, with the whole family there to greet you.

Abraham's Bosom
OT Saints & Martyrs

Great Gulf

Death & Hell

***Luke 16:19-26** "There was a certain **rich man** who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day. "But there was a certain **beggar named Lazarus**, full of sores, who was laid at his gate, "desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table. Moreover, the dogs came and licked his sores. "So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to **Abraham's bosom**. The rich man also died and was buried. "And being in torments in **Hades**, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. "Then he cried and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in **water and cool my tongue**; for **I am tormented in this flame**.'" But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that **in your lifetime** you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented.' And besides all this, **between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.**'*

The beggar Lazarus was with Abraham in a place of comfort, while the rich man was in Hell, a place of torment, with an uncrossable gulf or chasm between them. They could see each other from across the gap, and they recognized each other, but they could not cross from one side to the other. In life, Lazarus begged in shame and suffering,

and the rich man had lived a life of abundance and luxury. Outward appearances are deceiving, and we may be surprised to find out who is going to heaven and who is going to Hell.

Also, if you were in Hell and had one wish, what would be your wish? For one drop of water? It seems more likely that most people would be frantically begging, get me out of here!!! Everyone has the free will to accept or reject God. By the consequences of his own decisions, the rich man chose to go to Hell, and he didn't even ask to get out of Hell but just wanted a drop of relief in Hell.

It's puzzling how people get addicted to drugs, alcohol, and all manner of evil, yet they refuse to turn to God for help and choose to stay in their situation. Sadly, if they die in that condition, they will be trapped in their misery forever.

***Luke 16:27-31** "Then he said, 'I beg you, therefore, father, that you would send him to my father's house, 'for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.' "Abraham said to him, 'They have Moses and the prophets (in the Bible); let them hear them.' "And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent' "But he said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.'"*

Possibly, the saddest thing for the rich man was that he had five living brothers, and he was worried that they would be joining him in hell. He wanted to have Lazarus go to warn his brothers. Saying that his brothers would repent if somebody came back from the dead to warn them. Of course, Lazarus could not go. As Abraham said, if his brothers, or anyone else, do not believe the prophets' (the Bible), they will not believe in someone who rose from the dead (Jesus), so they will ultimately join him in hell. That is why it is so important to share Jesus with our family and friends in this life before it's too late.

Laws of Harvest

The Old Testament laws for harvesting crops are symbolic for us, giving us an outline of the spiritual harvest of souls, revealing in what order the different resurrections will happen.

Christ the Firstfruit

The name "firstfruits" comes from the "laws of the harvest" under the law given by Moses. At the end of the growing season, the farmers would watch the crop to know when it was ripe for the harvest. When the crop was ready to be harvested the day after the next sabbath, the priest would waive the first ripe fruit before the Lord. They called the first sheaf of ripe grain the firstfruits, pointing to Jesus, the first to rise from the dead.

*Leviticus 23:10-11 ... 'When you come into the land which I give to you, and reap its harvest, then you shall bring a **sheaf of the firstfruits** of your harvest to the priest. 'He shall wave the sheaf before the LORD, to be accepted on your behalf; **on the day after the Sabbath** the priest shall wave it.*

In the year they crucified Jesus, the harvest was ready by the Passover, and there was a sabbath two days later. Jesus's crucifixion was on the Passover, and three days later, the priest waved the sheaf of the firstfruits before the Lord. So, Jesus became the first to rise from the dead and fulfilled two different Old Testament symbolisms, at the same time, first as the Passover lamb and then as the sheaf of the firstfruits in the harvest.

The first **Passover** took place when the children of Israel were slaves in Egypt. God used Moses to speak to Pharaoh and sent ten plagues against the Egyptians to force them to release Israel from their bondage. God told Moses that the final plague would be the death of

all the firstborn of Egypt. The only protection against death would be to kill a lamb and put its blood on the doorpost of their houses. As God passed through Egypt and brought death to the firstborn when he saw blood on the doorpost, he would "pass over" that house, and he spared the lives of everyone inside the house. All the firstborn in Egypt died, but nobody died in homes where blood was on the doorpost. Israel was set free from Egypt the next day, and the Jewish people have celebrated Passover every year since. Jesus was crucified on the Passover, fulfilling what was planned before the foundation of the world, that he would be the lamb of God to take away sin.



1 Corinthians 5:7-8 ... For indeed Christ, our Passover was sacrificed for us. Therefore, let us keep the feast ...

Revelation 12:11 And they overcame him (Satan) by the blood of the Lamb (Jesus), and by the word of their testimony, and they loved not their lives unto the death.

Revelation 13:8 ... in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

Firstfruits

The day after the sabbath, they would waive the first ripe sheaf of grain, calling it the celebration of the "firstfruits." On the day the priest waived the first fruit of the harvest, Jesus became the fruits of the resurrection of the dead.



1 Corinthians 15:20-23 But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.

Two Loaves

After they waved the sheaf of the firstfruits, they would count 50 days, called Pentecost, or fiftieth. On Pentecost, they would bake two loaves of bread and wave them before the Lord. That symbolism points to the church, which was born on the day of Pentecost.

Leviticus 23:15-17 ... count for yourselves from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering ... 'Count fifty days to the day after the seventh Sabbath; then you shall offer a new grain offering to the LORD. 'You shall bring from your dwellings two wave loaves ... They shall be of fine flour; they shall be baked with leaven. They are the firstfruits to the LORD.



Acts 2:1-4 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

The two loaves represent the church, one representing the dead "in Christ" and the other representing those who will be alive "in Christ"

when he comes for the church in the rapture. The rapture is when Jesus will return to snatch the church up to heaven sometime before the seven years of tribulation begins. The church is also firstfruits (Jas 1:18) because they will be the bride of Christ.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-17** For if we believe that **Jesus died and rose again**, even so, God will bring with Him those who sleep (are dead) in Jesus. For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that **we who are alive** and remain until the coming of the Lord **will by no means precede those who are asleep (dead)** ... For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God ... **And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus, we shall always be with the Lord.

The Corners & Gleanings

Jewish law required all Israelites to remember the poor. Farmers were required to leave some of their crops to feed the poor.

The crops in the **corners** of the fields were not harvested and were left for the poor to eat. The poor could go there anytime during the season. We know Jesus and his disciples went into a field and ate some corn on the Sabbath (Matthew 12:1).

The **gleanings** were sheaves that were dropped or missed by the harvesters. When they harvested a field, they were not allowed to go back to pick up what they missed. They had to leave the gleanings for the poor to eat. Boaz intentionally left gleanings for Ruth (Ruth 2:15-16).



Leviticus 23:22 "When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not wholly reap **the corners** of your field when you reap, nor shall you gather any **gleaning** from your harvest. You shall leave them for the poor and for the stranger: I am the LORD your God."

The corners and the gleanings point to different groups that will have their resurrection during the tribulation or at the second coming. These would be people like the Two Witnesses, Old Testament saints, and tribulation martyrs. Similar to the random nature of gathering from the corners and gleanings, these different groups will resurrect at differing times, culminating at the second coming of Christ.

Revelation 11:17-18 ... "saying: "We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty, The One who is and who was and who is to come, Because You have taken Your great power and reigned. The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, **And the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, and those who fear Your name, small and great ... who destroy the earth.**"

The Harvest

After the sheaf of the firstfruits and the two loaves, it was time for the harvest. There were two harvest seasons in Israel; the barley harvest in the spring (Passover) and the wheat harvest in late summer (Pentecost). There will be two harvests in the resurrections as well. The early harvest is called the first resurrection, where all the redeemed will stand before the judgment seat of Christ to test their works and receive their rewards. The second harvest will come at the end of the world, called the second death, whereby all sinners from every age are brought out of death and hell to stand before the great white throne. After their trial before the great white throne, they will be sentenced and cast into the lake of fire.

Jeremiah 8:20 The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved.



The Wheat & Tares

Weeds have always been a problem for farmers. Jesus told a parable about a farmer (God) who planted wheat, and his enemy (Satan) came at night and scattered tares in his field. Wheat and tares look very similar, and removing the tares would damage the crop, so the farmer let them grow together. True believers and unbelievers grow together until the harvest when God sorts them believers go to the kingdom and unbelievers to hell. (Matthew 13:25-30)

Laws of the Harvest (Leviticus 23)	
Early Harvest	1st Resurrection
First Ripe Sheaf Firstfruit	Christ first to rise from the dead
2 Waive Loaves Firstfruits	Judgment Seat of Christ
	Rapture - Dead & Living "In Christ"
Corners & Gleanings (left for Poor)	Two Witnesses Tribulation Martyrs Old Testament Saints
Reap Harvest Wheat into barns Tares to burn	Throne of Glory
	Wheat / Sheep - Millennial kingdom Tares / Goats - Hell
Millennium (1,000 Years)	
Latter Harvest Hell - All Sinners – All Ages <i>Jeremiah 8:20 The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved.</i>	White Throne Judgment 2nd Death - Lake of Fire
	Antichrist/false prophet/Satan Sinners / Fallen Angels / Demons

Jesus Died, Buried, Risen

Jesus knew the prophecies and understood the suffering he would endure and that he would be beaten, crucified, die, and be in the grave for three days and nights. He knew three days after his death, he would rise from the dead, and he told everyone what to expect before it happened.

***Matthew 12:38-40** Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered, saying, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from You." But He answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. "For as Jonah was **three days and three nights** in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be **three days and three nights** in the heart of the earth.*

***John 2:19-22** Jesus answered and said to them, "**Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up** ...Then the Jews said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?" But **He was speaking of the temple of His body** ...*



*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.*

Paradise

When Jesus was hanging on the cross, two criminals were also hanging on crosses, one on either side of him. In his final moments of life, one of the criminals understood that Jesus was the son of God and asked him for mercy.

Luke 23:42-43 Then he said to Jesus, "**Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.**" And Jesus said to him, "**Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.**"

Paradise is a Persian word that means the King's Garden. There was a Jewish belief that Abraham's Bosom and the Garden of Eden were side by side, comparable in beauty. Jesus and the thief both went to Paradise that day.

The Victory of the Cross

The penalty of sin is death, and when Adam sinned, he passed the DNA of sin to the entire human race, bringing all of humanity under the law of sin and death. Through one act of disobedience, all were born sinners, all will die, and earthly dominion went to the Devil. Satan tried to trick Jesus like he did Adam, offering him all the kingdoms of this world, but Jesus did not tolerate Satan's schemes, rebuking him, and surrendered nothing.

Matthew 4:8 Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. 9 And he said to Him, "**All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me.**" Then Jesus said to him, "**Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.'**"



On his way to the cross, Jesus acknowledged that Satan was the ruler of this world (age) at that time. The apostle Paul called Satan the god of this world and that the unsaved lie under the sway of the wicked one.

John 14:28-30 *"You have heard Me say to you, 'I am going away (death) and coming back to you (resurrection).'* If you loved Me, you would rejoice because I said, 'I am going to the Father,' for My Father is greater than I. "And now I have told you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe. "I will no longer talk much with you, **for the ruler of this world (Satan) is coming, and he has nothing in Me.**

2 Corinthians 4:3-4 *But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds **the god of this age (Satan) has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ who is the image of God, should shine on them.***

But one man, Jesus, took back the power of death through his obedience and sinless sacrifice. Because Jesus had never sinned, death and corruption could not touch him, so he defeated sin, death, and the Devil the moment he died. Jesus has the power to give eternal life, holds the keys of death hell, and has all power and authority in heaven and earth.

Hebrews 2:14-15 *Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death **He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,** and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.*

Acts 2:23-27 *"Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death; **"whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death because it was not possible that He should be held by it.** "For David says concerning Him: 'I foresaw the LORD always before my face, For He is at my right hand, that I may not be shaken. Therefore, my heart rejoiced, and my tongue was glad; Moreover, my flesh also*

will rest in hope. For You will not leave my soul in Hades, nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.

Romans 5:15-21** But the free gift is not like the offense. For if by the **one man's offense many died**, much more the grace of God and the gift by the **grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ**, abounded to many ... For if by the **one man's offense death reigned** through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the **gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.**) Therefore, as through **one man's offense judgment came to all men**, resulting in condemnation, even so **through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men**, resulting in justification of life. For as by **one man's disobedience many were made sinners**, so also by **one Man's obedience many will be made righteous** so that as **sin reigned in death**, even so **grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

There was another problem before the cross, that was the law of Moses. The law is good, but it has a weak human partner that always sins. Adam and Eve were perfect in a perfect paradise, with no bad neighbors, no bills, no traffic, no problems, and they lacked for nothing. They only had one simple little law, and they had the whole planet all to themselves doing whatever they wanted to do.

They broke the law. If they couldn't obey just one little rule, then what are the chances that we could keep all 613 laws of Moses throughout our entire life? Impossible! Thank God that Jesus fulfilled the law and saved us from its condemnation by nailing the law to the cross.

Colossians 2:13-15** When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, **having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and

Death & Hell Defeated

When Jesus died, he descended into the grave, but he didn't go there to suffer or pay for sin because he accomplished that on the cross. Instead, He went on a mission to make a proclamation, take the keys of death and Hell, and relocate the righteous captives who were in Abraham's Bosom up to paradise.

Revelation 1:18 "I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And **I have the keys of Hades (Hell) and of Death.**

1 Peter 3:18-20 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared ...

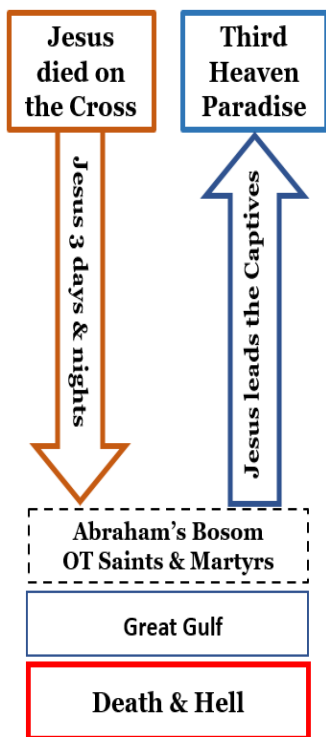
1 Corinthians 15:54-57 ... that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?" The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. **But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Christ preached the gospel to disobedient spirits imprisoned in Hell as a testimony against them, comparing them with living people that obey God and live in the Spirit. Sinners are kept in Hell until they stand before the great white throne judgment, but in the meantime, the testimony of living saints is a witness against them and continues to grow.

1 Peter 4:4-5 In regard to these, they think it strange that you do not run with them in the same flood of dissipation, speaking evil of you. **They will give an account to Him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. For this reason, the gospel was**

preached also to those who are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh but live according to God in the spirit.

The abyss is a bottomless pit, a prison for the devil and his angels. Some evil spirits are so bad they are bound in prison, inside Hell where they have been since Noah's flood. And when Jesus descended into Hell, he went there and preached or made a proclamation to them.



Jude 1:6 And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day;

2 Peter 2:4-5 For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment; and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly;

From Paul's letter to the Ephesians, we see that Jesus took all the people formerly captive in Abraham's bosom and relocated them to a heavenly paradise when he ascended to heaven.

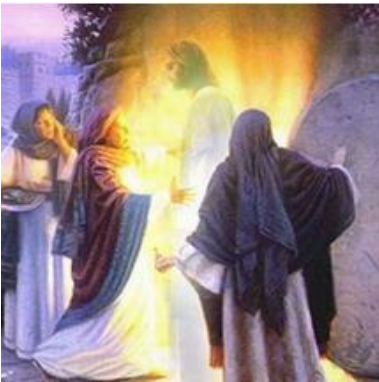
Ephesians 4:8-10 This is why it says: "When he ascended on high, he took many captives and gave gifts to his people." (What does "he ascended" mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? He who descended is the very

one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.)

The Apostle Paul told us that Paradise is in the heavens. Paul said he was "caught up" beyond the first and second heavens, ascending to the third heaven and Paradise.

*2 Corinthians 12:2-4 I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows such a one was **caught up to the third heaven**. And I know such a man whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows how he was **caught up into Paradise** and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.*

Early on the third day after Jesus rose from the dead, and before He ascended to His Father, he stopped and gave Mary Magdalene a message to deliver to **his brethren**, the disciples.



*John 20:17-18 Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to Me, for **I have not yet ascended to My Father**; but go to **My brethren** and say to them, '**I am ascending to My Father** and your Father, and to My God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene came and **told the disciples** that she had seen the Lord and that He had spoken these things to her.*

Then after leaving Mary, he ascended far above all rule, authority, power, dominion, and name.

*Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "**All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.**"*

Ephesians 1:18-23** ... the same as the mighty strength 20 he exerted when **he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under his feet ...

Jesus is the Resurrection

After his resurrection, Jesus appeared to his disciples. They were in disbelief and thought they saw a ghost. They talked with him, touched the nail scars in his hands, and saw him eat solid food. Then they realized that this was the same Jesus they witnessed dying on the cross, who died, and was buried. And he was now standing before them.

Luke 24:39-43** **Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.**" When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" **They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate it in their presence.

John 20:26-28** A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. **Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"** Then he said to Thomas, **"Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."** Thomas said to him, **"My Lord and my God!"

His body endured 39 lashes with a barbed whip, nails driven into his hands and feet, and a spear pierced his side. He had the scars from his wounds, proving that it was the same body.

Jesus told the disciples that a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have. He had the same body but resurrected, incorruptible, glorified, and eternal. He did not say he had flesh and blood. The resurrection body does not need blood, food, or air to stay alive. Jesus is the resurrection and the life, and all eternal life flows from him.

John 11:25-26 Jesus said to her, ***"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"***

John 10:28 ***I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand.***

When Jesus came, although he was God, he humbled himself and took on the form of a servant and limited his abilities as a man on earth (Philp 2:5-10). But as the resurrected Lord in his glorified state, he has unlimited power and absolutely no restrictions regarding time or space. Jesus can appear or vanish, ascend or descend through the clouds, and there is nothing impossible for Him, and He has all power in heaven and earth.

Luke 24:30-31 ***And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them. And their eyes were opened, and they knew him, and he vanished out of their sight.***

Acts 1:9-11 ***After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."***

Jesus was the first to be resurrected from the dead. Everyone else is still waiting, and there's a sequence of events that will happen before the other groups will be judged and resurrected.

***John 5:25-29** Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, **when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live.** ... Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which **all who are in the graves will hear His voice "and come forth** those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.*

Isaiah 26:19** But your dead will live, **LORD; their bodies will rise let those who dwell in the dust wake up** and shout for joy your dew is like the dew of the morning; **the earth will give birth to her dead.

In the same way that Jesus' physical body was resurrected, transformed, and eternally glorified, at the resurrection, believers will experience a transformation of their bodies from death to life, with various degrees of glory.

***2 Corinthians 5:1-4** Now we know that if the earthly tent (body) we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. ... because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.*

Philippians 3:20-21** But [we are different, because] our citizenship is in heaven. And from there we eagerly await [the coming of] the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; ²¹ **who, by exerting that power which enables Him even to subject everything to Himself, will [not only] transform [but

completely refashion] our earthly bodies so that they will be like His glorious resurrected body. (AMP)

1 John 3:2-3 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

We should not misuse our bodies for ungodly purposes or defile and disfigure them. Since we are held responsible for everything done in our bodies, the followers of Christ should seek to glorify God with their bodies and flee from sexual sins, drunkenness, drugs, gluttony, and so forth.

1 Corinthians 6:18-20 Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore, glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

1 Corinthians 3:16-17 Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him; for God's temple is sacred, and you are that temple.

The Church - Bride

The rapture is like a wedding, and Jesus and John the Baptist both stated that Jesus is the bridegroom spoken of in all the wedding parables. The church will be raptured, removed from the earth as the bride of Christ, which will happen before the wrath of God comes during the great tribulation. Both the rapture and the (gentile) church

were hidden mysteries not mentioned in the Old Testament but only revealed after the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the church.

Matthew 9:14-15 ... (Jesus speaking) "Can the friends of the bridegroom (John the Baptist & others) mourn as long as the bridegroom (Jesus) is with them? But the days will come when the bridegroom (Jesus) will be taken away from them, and then they will fast.

1 Corinthians 15:51-52 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye (Rapture), at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

Ephesians 5:23-27, 32 For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish ... This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

Jesus spoke about a wedding feast which is also the marriage supper of the Lamb (Matthew 22:1-14, 25:1-13). The bride of Christ is a position held exclusively by the church. The guests at the wedding feast will be the Old Testament saints and martyrs. Jesus said that John the Baptist was the greatest and the last of the Old Testament saints, but the least in the kingdom of heaven will be greater than John.

***Matthew 11:11-13** I tell you the truth: Among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist, yet **he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he** ... For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John.*

Even John admitted that he would be just a "friend of the bridegroom" at the wedding.

***John 3:29** (John speaking) "He who has the bride (church) is the bridegroom (Jesus); but **the friend of the bridegroom**, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. Therefore, **this joy of mine is fulfilled.**"*

Although John was said to be filled by the Holy Spirit from his mother's womb, he told Jesus that he needed the baptism of the Spirit that Jesus would give (to the church), showing that he is not part of the Spirit-filled church and the bride of Christ.

***Matthew 3:13-14** Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. And John tried to prevent Him, saying, "**I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?**"*

The Spirit-filled believers in the New Testament have a better covenant and better promises than John the Baptist and the Old Testament saints.

Hebrews 8:6** But now He has obtained a **more excellent ministry**, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a **better covenant**, which was established on **better promises.

***Hebrews 9:11-14** But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come ... Not with the blood of goats and calves, but **with His own blood** He entered the Most Holy Place once for*

*all, having obtained eternal redemption ... **how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?***

It's not that "we" are better than the Old Testament saints, but we have a better covenant and a different type of relationship. Who has the most honor at a wedding, the bride or the family and guests? No doubt it is the bride, but the Old Testament saints and tribulation martyrs will be the friends at the wedding, which is a great honor. But the church is given in pledge to marry Christ, and the infilling of the Holy Spirit is like an engagement ring, given as a down payment sealing the covenant until the wedding day.

Ephesians 1:13-14** In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, **having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

2 Corinthians 1:20-22** ... Now he who **establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

***Revelation 19:7-9** "Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for **the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.**" And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. Then he said to me, "**Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'**"*

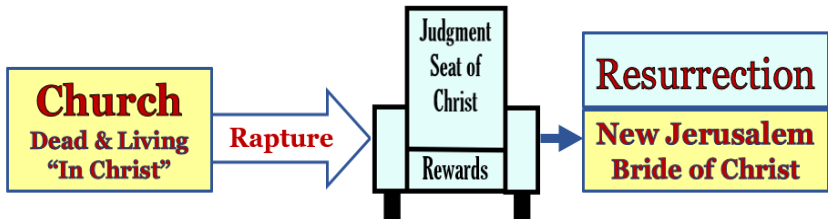


The Rapture

Following Jesus, the next in the order of resurrections is the church. Those who are "in Christ," both the dead and living, will be raptured, meaning snatched from the earth and caught up into the sky to meet Christ in the air and taken to heaven. The rapture could happen at any moment without warning, and it will be like a flash of lightning or the twinkling of an eye.

1 Thessalonians 4:15-18 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that **we who are alive** and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede **those who are asleep** (are dead). For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. **And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.** And thus, we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words.

1 Corinthians 15:51-54 Behold, I tell you a mystery: **We shall not all sleep** (die), **but we shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet.** For the trumpet will sound, and **the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.** For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and **this mortal must put on immortality.** So, when **this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."**



Judgment Seat of Christ

One day the dead and the living believers in Christ will be snatched off the earth and taken up to meet Jesus in the air, and then each believer will stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ to give an account of their lives. The Judgment Seat of Christ does not determine heaven or hell, condemnation or guilt (no sinners there) but is a judgment reserved for the saints alone to receive their rewards. All of their works pass through a test of fire to verify which ones were approved by God, the works that survive the flames of testing get rewarded, and whatever gets burned up is a total loss.

2 Timothy 4: I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom:

2 Corinthians 5:10-11 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

1 Corinthians 3:11-15 For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If any man builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, his work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man's work. If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward. If it is burned up, he will suffer loss; he himself will be saved, but only as one escaping through the flames

1 Peter 1:6-9 *In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, **though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, receiving the end of your faith the salvation of your souls.***

There is always a risk of doing works that are not approved, and there is also a risk that we could give away the crowns and rewards that should have been ours. Sometimes we forfeit the opportunities to do acts of service for God by neglect or sin, and those moments may slip away forever, and we lose our crowns.

Revelation 3:11 *"Behold, I am coming quickly! **Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown.***

Eternal Rewards	
Crown of Glory	1 Pet 5:2-4 Shepherd the flock of God which is among you ... and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.
Eternal Crown	1 Cor 9:25 Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training ... we do it to get a crown that will last forever.
Martyrs Crown	Jas 1:12 Blessed endures temptation; when approved, will receive the crown of life Rev 2:10 ... Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.
Crown of Rejoicing	Php 4:1 my beloved and longed-for brethren, my joy and crown, 1Th 2:19 ... what is our hope, joy, crown of rejoicing? ... you are our glory and joy.
Crown Of Righteousness	2Ti 4:8 ... there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

In the parable of the prodigal son, he took his inheritance and squandered it on wild living, parties, and women, losing everything he had. Then he returned to the father and was allowed back into the house, but he was empty and broke, and what he wasted was lost forever.

Luke 15:13, 30 "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living ... (older son) But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!"

It takes a conscious effort to prioritize our lives to use each day to serve God. We need to make the best use of our time and talents while remaining faithful during the times of testing if we want to lay up treasures in heaven.

Matthew 6:20-21 "but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 19:21 Jesus said to him, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."

1 Peter 1:6-7 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,

Revelation 3:18 "I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich;

Two Witnesses

The book of Revelation has the testimony of the two witnesses, who will preach for 3½ years and call for droughts, and fire to consume their enemies. They will be hated by all the ungodly of the world, and the Antichrist will kill them. They will leave the witness's dead bodies in the street and gloat over their deaths. But after 3½ days, they will be resurrected and caught up to heaven, before the whole world.

***Revelation 11:7-12** When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, **and kill them**. And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified. Then those from the peoples, tribes, tongues, and nations **will see their dead bodies three and a half days, and not allow their dead bodies to be put into graves**. And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth. Now **after the three and a half days the breath (Spirit) of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them. And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here."** And they ascended to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies saw them.*



Tribulation Martyrs

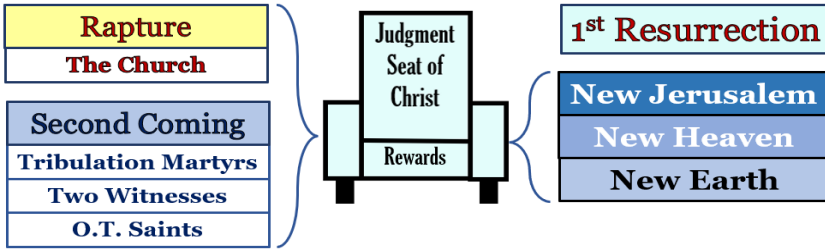
During the time of the great tribulation, there will be a great multitude of believers killed. There will be a global government with a dictator called the Antichrist. He will give a mandate that says no one can buy or sell unless they take his mark or worship his image. All those who disobey the mandate, and refuse the mark, will be killed. (Revelation 13:1-18). A great multitude of believers from all over the world will be faithful to Christ and refuse the mandate. They will be killed, go to heaven, be honored with a crown of life, and will worship before the throne of God.

***Revelation 7:9-14** After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ... Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?" And I said to him, "Sir, you know." So, he said to me, "**These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation**, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.*

Old Testament Saints

When Christ returns at the second coming, he will resurrect and judge the Old Testament prophets and saints, as we see in the following verses.

***Revelation 11:15-18** The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: "**The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ**, and he will reign for ever and ever." And the twenty-four elders, who were seated on their thrones before God, fell on their faces and worshiped God, saying:*



"We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was, because you have taken your great power and have begun to reign. The nations were angry; and your wrath has come. The time has come for judging the dead, and for rewarding your servants the prophets and your saints and those who reverence your name, both small and great and for destroying those who destroy the earth."

Daniel 12:13 "But you (Daniel), go your way till the end; for you shall rest, and will arise to your inheritance at the end of the days."

John saw a scene in heaven with martyrs singing the song of Moses and the song of the Lamb. The mention of Moses is a reference to people of Jewish descent being saints and prophets from the Old Testament. Those singing about the Lamb refer to the New Testament believers from Jewish or Gentile backgrounds.

Revelation 15:1-4 I saw in heaven another great and marvelous sign: seven angels with the seven last plagues--last, because with them God's wrath is completed. And I saw what looked like a sea of glass mixed with fire and, standing beside the sea, those who had been victorious over the beast and his image and over the number of his name. They held harps given them by God and sang the song of Moses the servant of God and the song of the Lamb: "Great and marvelous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty. Just and true

are your ways, King of the ages. Who will not fear you, O Lord, and bring glory to your name? For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship before you, for your righteous acts have been revealed."

The Church, martyrs, Old Testament prophets, and saints will be part of the first resurrection, and they will not face the second death that is only for sinners.

Revelation 20:4-6 *And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.*

Antichrist & False Prophet

The Antichrist will imitate the actual Christ. He will be more than just demon-possessed; he will be the Devil incarnate. Satan will enter him to unleash Hell on earth. He will demand all the inhabitants of the world to worship him as a god. He has a sidekick, the false prophet, who will bring the world's religions together as one to worship the Antichrist. If anyone refuses to worship the beast or his image or take his mark, the penalty is death.

Revelation 13:7-15 *It was granted to him (antichrist) to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. All who dwell on the earth will worship him ... And he (false prophet)*

deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast (antichrist) who was wounded by the sword and lived. He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.

Satan, the Antichrist, and the false prophet make an unholy trinity, deceiving by false signs and wonders, the evil trinity will deceive the whole world. At the end of the great tribulation, the Antichrist and the false prophet will be cast alive into the lake of fire. They will be the first to experience the second death in the resurrection of condemnation.

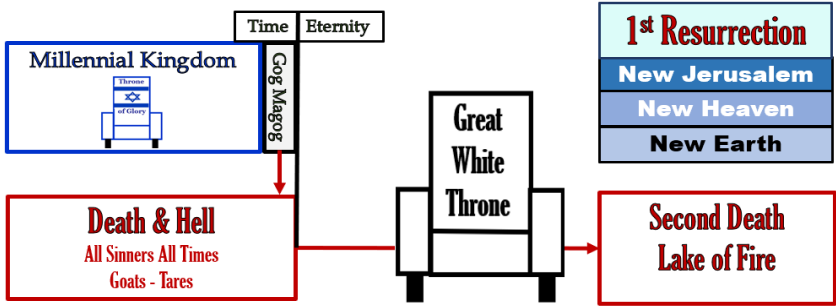
*Revelation 19:19-20 And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army. **Then the beast was captured and with him the false prophet** who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. **These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone.***

Lake of Fire

At the end of the millennium Satan is released only to be defeated and sent to the lake of fire. He will be joined later by all sinners, after the white throne judgment when death and Hell get cast into the lake of fire.

*Revelation 20:7-10, 14 When the thousand years are over, **Satan will be released** from his prison and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth **Gog and Magog to gather them for battle.** In number, they are like the sand on the seashore. They marched across the breadth of the*

earth and surrounded the camp of God's people, the city he loves. But fire came down from heaven and devoured them. And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night ...



The Great White Throne

After the second coming, there will be one thousand years of peace, called the millennium. At the end of the millennium, there will be a final war and the physical universe will be destroyed, and time will be no more. Then every sinner who has ever lived will stand before the great white throne for judgment (Saints will not be there). The books will open, and the dead will stand to be judged, out of the books. Those whose names are not in the book of life go to the lake of fire.

***Revelation 20:11-15** Then I saw a **great white throne** and him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, **and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books.** The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what he had done. Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. **The lake of fire is the second death.** If anyone's name was not*

found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

Resurrection of Life

Those of us who love God and love His appearing have a blessed hope. We are looking forward to an eternity of bliss in the presence of God. However, we find it hard to comprehend what heaven will be like with our earthly minds. There will be different places, with various glories in Heaven, there will also be differences between each body, based on rewards. The resurrected bodies in Heaven will not be a one-size-fits-all uniform, where everybody is the same. Paul asks and then answers his question, how are the dead raised, and what kind of body will they have?

*1 Corinthians 15:35-39 But someone will say, "HOW are the dead raised up? And with WHAT body do they come?" Foolish one, what you sow is not made alive unless it dies. ... And what you sow, you do not sow that body that shall be, but mere grain perhaps wheat or some other grain. But God gives it a body as He pleases, and to each seed its own body. All flesh is not the same flesh, but there is one kind of flesh of **men**, another flesh of **animals**, another of **fish**, and another of **birds**.*

Paul compares the differences in earthly types of bodies to the variations in resurrection bodies. He starts by contrasting the differences between the bodies of **men, animals, fish, birds**. Each of the four categories was designed with a different purpose and function, especially suited for their environment. Birds were designed to soar to clouds, fish to existence underwater, animals to populate the mountains, valleys, and trees. But man was made in God's image to rule over them all. Paul uses the animal world as an example of God's creativity in designing a vast array of different types of bodies, in showing how each resurrection body could be unique. Just look at how many species and breeds are in God's creation.



With **humans**, there are short, tall, skinny, chubby, brown eyes, blue eyes, different languages, cultures, rich, poor, smart, not smart, etc. With **animals**, there are predators and prey, carnivores and vegetarians, elephants, tigers, hippos, alligators, deer, bears, turtles, sheep, goats, etc. Also, there are variations within one species, like the wolf, Doberman, Shih-Tzu, mastiff, Chihuahua, Great Dane, and many crossbreeds. **Fish** have scales and fins, and there are fresh and saltwater variations like whales, sharks, minnows, goldfish, catfish, trout, tuna, octopus, starfish, sea horses, stingrays, dolphins, etc. **Birds** have wings, feathers, and beaks, and there are eagles, vultures, sparrows, owls, hawks, parrots, ravens, peacocks, turkeys, etc. There are variations of one species like pigeons, or chickens, etc. With that limited list, you can see how creative God is and imagine how each person will have bodies with boundless capabilities and dwelling places with a beauty beyond human comprehension, and no two are the same.

1 Corinthians 2:9-10 ... "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him" but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit.

Paul spoke about the hope of eternal glory and compared it to the various degrees of glory from star to star. Each star is different, and each person will reflect different levels of God's glory.

*1 Corinthians 15:40-42, There are also heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the **glory** of the heavenly is one, and the **glory** of the earthly is another. There is one **glory** of the sun, and another **glory** of the moon, and another **glory** of the stars; for star differs from star in glory. So also, is the resurrection of the dead.*

There are different glories in eternity similar to the sun, moon, and stars. The sun would be a reference to God. You cannot stare at the sun for even a minute without going blind. God's glory will be much more radiant than the sun and will be the only light in eternity.

***Revelation 21:23-24** The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for **the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp.** The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendor into it.*

The moon has no light of its own but only reflects the light of the sun. The moon refers to those who give witness for the glory of God.

***Psalms 89:35-37** Once for all, I have sworn by my holiness and I will not lie to David that his line will continue forever and his throne endures before me like the sun; **it will be established forever like the moon, the faithful witness in the sky.**"*

The stars are like those who serve God and win souls for Christ.

Daniel 12:3** Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and **those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

When you look up at night and see the billions of stars, each star is unique. That's how it will be in eternity. Star differs from star in glory, each rewarded according to its works. Paul paints another picture of our transformation.

1 Corinthians 15:36-38** How foolish! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. When you sow, **you do not plant the body that will be, but just a seed, perhaps of wheat or of something else. But God gives it a body as he has determined, and to each kind of seed, he gives its own body.

Let's say you plant corn, starting with a tiny yellow seed, you plant it in the ground, and it sprouts and becomes a seven-foot-tall green plant with ears growing on its sides. Each ear has a husk outside with rows of little yellow squares inside. What came out of the ground looks nothing like what you planted. At death, we put our bodies in the grave, then what comes up from the grave is the same body, but transformed and different.

We will be recognizable to those who know us, but our resurrected bodies will be eternal without earthly limitations. That body is free from aging, hunger, sickness, and pain, and it will reflect the glory of God. The Apostle Paul endured a tremendous amount of suffering, and he was relentless through the pain by the grace of God because he had a burning vision of his glorious transformation in the resurrection.

2 Corinthians 4:8-12 We are hard-pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that his life may be revealed in our mortal body ...

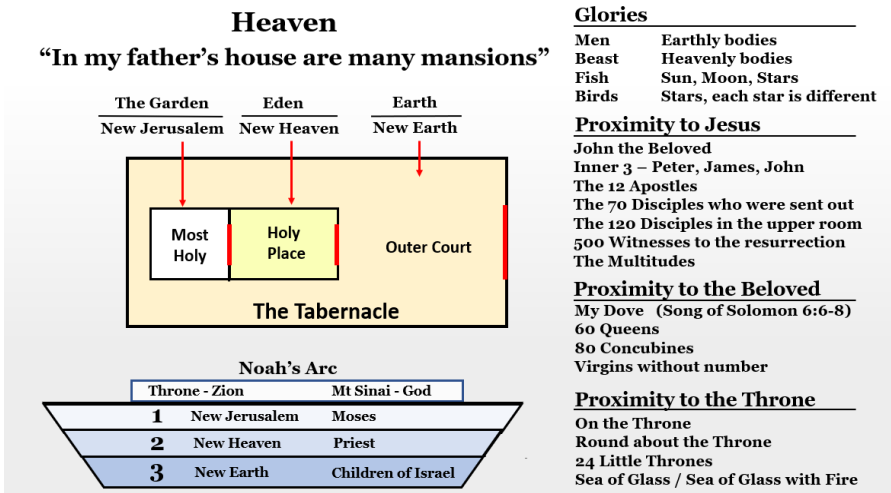
Philippians 3:9-10 ... and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

Paul told the church that if they endured sufferings for Christ, it produces a glory in them that outweighs all their suffering. Paul's scars will shine with the glory of God forever. Nothing we suffer for Christ is in vain because God will reward each one according to the works.

New Jerusalem

Rewards are according to what we have done, so it makes sense that there will be many different places in eternity. If there are millions of people, there could be millions of dwelling places.

Let's use Israel as an example. On planet earth, located between the African, European, and Asian continents, there is a small country called Israel. In Israel, there is a city called Jerusalem, and in Jerusalem is a hill called Zion, and there was (and will be) a Temple there, which is where God's people went to worship. The Temple had three different areas inside its walls. The entrance led into a courtyard called the **Outer Court**. Only the 12 tribes of the children of Israel were allowed to enter through the gate into the outer court. All non-Jewish people were forbidden to enter. Inside the Outer Court, there was a building that had one entrance. It had two rooms. The first room was called the **Holy Place**, and only a priest from one tribe of Israel was allowed to enter and serve in the Holy Place. From inside the Holy Place was an entrance to the next room, which was the **Most Holy Place**. Only one person, the High Priest, could enter once a year, and he risked his life to do so. Inside the Most Holy Place was the Ark of the Covenant, where God's presence dwelt between two cherubim (angels).



That's how it will be in heaven. There will be different places, different levels of access, with various degrees of glory. There will be a place called the New Earth (*Outer Court*), and place called the New Heaven (*Holy Place*), and a city called the New Jerusalem (*Most Holy Place*), and in that city will be the Throne of God (*Ark of the Covenant*).

Hebrews 8:5 *They serve at a sanctuary that is a copy and shadow of what is in heaven. This is why Moses was warned when he was about to build the tabernacle: "See to it that you make everything according to the pattern shown you on the mountain."*

Revelation 21:1-2 *Now I saw a New Heaven and a New Earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also, there was no more sea. Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.*

Revelation 21:9-10 ... *"Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife." And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,*

The church is the bride, and she is in New Jerusalem. There will be a New Earth, and it has nations (distinctions between peoples), the kings of the new earth (various levels of authority) will visit the New Jerusalem (with limited access) to bring glory and honor to God (glory and honor as tributes). The New Jerusalem is the throne, and Christ is the temple and its light.

Revelation 21:22-26 *But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. The city had no need of the sun or the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light. And the nations of those*

*who are saved shall walk in its light, and **the kings of the earth** bring their glory and honor into it. Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there). And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it. **But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.***

The Gospel

The word gospel means good news. Jesus is alive, and if we believe in him, we will live forever. We are saved by faith, not by our good works or church attendance. Salvation is God's gift paid for by the death of Jesus on the cross. Here is the first thing Jesus preached, and this is the first thing we have to do to start and maintain a relationship with God.

***Matthew 4:17** From that time Jesus began to preach and say, "**Repent [change your inner self—your old way of thinking, regret past sins, live your life in a way that proves repentance; seek God's purpose for your life], for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.**"*

When we give our lives to Christ, it means that we die to our old sinful life so that Jesus can live his life through us.

***Galatians 2:20** I have been crucified with Christ [that is, in Him I have shared His crucifixion]; **it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me.** The life I now live in the body I live by faith [by adhering to, relying on, and completely trusting] in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.*

When Christ comes into our hearts, everything changes, our lives become so different that we have a new life, we are born again.

***2 Corinthians 5:17** Therefore if anyone is in Christ [that is, grafted in, joined to Him by faith in Him as Savior], he is a*

***new creature** [reborn and renewed by the Holy Spirit]; the old things [the previous moral and spiritual condition] have passed away. Behold, new things have come [because spiritual awakening brings a new life]*

Think of your family and all the people you know where will they go? If we don't speak to them, who will? We are ambassadors for Christ, and may God give us boldness and wisdom to share with as many as we can while we can!

2 Corinthians 5:18-20** All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ **and gave us the ministry of reconciliation**: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And **he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

Mark 16:15-16** He said to them, "**Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

The background of the image features numerous dark silhouettes of people in various poses, many with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or prayer. They are set against a bright, hazy sky with soft, white clouds. Several jagged, white lightning bolts are visible, striking downwards from the top of the frame. The overall atmosphere is one of dramatic, spiritual intensity.

End Times Prophecy

End Times Prophecy

Historical Evidence & Accuracy

Before we look at future prophetic events, we will first check the accuracy and historical evidence of a few historically verified prophetic events to show how legitimate and accurate Bible prophecy is.

Prophecy of Tyre

The following quotes are from the book *Science Speaks* by Peter Stoner, who illustrated the statistical probability of Bible prophecy happening by accident. We will look at just two examples out of the hundreds of fulfilled prophecies to prove that the Bible is the infallible word of God. Let's start with the city of Tyre, as seen in prophecy, history, and archeology. In **Ezekiel chapter 26**, there are seven prophesies concerning the city of Tyre, the writing of these prophecies was in the year 590 B.C.

1. Nebuchadnezzar shall conquer the city. (vs. 7-11)
2. Other nations will assist Nebuchadnezzar. (vs. 3)
3. The city will be made like a bare rock. (vs. 4, 14)
4. It will be a place for spreading of fishing nets. (vs. 5, 14)
5. Its stones and timbers will be thrown into the sea. (vs. 12)
6. Other cities will fear greatly at the fall of Tyre. (vs. 16)
7. The old city of Tyre will never be rebuilt. (vs. 14)

Four years after Ezekiel gave the prophecy, **Nebuchadnezzar** laid siege to Tyre. The siege lasted 13 years. In 573 B.C. the city fell, but Babylonians found nothing of value because they had moved it to a nearby island.

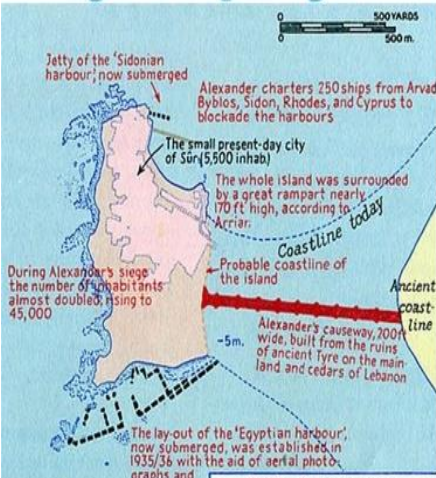
Two hundred and forty-one years later **Alexander the Great** arrived on the scene. Fearing that the fleet of Tyre might be used against his homeland, he decided to take the island where the city had been moved to. He accomplished this goal by building a causeway from the mainland to the island, and he did that by using all the building materials from the ruins of the old city. Neighbouring cities were so

frightened by Alexander's conquest that they immediately opened their gates to him. Ever since that time, Tyre has remained in ruins and is a place where fishermen spread their nets. Thus, every detail of the prophecy was fulfilled exactly as predicted. Peter Stoner calculated the odds of such a prophecy being fulfilled by chance as being 1 in 75,000,000, or 1 in 7.5×10^7 . (The exponent 7 indicates that the decimal is to be moved to the right seven places.)

Stoner proceeds to calculate the probabilities of the prophecies concerning Samaria, Gaza and Ashkelon, Jericho, Palestine, Moab and Ammon, Edom, and Babylon. He also calculates the odds of prophecies being fulfilled that predicted the closing of the Eastern Gate (Ezekiel 44:1-3), the plowing of Mount Zion (Micah 3:12), and the enlargement of Jerusalem according to a prescribed pattern (Jeremiah 31:38-40).

Combining all these prophecies, he concludes that "the probability of these 11 prophecies coming true, if written in human wisdom, is 1 in 5.76×10^{59} . Needless to say, this is a number beyond the realm of possibility.

Tyre Prophecy Fulfilled



586 B.C. Prophecy

254 Years

332 B.C. Fulfilled

Jetty of the 'Sidonian harbour', now submerged

Alexander charts 250 ships from Arvad, Byblos, Sidon, Rhodes, and Cyprus to blockade the harbours

The small present-day city of Sūr (5,500 inhab)

The whole island was surrounded by a great rampart nearly 170 ft high, according to Arriar.

Coastline today

Probable coastline of the island

Ancient coastline

Alexander's causeway, 200 ft wide, built from the ruins of ancient Tyre on the mainland and cedars of Lebanon




-5m.

During Alexander's siege the number of inhabitants almost doubled, rising to 45,000

The lay-out of the 'Egyptian harbour', now submerged, was established in 1935/36 with the aid of aerial photo, graphs and divers

TYRE, 'THE ROCK'

Powerful commercial city, 'in the midst of the sea' (Ezk 26)

Messianic Prophecy

Now we will look at Jesus through the perspective of prophecy, history and the science of probabilities. Peter Stoner calculated the probability of just 8 Messianic prophecies being fulfilled in the life of Jesus. As you read through these prophecies, you will see that all estimates were calculated as conservatively as possible.

1. The Messiah will be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2). The average population of Bethlehem from the time of Micah to the present (1958) divided by the average population of the earth during the same period
Estimate: 7,150/2,000,000,000 or 2.8×10^5 .
2. A messenger will prepare the way for the Messiah (Malachi 3:1). One man in how many, the world over, has had a forerunner (in this case, John the Baptist) to prepare his way?
Estimate: 1 in 1,000 or 1×10^3 .
3. The Messiah will enter Jerusalem as a king riding on a donkey (Zechariah 9:9). One man in how many, who has entered Jerusalem as a ruler, has entered riding on a donkey?
Estimate: 1 in 100 or 1×10^2 .
4. The Messiah will be betrayed by a friend and suffer wounds in His hands (Zechariah 13:6). One man in how many, the world over, has been betrayed by a friend, resulting in wounds in his hands?
Estimate: 1 in 1,000 or 1×10^3 .
5. The Messiah will be betrayed for 30 pieces of silver (Zechariah 11:12). Of the people who have been betrayed, one in how many has been betrayed for exactly 30 pieces of silver?
Estimate: 1 in 1,000 or 1×10^3 .
6. The betrayal money will be used to purchase a potter's field (Zechariah 11:13). One man in how many, after receiving a bribe for the betrayal of a friend, has returned the money, had

it refused, and then experienced it being used to buy a potter's field?

Estimate: 1 in 100,000 or 1×10^5 .

7. The Messiah will remain silent while He is afflicted (Isaiah 53:7). One man in how many, when he is oppressed and afflicted, though innocent, will make no defense of himself?

Estimate: 1 in 1,000 or 1×10^3 .

8. The Messiah will die by having His hands and feet pierced (Psalm 22:16). One man in how many, since the time of David, has been crucified?

Estimate: 1 in 10,000 or 1×10^4 .

Multiplying all these probabilities together produces a number (rounded off) of 1×10^{28} . Dividing this number by an estimate of the number of people who have lived since the time of these prophecies (88 billion) produces a probability of all 8 prophecies being fulfilled accidentally in the life of one



person. That probability is 1 in 10^{17} or 1 in 100,000,000,000,000,000. That's one in one hundred quadrillion! Stoner proceeds to use the eight previously mentioned prophecies about the Messiah and calculates the odds of their accidental fulfillment in one person as being 1 in 10^{17} . To picture this imagine filling the State of Texas knee deep in silver dollars. Include in this huge number **one silver dollar with a black check mark on it**. Then, turn a blindfolded person loose in this sea of silver dollars. The odds that the first coin he would pick up would be the one with the black check mark are the same as 8 prophecies being fulfilled accidentally in the life of Jesus.

The point, of course, is that when people say that the fulfillment of prophecy in the life of Jesus was accidental, they do not know what they are talking about. Keep in mind that Jesus did not just fulfill 8 prophecies, He fulfilled 108. The chances of fulfilling 16 is 1 in 10^{45} .

When you get to a total of 48, the odds increase to 1 in 10^{157} . **Accidental fulfillment of these prophecies is simply beyond the realm of possibility.** One of the most remarkable Messianic prophecies in the Hebrew Scriptures is the one that precisely states that the Messiah will die by crucifixion. It is found in Psalm 22 where David prophesied the Messiah would die by having His hands and feet pierced (Psalm 22:16).

That prophecy was written 1,000 years before Jesus was born. When it was written, the Jewish method of execution was by stoning. The prophecy was also written many years before the Romans perfected crucifixion as a method of execution. Even when Jesus was killed, the Jews still relied on stoning as their method of execution, but they had lost the power to implement the death penalty due to Roman occupation. That is why they were forced to take Jesus to Pilate, the Roman governor, and that's how Jesus ended up being crucified, in fulfillment of David's prophecy.

Daniel's 70 Weeks

Next, we see that Daniel prophesied the exact day that Jesus would make his triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the five gentile world empires, and the signing of a seven-year covenant that begins the tribulation and the final global dictator known as the antichrist. So, Daniel's prophecies reached more than 2500 years in the future.

***Daniel 9:24-26** "Seventy weeks are determined for your people and for your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy. "Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince, there shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks (7 weeks + 62 weeks = 69 weeks); The street shall be built again, and the wall, even*

in troublesome times. "And after the sixty-two weeks, Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself ...

In Daniel's prophecy of 70 weeks, he prophesied to the exact day that Messiah (Jesus) would enter Jerusalem on Palm Sunday 483 years in the future. Daniel's prophecy said from the command to rebuild the second temple to the Messiah will be 69 weeks of 7 years or 483 years.

The command to rebuild the temple came on March 14, 445 B.C., to get the correct date of the appearance of the Messiah we have to convert the Jewish 360-day calendar to the Roman 365-day calendar and account for the leap year differences, according to the language of the prophecy and the Jewish practices. 483 years x 360 days = 173,880 days converted to the Roman Calendar is 476 years & 24 days

- 173,740 days 173,740 days = 476 years
- 24 days March 14 counting forward 24 days
- 116 days 116 days added for leap years
- 173,880 days 483 years or 69 weeks of 7 years

From March 14, 445 B.C., plus 483 years ends on April 6, 32 A.D., or the exact date that Jesus had his triumphal entry into Jerusalem riding on a donkey, in fulfillment of the prophecy of the 69th week, given by Daniel. The prophet Zechariah also prophesied about Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, and he prophesied around 520 B.C., over 550 years before Christ entered Jerusalem.

Prophecy

Zechariah 9:9** "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! **Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.

Fulfillment

***Matthew 21:4-9** All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying: "Tell the daughter of Zion, '**Behold, your King is coming to you, Lowly, and sitting on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.**'" So, the disciples went and did as Jesus commanded them. They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their clothes on them, and set Him on them. And a very great multitude spread their clothes on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road.*

Jesus knew perfectly well that he was fulfilling prophecy as he entered Jerusalem, saying if you would have known, on this your day (the exact day prophesied by Daniel). Christ the Messiah rode into Jerusalem exactly as predicted 550 years before by Zechariah and Daniel, but the people did not know it, but Jesus did and wept over them. Jesus wept because the Jewish leaders had rejected him as their Messiah, and later, he prophesied the destruction of their temple as a consequence, which happened around 37 years later.

Luke 19:37-42** Then, as He was now drawing near the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works they had seen, saying:" '**Blessed is the King (Messiah) who comes in the name of the LORD!**' Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" And some of the Pharisees called to Him from the crowd, "Teacher, rebuke Your disciples." But He answered and said to them, "I tell you that if these should keep silent, the stones would immediately cry out." Now as He drew near, **He saw the city and wept over it, saying, "If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes.

Unfulfilled Prophecy Regarding Christ & Second Coming	
Acts 1:11	Jesus himself will return in the same way he left in the clouds
Jn 5:28	The dead will hear his voice
Lk 12:37	He will minister to his watching servants
Acts 1:11	He will come to earth again
Zech. 14:4	He will return to the same Mt. Olivet from where he ascended
2 Thess. 1:8	He will come with flaming fire
Matt 24:30	He is coming in clouds of heaven with power & great glory (1 Pet 1:7, 4:13)
Job 19:25	He will stand upon the earth, and saints will come with him (1 Thess 3:13, Jude 14)
Rev 1:7	Every eye will see him
2 Thess. 2:8	He shall destroy the antichrist
Matt 25:13	He shall sit on his throne (Matt 25:31, Rev 5:13)
Matt 25:32	All nations will be gathered before him and be judged
Isaiah 9:6	He shall have the throne of David upon the earth (Lk 1:32, Ezek. 21:25-27 Jer. 23:5-6)
Dan 7:13-14	He shall have a kingdom, and rule it with his saints (Dan 7:18-27, Rev 5:10)
Ps 72:11	Kings and nations shall serve him (Isa 49:6-7, Rev 15:4)
Zech. 12:10	The kingdoms of this world will become His kingdom (Rev 11:15)
Gen 49:10	The people shall be gathered to him
Isa 45:23	Every knee shall bow to him
Zech. 14:16	They shall worship before the king (Christ/Messiah) (Ps 86:9)
Ps 102:16	He shall build up Zion
Matt 19:28	The Apostles will sit on 12 thrones judging the 12 tribes of Israel (Lk 22:28-30)
Ps 2:8-9	He shall rule all nations (Rev 2:7)
Ps 9:7	He shall rule with judgment and justice
Ezek. 40-48	The temple in Jerusalem will be rebuilt
Ezek 43:2-5	The glory of the Lord will come into the rebuilt temple (Ezek 44:4)
Isa 40:5	The glory of the Lord will be revealed

Tribulation the 70th Week

Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem fulfilled the first 69 weeks of Daniel's prophecy, leaving part of the prophecy remaining unfulfilled, which is the 70th week, called the great tribulation, which is the foundation of end times prophecy, the only reference point or marker in time for the tribulation prophecies. The tribulation period starts

when Israel enters into a covenant of peace with the antichrist. But the antichrist will break the covenant after three and a half years when he enters the Jewish temple and commits an abomination by declaring himself a god and setting up an image of himself to be worshipped. At the end of the seven years of tribulation, Christ will return to judge the nations.

Daniel 7:26-27... And the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it shall be with a flood, and till the end of the war desolations are determined. Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week (7 years); But in the middle of the week (3 1/2 years), He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, even until the consummation, which is determined, is poured out on the desolate."

In the middle of the tribulation, the antichrist commits the abomination of desolation, and afterward, he begins a campaign of murder against anyone who will not worship him. Jesus himself verified this prophecy, and he advised the Jews living in Jerusalem and surrounding areas to flee immediately when they hear about the antichrist committing an abomination in the temple. The next three and a half years will be the worst in human history, which is why Jesus warned the Jews not to waste any time, don't even go inside their house to get their stuff but to flee to the mountains of Judea.

Matthew 24:15-21 "Therefore when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place" (whoever reads, let him understand), "then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. "Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house." And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. "But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! "And pray that your flight

*may not be in winter or on the Sabbath. "For then **there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.***

Gentile Empires

We need to look at another key to prophetic events that Daniel gave us. Daniel interpreted the dream of the Babylonian King in which he saw a giant statue that represented all the gentile (non-Jewish) empires that would rule the earth until Christ (the stone) would smash the last gentile empire and establish the millennial kingdom with Israel over the nations. Daniel's interpretation has happened as predicted, with each empire rising and falling, except for the last one that is a future event.

The statue had a head of gold (Babylon Empire), the chest and two arms (Medo-Persian Empire), the belly and thighs of brass (Greek Empire, Alexander the Great), and the two legs of iron (Roman Empire, capitals in Rome & Constantinople). The feet of iron and clay represent a revived Roman Empire, world dominance coming out of the region of the ancient Roman Empire, and is the future antichrist global empire. The iron represents the strength of the old Roman Empire, and the clay shows weakness in the confederation of the ten toes/kings (dissimilar, strength & weakness) but allied together for power. The ten toes represent ten rulers over ten global regions. The stone was cut without hands (by God) and represents Christ,

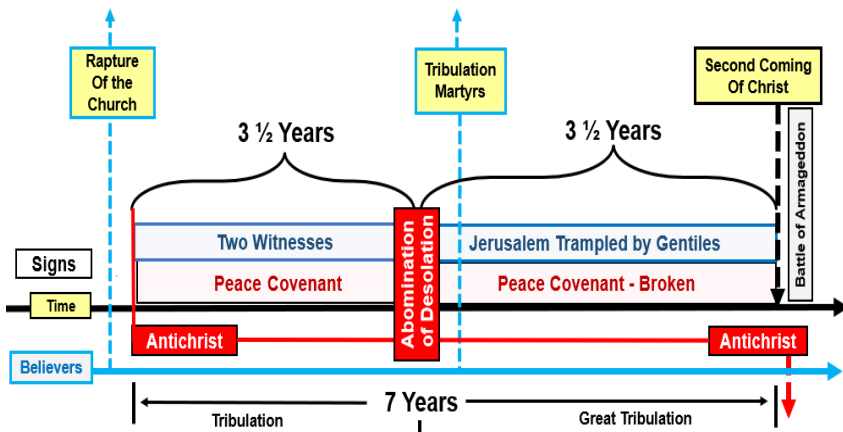


who, when he returns at the second coming, will smash the antichrist kingdom till nothing remains and set up the Messianic kingdom (1,000 years of Christ's rule on earth)

Daniel 2:32-35 "This image's head was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, "its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay. "You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in piece, "Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

The Antichrist

The tribulation period officially begins when the antichrist confirms a seven-year covenant with the nation of Israel, which is a marker in time that provides a timeline whereby all the other end-times prophecies are measured. Once the covenant is confirmed three and a half years later, in the middle of the tribulation, the antichrist commits the abomination of desolation. And three and a half years after that, at the end of the seven-year covenant, the Second Coming of Christ will happen



Daniel 9:26-27 "... And the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it shall be with a flood, and till the end of the war desolations are determined. **Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; But in the middle of the week, He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering.** And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, even until the consummation, which is determined, is poured out on the desolate."

Daniel 11:21 "And in his place shall arise a vile person (antichrist), to whom they will not give the honor of royalty; **but he shall come in peaceably, and seize the kingdom by intrigue.**

Even the name antichrist is misleading because the antichrist won't be upfront in his opposition to Christ, at least at first. He begins by imitating Christ and claiming that he is Christ (Messiah) and hiding his true character and intentions until he receives power to unleash a cruel Satanic tyranny on the earth.

Matthew 24:4-5 And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. **'For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many.**

Matthew 24:23-24 "Then if anyone says to you, '**Look, here is the Christ!**' or '**There!**' **do not believe it.** "For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.

The antichrist will be part of a global deception, a fake unholy trinity of evil. Satan portrays himself as "god," and he will possess the antichrist as the "incarnate Son" of perdition (hell), joined by a false prophet who will play the part of the "unholy spirit" that forces the world to worship the beast (antichrist). The antichrist receives his power from Satan, and the antichrist and the false prophet use that power to unleash hell on earth.

Revelation 12:3 *And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon (Satan) having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads.*

Revelation 13:1-2 *Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast (antichrist) rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name. Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like the feet of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority.*

As we said, this unholy trinity imitates God to deceive, so much so that the antichrist is killed, rises from the dead, and demonstrates supernatural satanic powers trying to imitate the resurrection of Jesus Christ to deceive the world.

2 Corinthians 11:14 *And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.*

Revelation 13:3-4 *And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast. So, they worshiped the dragon (Satan) who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?"*

Revelation 13:11-14 *Then I saw another beast (false prophet) coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb (Christian) and spoke like a dragon (Satan), and he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. And he deceives those who dwell on the*

earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived.

The Harlot Church

Since Jesus has the church as his bride, the antichrist has an imitation fake bride, also called the whore of Babylon, mother of harlots, which is the source of all false religions going back to the Tower of Babel (Babylon). Every mystery religion that has ever side-tracked, distorted, or twisted the perception of God has its roots in Babylon. When God scattered the people after the tower of Babel across the world, they took all the mysteries and ancient technologies with them, including pyramid construction, astrology, witchcraft, occult, spiritism, idolatry, mythology, and so forth.

This false church is allied with the antichrist, and she is riding on his power with the other seven kings allied to him. Adding insult to injury, in her impersonation of the church, this harlot has a golden cup in her hand, representing communion, and in this case, it's communion with Satan. Her communion cup is full of the blood of the saints, and she is drunk on their blood. Historically the Catholic church has been responsible for the blood of tens of millions of Christians, especially during the inquisitions in the dark ages. The Vatican, which sits on seven hills, has reigned over kings and is the religious capital for 1.2 billion people, sitting on oceans of people.

*Revelation 17:1-6, 9, 15, 18 ... "Come, I will show you the judgment of **the great harlot** (spiritual harlot) **who sits on many waters** (multitudes of people), "with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth were made **drunk with the wine of her fornication.**" So, he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. **And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast which was full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.** The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with*

*gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication. And on her forehead a name was written: **MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.** I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement ... "Here is the mind which has wisdom ... **The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits** ... Then he said to me, "The waters which you saw, where **the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues** ... "And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth."*

Also, many Bible teachers believe that the Pope could be the false prophet. The false prophet will bring the world's religions together to influence their nations to join the antichrist coalition. All religions will become state-run institutional harlot churches, while true believers will go underground before being martyred.

The Pope has been working hard to bring about a unified global religion, pro-Marxist rule, climate change advocate, he does whatever it takes to advance the globalist agenda like accepting homosexuals, child molesters, and all sin. He is a prime candidate to be the false prophet, and if not him, it may be his successor. Also, evangelical preachers like Rick Warren (Purpose Driven Life), Jewish, Islamic, Hindus, and every religion are actively trying to unite into a global religion.



Antichrist Global Government

From the book of Daniel and Revelation, we have a description of the antichrist government; first, there are ten horns, horns speak of power, these are the same as the ten toes in the vision of the statue of gentile empires. These represent ten divisions of power in a revived Roman Empire, the last gentile empire. These ten world leaders have a coalition, but the antichrist destroys three of those leaders to take power over the remaining seven rulers to be the world's sole dictator.

Daniel 2:42 "And as the (10) toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile

*Daniel 7:19, 23-25 ... exceedingly dreadful, with its teeth of iron and its nails of bronze, which devoured, broke in pieces, and trampled the residue with its feet. "Thus, he said: 'The fourth beast shall be A fourth kingdom on earth, which shall be different from all other kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, trample it and break it in pieces. **The ten horns are ten kings who shall arise from this kingdom. And another shall rise after them; He shall be different from the first ones, and shall subdue three kings. He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, Shall persecute the saints of the Most High, And shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand for a time and times and half a time.***

*Revelation 17:10-13 "There are also seven kings. Five have fallen, one is, and the other has not yet come. And when he comes, he must continue a short time. "**And the beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven, and is going to perdition.**" **The ten horns which you saw are ten kings** who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast. "These are of*

one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast.

The antichrist government is like a table with three legs, consisting of the **government** (antichrist), **religion** (Babylon harlot), and **financial** (Babylon Financial). The antichrist system combining government, business, and religion don't mix well together (iron & clay), creating a coalition that is a hybrid of all the previous empires, making it the fiercest (teeth of iron) and satanically evil in history.

The world will eventually fall to global fascism under the antichrist. The western nations of the world are all transitioning closer toward fascism with every disaster, as emergency measures are a cooperation of government, technology, big business, and media propaganda to create a centralized global response. The world will be in such a state of chaos and void of leadership until the antichrist steps in to fill the vacuum and will seem to be the world's messiah bringing peace solutions to all the world's problems.

Abomination of Desolation

In the middle of the tribulation, the antichrist enters the Jewish temple, sets up an image of himself, declares himself god, and demands worship. Anyone who refuses to worship him, and take his mark on their right hand or forehead, cannot buy or sell and must die. Antichrist will have an iron-fisted tyranny of absolute control over every aspect of life, utilizing artificial intelligence and GPS to track every human being on earth with constant surveillance, thanks to cell phones, RFID chips, and other technologies. He will have the power to kill the saints for the last three and a half years of the tribulation

*2 Thessalonians 2:3-4 Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day (second coming- not rapture) will not come unless the falling away comes first, and **the man of sin** is revealed, **the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above***

all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

Revelation 13:5-7 And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months (3 1/2 years). Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven. It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation.

Revelation 13:15-16 He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed. He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.



Daniel 7:24-25 ***The ten horns are ten kings*** ***Who shall arise from this kingdom. And another (antichrist) shall rise after them; He shall be different from the first ones, and shall subdue three kings. He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, **Shall persecute the saints** of the Most High, And shall intend to change times and law. **Then the saints shall be given into his hand for a time and times and half a time (3 ½ years).*****

Antichrist's Rise to Power	
Rev 12:3	Dragon with 7 heads 10 horns (Dragon holds power)
Rev 13:1	Beast rises from the sea, (multitudes of people)
Rev 17:1,15	Harlot sits on many waters (multitudes of peoples)
Rev 17:3	Harlot sitting on the Beast (allied in power)
Rev 17:8	Beast once was, is not, shall ascend out of the Abyss
Rev 13:2	Dragon gave Beast power, throne, authority
Rev 13:3, 12	Beast fatal wound had been healed
Dan 7:8, 20	Little Horn defeats 3 of the 10 Horns to take power
Dan 7:24	10 Kings, 1 King subdues (puts down) 3 Kings
Rev 17:11	He is the 8th of the 7 (7 horns plus antichrist = 8)
Rev 17:12	10 Horns/10 kings received no kingdom as yet
Rev 17:13,17	10 Horns give power to Beast
Rev 13:4	Dragon gives authority to Beast, who can war against?
Rev 13:5	Beast exercises authority 3.5 years
Dan 7:25	Power given to kill saints for 3.5 years
Rev 11:7	Ascends bottomless pit, makes war with 2 Witnesses
Rev 17:16	Antichrist & 10 horns hate the Harlot and destroy her
Rev 13:7	Power to kill Saints, all kindreds, tongues, nations
Rev 13:14	Image of Beast that was killed yet lives (resurrected)
Rev 13:15-18	Worship the image, take the mark of beast, or die
Dragon = Satan Harlot = Evil Global Religious System Beast, Little Horn = Antichrist Horns = Kings, Political Leaders	

The antichrist and the ten kings hate the harlot church, and they attack and destroy her with fire. The antichrist treats the harlot church like a prostitute, and after using her, he gets rid of her. The antichrist will use the religious leaders as "useful idiots" to bring billions of people under his control, and once he owns the people, he destroys the religious leaders. Besides being burnt with fire here on the earth, the harlot, the religious leaders, and their followers who bowed to the antichrist image, and took his mark, will burn in the fires of hell in the next life.

Revelation 14:9-11 Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, ***"If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."***

Revelation 17:15-18 Then he said to me, ***"The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues. And the ten horns (kings) which you saw on the beast, these will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire. For God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose, to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled"***

The ten kings destroy the Harlot church, but God destroys commercial Babylon, the financial and trade centers of the antichrist system. The allied merchants of the antichrist system had enjoyed a global monopoly with all the world's sales, commerce, and trading funneled

through Babylon's corporations until sudden destruction hits.

Revelation 18:9-13 *"The kings of the earth who committed fornication and lived luxuriously with her will weep and lament for her, when they see the smoke of her burning, "standing at a distance for fear of her torment, saying, 'Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! For in one hour your judgment has come. " And the merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her, for no one buys their merchandise anymore: "merchandise of gold and silver, precious stones and pearls, fine linen and purple, silk and scarlet, every kind of citron wood, every kind of object of ivory, every kind of object of most precious wood, bronze, iron, and marble ... and cinnamon and incense, fragrant oil... ... and frankincense, wine and oil, fine flour and wheat, cattle and sheep, horses and chariots, and bodies and souls of men.*

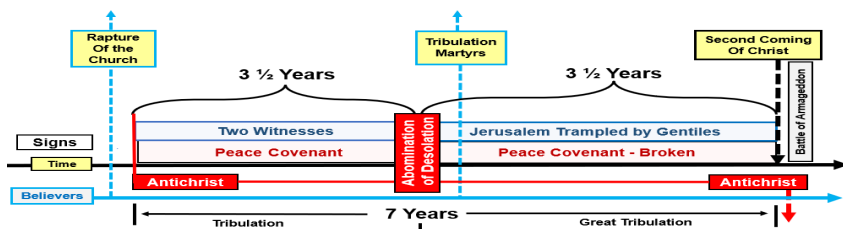
At the second coming of Christ, during the battle of Armageddon, Jesus destroys the antichrist's armies, kings, and all those who took the mark of the beast and will feed their dead bodies to the vultures. The antichrist and the false prophet are captured and thrown alive into the lake of fire. Then one unnamed angel binds Satan with a chain and imprisons him in the bottomless pit (Abyss), where he will remain for 1,000 years.

Revelation 19:17-21 *Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, "Come and gather together for the supper of the great God, "that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, both small and great." And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him (Christ) who sat on the horse and against His army. Then the beast was captured, and with him*

the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. **These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone.** And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse. And all the birds were filled with their flesh.

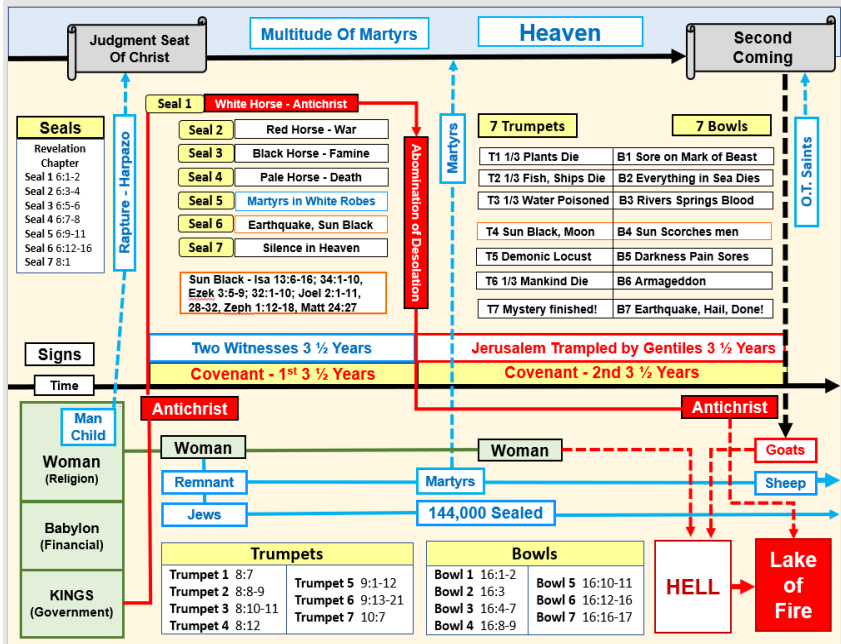
Revelation 20:1-3 Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished.

We cannot study the tribulation without a brief outline of the judgments and plagues that will strike the earth during the seven-year tribulation. Here are a few highlights or low points we can point out: global wars; and global starvation, One-quarter of the earth's population dies, multitudes martyred, catastrophic earthquakes, one-third of all plant life dies, one-third of all ocean life dies, one-third of all rivers and spring waters poisoned, two hundred million demonic creatures inflict pain, radio-active sun rays scorch men, another one-third of all men killed in battle, 100-pound hailstones, all those with the mark of the beast get painful sores and die, the world's worst earthquake, mountains shift, Islands move, destruction of the world's armies, God's wrath against sin, and the judgment of the sheep and the goats. That was a brief outline of what will happen in the seven years of the tribulation. (See charts)



Some Events of the Second Coming & Day of the Lord

Dan 2 & 7	The formation of a federation of states into a revived Roman empire
Dan 9:27	A political leader rules empire & makes a covenant with Israel (Rev 13:1-10)
Rev 13:11-18	The formation of a global false religious system under the false prophet
Rev 6	The pouring out of judgments under the seals
Rev 7	The separation of the 144,000 sealed Jews
Rev 8-11	The trumpet judgments
Rev 11	The 2 witnesses preach, do signs, are killed and resurrected
Rev 12	The persecution of the woman
Rev 16	The pouring out of the bowl judgments
Rev 17 & 18	The overthrow of Babylon, the harlot church
Ezek. 38 & 39	The events of the battle of Armageddon (Rev 16:16; 19:17-21)
Matt 24:14	The proclamation of the gospel of the kingdom
Matt 24:29-30	The return of Christ in the clouds with glory & power
Jn 6:39-40	The resurrection of Old Testament saints & tribulation martyrs (Rev 20:4)
Rev 19:11-21	The destruction of the beast & his armies & the false prophet & his followers
Matt 25:31-46	The judgment on the nations
Ezek. 37:1-14	The regathering of Israel
Ezek. 20:33-38	The judgment on living Israel
Amos 9:15	The restoration of Israel to the land
Rev 20:2-3	The binding of Satan & imprisonment for 1,000 years
Rev 20:7-10	The final revolt of Satan, and cast into the lake of fire
Rev 20:11-15	The great white throne judgment
2 Pet 3:10-13	The destruction, purging of the physical earth



Believers in the Tribulation

Now, we will look at the believers who find themselves in this time of judgment. The main groups are the two witnesses, the martyrs, the remnant of the nations (sheep), and the Nation of Israel, with 144,000 sealed Jews from each tribe. The church is not present during the tribulation, and its absence is noticeable only by the warnings to be rapture ready to escape what's coming.

***Luke 21:36** "Watch therefore, and **pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man.**"*

Two Witnesses

The two prophets are spoken of by Zechariah as the two olive trees producing olive oil, called lampstands, and anointed ones. The lampstand was filled with oil and gave light in the temple, so these two light the darkness by their preaching and exposing sin. The anointing oil represents the presence, power, and gifts of the Holy Spirit upon the lives of the two witnesses, who by the power of the Spirit call down fire from heaven, call for droughts and perform signs and wonders.

***Zechariah 4:6, 11-14** So he answered and said to me: "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: '**Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,**' says the LORD of hosts ... Then I answered and said to him, "What are **these two olive trees-at the right of the lampstand and at its left?**" And I further answered and said to him, "**What are these two olive branches that drip into the receptacles of the two gold pipes from which the golden oil drains?**" Then he answered me and said, "Do you not know what these are?" And I said, "No, my lord." so he said, "**These are the two anointed ones, who stand beside the Lord of the whole earth.**"*

These two are clothed in sackcloth, showing that they are preaching repentance as part of their ministry is to turn the hearts of Israel back to God. Also, they will come in the spirit of Elijah and Moses and call down similar plagues and fire on their enemies as Elijah and Moses did.

Malachi 4:5-6 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, And the hearts of the children to their fathers ...

Revelation 11:3-6 "And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days (3 ½ years), clothed in sackcloth." These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth. And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner. These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire

The antichrist kills the two prophets, but three and a half days later, the Spirit of God enters them, they are resurrected, taken to heaven, there is a great earthquake where 7,000 people die. All of those events are watched live by the whole world in real-time, and the fear of God falls on the remnant, and they glorify God.

Revelation 11:11-13 And after three days and a half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them. And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them. And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended

up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them. And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand: and the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven.

The Nation of Israel

During the tribulation, God's plan for the Jews is to judge their sins, bring them to repentance, deliver them from their enemies, and save their souls. Christ will reveal Himself to the Jews, and when they see him, they will mourn and grieve over their sins and the abominations committed in Israel, and they will believe and put their trust in Christ as their Messiah.

Matthew 24:30-31 "Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then ***all the tribes (Jews) of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.*** "And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Revelation 1:7 Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes (Jews) of the earth will mourn because of Him.

Zechariah 12:9-11 "It shall be in that day that ***I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.*** "And I will pour on the house of David (Jews) and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem (Israel) 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. "In that day there shall be a great mourning in Jerusalem, like the mourning at Hadad Rimmon in the plain of Megiddo.

144,000 from 12 Tribes

The antichrist has his "mark of the beast" that will take you to hell (another imitation), but God has His mark that His angels' will place as a seal on the forehead of His people, which will protect His people throughout the tribulation. The believing Jews (sheep) are sealed, protected, and survive, while unbelieving Jews (goats) get killed, starting at the temple in Jerusalem going out from there.

Revelation 7:1-4 ... "Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads." And I heard the number of those who were sealed. One hundred and forty-four thousand, of all the tribes of the children of Israel were sealed:

*Ezekiel 9:3-7 Now the glory of the God of Israel had gone up from the cherub, where it had been, to the threshold of the temple. And He called to the man clothed with linen, who had the writer's inkhorn at his side; and the LORD said to him "**Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and cry over all the abominations that are done within it.**" To the others He said in my hearing, "Go after him through the city and kill; do not let your eye spare, nor have any pity. Utterly slay old and young men, maidens and little children and women; **but do not come near anyone on whom is the mark; and begin at My sanctuary.**" So, they began with the elders who were before the temple. Then He said to them, "Defile the temple, and fill the courts with the slain. Go out!" And they went out and killed in the city.*

All Israel Saved

The current population of Jews is around fifteen million, and two-thirds or ten million Jews will not survive the tribulation. That dwarfs the six million who died in the holocaust, and with that degree of devastation, we understand why it is called "Jacob's trouble."

Zechariah 13:8-9 *And it shall come to pass in all the land," Says the LORD, "That two-thirds in it shall be cut off and die, but one -third shall be left in it: I will bring the one-third through the fire, Will refine them as silver is refined, and test them as gold is tested. They will call on My name, And I will answer them. I will say, 'This is My people'; And each one will say, 'The LORD is my God.'"*

Jeremiah 30:7 *Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it; And it is the time of Jacob's trouble, but he shall be saved out of it.*

When the Jews rejected Christ the first time he came, he turned to the Gentiles to provoke Israel to jealousy. The times of the gentiles (church age) will end, then salvation will be of the Jews, and they will turn to their Messiah (Christ), and every Jew who survives the tribulation will have a personal salvation experience with Christ, along with all Israel.

Romans 11:25-26 *For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "The Deliverer will come out of Zion, And He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob;*

Gentiles Martyred

There will be three groups of gentiles in the tribulation; the **martyrs**, a surviving **remnant** (sheep), and **unbelievers** (goats) who die or get killed. First, looking at the martyrs, there will be a vast number from every tribe and nation; even though they suffer unspeakable deaths, God rewards them with a crown and a place before the His throne.

Revelation 2:9-10 "...Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

Revelation 7:9-10, 13-14 After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ... Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from? And I said to him, "Sir, you know." So he said to me, "**These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.**

Revelation 6:9-11 When He opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the testimony which they held. And they cried with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth. "Then a white robe was given to each of them; and it was said to them that **they should rest a little while longer, until both the number of their fellow servants and their brethren, who would be killed as they were, was completed.**

Revelation 15:2-3 And I saw something like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the victory over the beast, over his image and over his mark and over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God. They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying: "Great and marvelous are Your

works, Lord God Almighty! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the saints!

Gentile Nations (Sheep)

Next, looking at the remnant of gentiles who survive, they are the sheep who helped Jesus' brethren, the Jews, during the tribulation. The (sheep) remnant from the nations will not earn salvation by works (helping the Jews), but they help the Jews because they are saved and demonstrate it by their works. They will enter the millennial kingdom where Jesus will rule over them and repopulate the nations throughout the millennium until, at the end of the millennium, their children go against Jerusalem in the battle of Gog and Magog

***Matthew 25:31-40** "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. "All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats." And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. "Then the King will say to those on His right hand (sheep), 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: "' for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; 'I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'*

***Revelation 20:3** and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations (gentiles) no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while.*

Revelation 20:7 Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison **and will go out to deceive the nations** (gentiles) which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the sand of the sea.

Unbelievers (Goats)

Then there are the goats, unbelievers who rejected Christ, bowed to the image of the beast, took his mark, and they will die either during the tribulation or at the second coming of Christ. They will go to hell and await their judgment at the Great White Throne, where they will stand trial before going to the Lake of Fire.

Matthew 25:41-45 "Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' "Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, **inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.**' "Then He will also say to those on the left hand (goats), 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:

Revelation 16:2 So the first went and poured out his bowl upon the earth, **and a foul and loathsome sore came upon the men who had the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image.**

Revelation 19:11-18 Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. **He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses.**

Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, "Come and gather together for the supper of the great God, "that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, ... all people, free and slave, both small and great."

Vision Unsealed

The angel told Daniel his prophecies had been sealed, without the ability to understand until the end days. The angel also said that at the time of the end, the wise will understand. We are at the time of the end now, and the wise are reading Daniel's prophecies with understanding because they are coming alive before our eyes. With each passing day, we have more insight and ability to understand prophecy and are privileged to be living in the end times to see the fulfillment of such spectacular prophecies.

Daniel 12:8-10** Although I heard, I did not understand. Then I said, "My lord, **what shall be the end of these things?**" And he said, "Go your way, Daniel, for **the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.** "Many shall be purified, made white, and refined, but the wicked shall do wickedly; and **none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand.

***Daniel 12:4** "But you, Daniel, **shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end;** many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase."*

Matthew 13:16-17 But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear. ***For I tell you the truth, many prophets and righteous men longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.***

We live in the times that the prophets foresaw, and we are seeing the same things they predicted, as we see the rise of the antichrist government system, the birth of the nation of Israel, and Israel's enemies aligning against them, and all the other chess pieces are coming into position for the tribulation to begin.

End Times Technology

We are witnessing advancements with end times technology that are needed to fulfill prophecy. The book of Daniel tells us that knowledge would increase in the end times, and there has been a knowledge explosion, making us like the Tower of Babel after the flood, where God said, "nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them" (Gen 11:6).

Apart from knowledge in general increasing, specific knowledge about our personal lives is being gathered continuously as a result of living in a type of big brother surveillance state all of our personal information is the new gold. Big tech knows more about you than you know about yourself. Our personal information is the gold that governments, criminals, and corporations' data mine to get, sell, and use for algorithms for psychological manipulation, eventually leading to complete control over every aspect of life.

Daniel 12:4 "But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase."

Some prophecies looked like they would have been physically impossible to fulfill up to a hundred years ago, and godless

intellectuals quoted those prophecies to disprove the Bible. One question they had was this, how can the whole earth be watching when the two witnesses are killed, rise from the dead, and ascend to heaven? One hundred years ago, that would have been impossible, but today even small children can carry a cell phone and watch worldwide events happening live in the palm of their hands.



The scariest technology during the great tribulation will be the mark of the beast by which you can buy or sell, and without it, you will suffer the death penalty. The technology to monitor and control every single financial transaction on the entire planet at all times is here and already in use, which a few years ago would not have been possible. There are already multiple platforms or devices available from different countries and corporations to track and monitor everything about everyone. Technology is advancing so fast that what could be the mark of the beast today will be outdated technology tomorrow.

Revelation 13:16 *He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.*

<p>RFID Chip, Radio Frequency I.D. Grain of rice size micro-computer Imbedded under the skin, ID, GPS, ESG score, passports, finances, etc.</p>	<p>Quantum Dot Tattoo – Micro-computer Imbedded under the skin, ID, GPS, ESG score, passports, finances, medical, heart rate, etc.</p>	

Another possible technology example may be where Jesus describes the stars falling from the heavens. The Greek word for "star" is "aster," where we get the word "asteroid." In essence, he was describing an asteroid storm or meteor shower. There is a similar prophecy of danger coming from the sky where there will be a hail storm with 100-pound hailstones.

***Matthew 24:29** Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, **and the stars shall fall from heaven**, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:*

***Revelation 16:21** And great hail from heaven fell upon men, each hailstone about the weight of a talent (100 pounds). Men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, since that plague was exceedingly great.*



On February 3, 2021, the company Starlink, owned by Elon Musk, had 40 satellites fall to the earth due to a geomagnetic storm. Starlink wants to cover every square inch of planet earth with internet access, and they are just one company, and there are many companies and countries with their satellites and space junk floating up there. There are estimates that by the year 2030, there will be 20,000 satellites in orbit, many are nuclear-powered, and some weigh more than 15,000 pounds, and according to one source the average weight is 100 pounds.

At the second coming of Christ, he will destroy the antichrist system, so what if he were to cast down all these satellites and smash them on the earth at one time? It would probably look like a meteor shower or hailstorm as they burn up on reentry, followed by radioactive

explosions when they hit. There is also the possibility of a barrage of missiles. The satellite and missiles scenario may be thought-provoking speculation, and God may send literal hail made of ice with fire (also Ezekiel 38: 19-22).

Then again, he may bring down everything in the skies all at once, hail, fire, blood, missiles, and satellites. You don't want to be here to find out how it happens! Here is another prophecy about hail mixed with fire and burning up one-third of all plant life on earth.

Revelation 8:7 *The first angel sounded: And hail and fire followed, mingled with blood, and they were thrown to the earth. And a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up.*

It seems pretty clear that there will be radioactive fallout of some kind, with people's eyes and flesh melting. Then again, that could be the brilliance of Christ at his second appearance. In that case, we want to be returning with Him (from behind) and not in front of Him.

Zechariah 14:12 *And this shall be the plague with which the LORD will strike all the people who fought against Jerusalem: Their flesh shall dissolve while they stand on their feet, their eyes shall dissolve in their sockets, and their tongues shall dissolve in their mouths.*

2 Thessalonians 2:8 *And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.*

Birth Pains

Following the birth of Israel as a nation, any major event like disasters, wars, famines, or tyranny that has a global impact may be another birth pain that signals the approaching great tribulation and the second coming of Christ. Examples would be World War I, Pearl Harbor &

World War II, Israel becoming a nation, Israel's wars in 1948, 1967, 1973 for independence and taking Jerusalem, the terrorist attacks on 9-11-2001, the Covid 19 global shutdowns in 2020, and Russia invading Ukraine in 2022, to name a few.

Matthew 24:8 All these are the beginning of birth pains.

The global Covid pandemic was a global birth pain and power grab designed to condition the population into unquestioned submission to the government. Every nation reinforced global governance while stripping local authorities of their powers and identifying and penalizing dissenters and deniers. The Covid pandemic became a political, psychological, and financial weapon that made people face an ultimatum to either have an experimental drug injected into their body (against their will) or lose their job and freedoms. That was psychological conditioning to receive the mark of the beast. The goal of vaccinating every human being on the planet with experimental gene therapies (vaccines), like guinea pigs, came through a cabal of corrupt scientists, corrupt politicians, and globalist elite billionaires who doubled their wealth in two years as a result of Covid.

Revelation 18:23-24 ... for thy merchants were the great men of the earth; for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived. And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth.

The Greek word for "merchants" is speaking of big commercial suppliers, these great men of the earth, the world's richest men, oligarchs, the elite class made a profit by helping the antichrist system to deceive the world by "sorceries." The Greek word for sorceries is "pharmakeia," the root word for pharmacy or drugs. So here is the picture of commercial Babylon; these merchants were the global pharmaceutical corporations (big pharma), with politicians, news media, and global elites who deceived and plundered the world with the use of "drugs" (experimental vaccines). Sound familiar?

Just consider how they hijacked the world for two years and got away with it, and it was not by accident or coincidence. We should recognize that we are in the midst of a global revolution called the great reset, and their motto is to build back better. The globalists are building a global government for the antichrist, whether they know it or not. The "great reset" movement has three legs (same as the antichrist) on which they stand called ESG, standing for Environmental, Social, and Governmental. The ESG scores are replacing the old FICO credit and payment history scores. The names may change, but their agendas will move forward.



The **E** is for **Environmental**, claiming it is for climate change, but it is for global control and ownership of all resources in the land, sea, and air. Acting in the name of climate change, they can control businesses, farming, water resources, fishing, mining, housing, food consumption, taxing the very air you breathe, and so much more. The E score will analyze your usage of resources, so depending on your score, it will affect loan approvals, employment status, public services and access to water, gas, electric utilities, which foods you can eat, and more.

The letter **S** stands for **Social**, which is the social record of a person or company regarding compliance with approved narratives and agendas. Every person on earth has their information recorded and monitored; all their credit, debit, and ATM purchases, GPS locations, social media posts, political leanings, etc. Artificial intelligence takes

that information and runs through its algorithms for behavioral analysis, psychological manipulations, punishments, etc. The weaponization of narratives to be promoted or destroyed will affect social scoring and can influence buying choices, election outcomes, reputations, media presence, and more. They conduct public reputation executions on persons and businesses accused of not identifying with their approved narratives (LGBTQ, climate change, critical race theory, etc.). The globalist agenda (ESG) is their church and religion, and they will gather all the heretics and burn them on the stake.

The letter **G** stands for **Government** which is deceptive because it is a merger between politicians and big business, also called crony capitalism, stakeholder capitalism, or global Fascism. International corporations can mandate rules and restrictions that could never pass by voting in a political process. The **G** should stand for the punishment of any person or nation found in non-compliance to their agenda who will face escalating sanctions, boycotts, fines, legal battles, asset confiscation, ability to work, imprisonment, death, and war. The ability to buy, sell, work and have ownership are their weapons. International corporations can mandate laws and restrictions that could never pass by voting in a political process. The **G** should stand for the punishment of any person or nation found in non-compliance to their agenda who will face escalating sanctions, boycotts, fines, legal battles, asset confiscation, ability to work, imprisonment, death, and war. The ability to buy, sell, work and have ownership are their weapons.



Signs of the Second Coming

It's like when the sun is going down, and the shadows grow long, things from the tribulation are casting their shadows over us. Or, it's a play, the Bible gives us the script and actors, and what to look for, namely things like the Gog Magog war (Ezekiel 38), a revived Roman empire with ten regional kings, and a peace covenant between Israel and the antichrist, and a rebuilt Jewish temple.

Matthew 24:3 Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?"

Israel a Nation & The Temple

We cannot study the end times prophecy without considering how everything relates to Israel. Israel is the key to Bible prophecy, and without Israel, there would be no Jesus, no Bible, no apostles, and no second coming. According to Bible prophecy, Israel must be in their land, the Jewish temple rebuilt in Jerusalem, and a covenant of peace between the antichrist and the Jews for the tribulation to start.



Israel became a nation in 1948, which was an undeniable miracle. Israel was a nation of people scattered around the earth for over 2,500 years, survived numerous annihilation attempts, and returned to their homeland with their original language, alphabet, culture, and religion. When Israel returned to its land in 1948, it was a dry, barren wasteland. Today Israel exports food to the region, is a leader in technology, is financially prosperous, has one of the world's largest natural gas fields, and has one of the best militaries in the world.

Deception

The first warning that Jesus gave regarding the end times was about deception. In the latter times, the world will experience a rising wave of demonic influence in the churches to promote erroneous teaching to allow all kinds of sexual and doctrinal perversion. There is a great danger for those who reject the truth for a lifestyle of sin that God himself will send a strong delusion over them to believe the lie, from which there is no salvation.

2 Thessalonians 2:9-11 The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and **with all unrighteous deception** among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this reason, God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie,

1 Timothy 4:1 Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons...

Matthew 24:4, 24 And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you... and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.

2 Corinthians 11:13-15 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an **angel of light**. Therefore, it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.

Revelation 2:14-15 "But I have a few things against you, because you have there those who **hold the doctrine of Balaam (prophecy for money)**, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to commit sexual immorality. "Thus you also have those who hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, **which thing I hate.**

Revelation 2:20 *"Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols.*

False Christ & False Prophet

Jesus spoke specifically about false Christ and false prophets, which points to the coming antichrist and the false prophet. We are watching for a global government to form and then a political leader (antichrist) who will come forward and seize power. The false prophet will be a religious leader who shepherds the multitudes to follow the antichrist. The church fathers and most prophecy teachers think the Pope is the most likely candidate for that job of the false prophet.

Matthew 24:4-5, 11 *... "For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many... "Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many.*

Matthew 24:23-24 *"Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There!' do not believe it. "For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.*

Spirit of Antichrist

The spirit of the antichrist has been in the world since the original Apostles, influencing cunning political leaders who will use manipulation, negotiations, betrayal, cruelty, mass starvation, and mass murder to gain power in their quest for global domination. History has a long list of godless dictators controlled by the spirit of the antichrist.

1 John 4:3 *... but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.*

2 John 1:7 *For many deceivers have gone out into the world who do not confess Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.*

1 John 2:18-22 *Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour ... Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son.*

Wars and Rumors of War

There have always been wars and rumors of wars in regional areas, but what signals the end times are the world wars and the multiplication of the numbers of wars at one time. Also, note that the end times wars fight on multiple levels, cyber-attacks on utilities (electrical grids, water & gas supply lines), social media propaganda, fake news misinformation, gas prices, economic sanctions, and more. Because there will be a global government with the antichrist, we will see an ongoing struggle between the nations (nationalist) who want to keep their national sovereignty and identity against those who want a global government (globalist).

Matthew 24:6 *"And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.*

During the end times, the wars will escalate until they develop into two of the wars mentioned in prophecy. The first war will be the Gog and Magog war (Ezekiel 38) which many teachers believe will be before or at the beginning of the great tribulation. This war specifically mentions a coalition of regional nations with Russia, Turkey, Iran, and others, led by Gog (a Ruler), which will attack Israel for plunder but will die on the mountains of Israel.

The second, the battle of Armageddon, will involve the entire world attacking Jerusalem, being led by the antichrist, and their mission is to kill God's people. The antichrist's army will be from every nation of the world to gather in the Valley of Megiddo (Armageddon) to mount an attack against Jerusalem, which will happen at the end of the great tribulation and the second coming of Christ.

Ezekiel 38-39 Battle of Gog Magog	Armageddon Revelation 16
Definite allies mentioned	All the nations
Comes from the North	Armageddon armies from the whole earth
Comes to take spoil	Comes to destroy people of God
There is a protest against the invasion	No protest, all nations attack
Gog is head of the invasion	The beast (antichrist) heads the invasion
Gog is overthrown by the convulsions of nature	The beast is destroyed by the sword from Christ
Gog's armies are arrayed in the open field	Armageddon, they enter Jerusalem
The Lord calls for assistance to fight Gog	Christ treads the winepress alone
Bury Dead 7 months, Burn weapons 7 years	Time is no more, White Throne Judgment

Magog Ezekiel 38 & 39		Magog Revelation 20	
38:8	Before millennium (regathered to the land)	7	After millennium (1000 years in land)
38:2-3; 39:1	Leader of the attack is Gog (a Ruler)	7, 8	Leader of attack is Satan
38:2-3	Northern Coalition Invade	8	All Nations from 4 corners
38:21	Battle on mountains of Israel	9	Battle is against Jerusalem
39:12-15	Takes 7 months to bury the dead	9	Fire from God devours (no burial)
39:9, 12-16, 28-29.	7 months to cleanse the land 7 years to burn the weapons Followed by the Millennium (Ch 40-48)	11	Physical earth, heaven gone Followed by Eternity New Heaven, New Earth

There are two types of governmental systems seeking dominance in the end times, Nationalism and Globalism, and the struggle between these two will become more polarizing, pushing Russia closer to the Ezekiel 38 war and pushing Europe and the globalists closer to the antichrist global government and the battle of Armageddon.

The invasion of Ukraine made Russia an international outcast, and the globalists fight using economic sanctions combining global coalitions of partner nations and international businesses. The End-times wars are being fought with food, oil, propaganda, cyber-attacks, and collapsing economies, resulting in hyperinflation, famine, and death. The Russia Ukraine war is regional but has global consequences, reshaping the geopolitical landscape setting up future prophecy.

The sanctions from the Ukraine war will contribute to Russia's economic collapse that will eventually lead Russia to make alliances with Iran, Turkey, and other former Soviet satellites to attack Israel to plunder their silver, gold, cattle, and gas. And as Ezekiel prophesied, God will put a hook in Russia and her allies' mouths and pull them to their death on the mountains of Israel.

***Ezekiel 38:2-6** "Son of man, set your face against Gog, of the land of Magog, the prince of Rosh (Russia), Meshech (Moscow), and Tubal, and prophesy against him, "and say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD. "Behold, I am against you, O Gog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal. "I will turn you around, put hooks into your jaws, and lead you out, with all your army, horses, and horsemen, all splendidly clothed, a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords. "Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya are with them, all of them with shield and helmet; "Gomer and all its troops; the house of Togarmah from the far north and all its troops-many people are with you.*

***Ezekiel 39:1-4** "And you, son of man, prophesy against Gog, and say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, I am against you, O Gog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal; "and I will turn you around and lead you on, bringing you up from the far north, and bring you against the mountains of Israel. "Then I will knock the bow out of your left hand, and cause the arrows to fall out of your right hand. "You shall fall upon the mountains of Israel, you and all your troops and the peoples who are with you; I will give you to birds of prey of every sort and to the beasts of the field to be devoured.*

Gog is a political leader, and Magog is the geographical area of the people who live north of Israel, and they will initiate the war, but God will finish it. It will take seven months to bury the dead, and they will burn the fuel from the weapons for seven years. The \$85 billion in military equipment left behind by the disgraceful US withdrawal (surrender) from Afghanistan will probably add to the fuel to burn.

God will turn the tables around, and Israel will take plunder from the invading nations that attacked them

Ezekiel 39:9-12 *"Then those who dwell in the cities of Israel will go out and set on fire and burn the weapons, both the shields and bucklers, the bows and arrows, the javelins and spears; and they will make fires with them for seven years. "They will not take wood from the field nor cut down any from the forests, because they will make fires with the weapons; and they will plunder those who plundered them, and pillage those who pillaged them," says the Lord GOD "It will come to pass in that day that I will give Gog a burial place there in Israel, the valley of those who pass by east of the sea; and it will obstruct travellers, because there they will bury Gog and all his multitude. Therefore, they will call it the Valley of Hamon Gog. "For seven months the house of Israel will be burying them, in order to cleanse the land.*

Ezekiel 38-39	
<u>Biblical</u>	<u>Current</u>
Rosh	Russia
Meshech	Moscow (city)
Tubal	Tobolsk (city)
Persia	Iran
Cush	Sudan, Ethiopia
Put	Libya & Algeria
Gomer	Turkey
Magog	Central Asian "stans" Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, etc.

Gog is a title, the Prince who leads the coalition against Israel, and the other names are geographical regions of ancient people. The national boundaries and names have changed, but the geography stays the same; most regions are verified, it may be uncertain where some countries fall within those ancient regions.

The focal point of all end times wars points to Jerusalem, and the ungodly always want to destroy it, and if they can't demolish and desecrate it, they will try to divide it between the Jews and their enemies. Many presidents and world leaders have negotiated between the Jews and Islamists, trying for peace agreements by appeasing the Islamists by giving away Israel's land, including Jerusalem. Maybe they were ignorant of the fact that God himself will cut in pieces anyone who tries to divide God's land.

Zechariah 12:2-3** "Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness (trembling) to all the surrounding peoples, when they lay siege against Judah and Jerusalem. "And it shall happen in that day that **I will make Jerusalem a very heavy stone for all peoples; all who would heave it away will surely be cut in pieces, though all nations of the earth are gathered against it.

Keep your eyes on Jerusalem to see prophecy fulfilled. With Islamist allies of Russia destroyed at the battle of Magog, that will remove the majority of the Islamist resistance for Israel to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem. Many teachers speculate that the antichrist will negotiate a seven-year covenant of peace by making a deal with Israel to build the temple where the Islamic-controlled Dome of the Rock currently stands, allowing them to demolish it without creating a war.

Another prophecy that may, or may not, be a prelude or consequence of the Ezekiel 38 war is the destruction of Damascus as a city. Currently, Damascus is one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities worldwide, but the day is coming that Damascus will be completely demolished, without inhabitants, and without being rebuilt.

Isaiah 17:1** The burden against Damascus. "**Behold, Damascus will cease from being a city, and it will be a ruinous heap.

Nation vs Nation

Jesus said, "nation will rise against nation," the word for "nation" is the Greek word *ethnos*, the root word for ethnicity or race. All national pride and patriotism are coming under attack as part of a revolution leading the world to globalism. Everything about a nation's independence, history, family structure, culture, morality, and religious convictions are erased and replaced as part of a divide and conquer campaign to separate everyone into camps to fight against each other. The global politicians and elites are funding this chaos to destabilize countries and promote revolution.

Matthew 24:7 "For nation (ethnicity) will rise against nation (ethnicity), and kingdom against kingdom ..."

For the antichrist global government to exist, there can be no national sovereignty, patriotism, history, culture, and above all, no personal rights or freedoms.

The transition to a Marxist-style global tyranny will not come without pain, with opposition voices paying a heavy price like loss of ability to work, access to banks, credit cards, loans, travel, property rights, freedom of speech, fines, imprisonment, and death.

*Revelation 13:15-17 ... and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed. He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, and **that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.***

The 4 Horsemen

The four horsemen of the book of Revelation are couriers of pain and destruction, but unlike missiles and bullets that strike suddenly, you can see and hear the horses coming from a long way off. The chaos and death they bring builds to a crescendo and will erupt in unparalleled devastation in the tribulation.



White Horse - Antichrist

The first seal releases a white horse representing peace, whose rider has a bow but no arrows, showing he gains power by threats and intimidation of military conflict. Most teachers believe the rider is the antichrist bringing a false peace, not godly inner peace, but peace on paper with written agreements, diplomacy, treaties, coalitions, alliances, and covenants. The rider wears a winner's crown (not a kingly crown), showing that he outmaneuvered his political foes through lies, deceit, intrigue, threats, coercion, mandates, regulations, and treaties. The world's leaders create disasters and chaos through oil embargoes, food shortages, media misinformation, cyber-attacks, economic sanctions, mandates, shutdowns, and hyperinflation, but their solution is to centralize all power in a global government. That will set the stage for the antichrist to come riding in on his white horse and pretend to be the world's messiah to fix all the world's problems.

Revelation 6:2 *I looked, and there before me was a white horse! Its rider held a bow, and he was given a crown, and he rode out as a conqueror bent on conquest.*

Daniel 11:21-23 *"And in his place shall arise a vile person, to whom they will not give the honor of royalty; but he shall come in peaceably, and seize the kingdom by intrigue." "With the force of a flood they shall be swept away from before him and be broken, and also the prince of the covenant." "And after the league is made with him, he shall act deceitfully, for he*

shall come up and become strong with a small number of people.

Satan forms the ten-nation coalition first (regions, powers), and then Satan gives his power and kingdom to the antichrist. That Satanic kingdom is in the process of being created right now, and we can hear the hoofbeats of the riders approaching.

Revelation 12:3 And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads.

Revelation 13:1, 4 ¶ Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast (antichrist) rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name. ... So, **they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast (antichrist)**; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?"

Red Horse - War

The rider on the red horse brings war with a great sword, and the Greek word for large is mega, so with mega weapons that are powerful and deadly, there will be bloody wars. The weapons of the end times are almost incomprehensible in mass destruction, nuclear, cyber, and biological from land, sea, and air. The current Ukraine war will result in more conflicts, which will undoubtedly set the stage for future wars leading to Russia's defeat on the mountains of Israel. And afterward, a global army will form from every nation to be antichrist's army. We hear the red horse approaching as God is about to put a hook in Russia's mouth.

Revelation 6:4 Then another horse came out, a fiery red one. Its rider was given power to take peace from the earth and to

make men slay each other. To him was given a large (mega) sword.

Black Horse – Starvation, Hyperinflation

In the Soviet Union, Joseph Stalin starved four million of his conquered peasants in Ukraine (Holodomor). Chairman Mao Zedong killed forty-five million Chinese peasants by starvation and cruelty. We should not underestimate the cruelty of men to weaponize food shortages to starve their enemies and their people. The black horse of famine and starvation is drawing near, and we are starting to see empty shelves and hyperinflation, but this is just the beginning of sorrows. We will see food shortages, famines, and plagues becoming intolerably worse because of evil men. A day's wage for a loaf of bread is not enough to feed a family, leaving the poor starving because of food shortages and hyperinflation, while the wealthy elites are untouched and their oil and wine supplies are abundant.

*Revelation 6:5-6 ... "Come!" I looked, and there before me was a **black horse!** Its rider was holding a pair of scales in his hand. Then I heard what sounded like a voice among the four living creatures, saying, "**A quart of wheat for a day's wages, and three quarts of barley for a day's wages, and do not damage the oil and the wine!**"*

*Matthew 24:7 ... **And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places.***

Pale Horse - Death

The rider on the pale horse brings death. The rider on the white horse introduces the devil incarnate (antichrist) with a global tyranny; the red horse launches war with weapons of mass destruction, and the black horse comes next with hyperinflation, food shortages, starvation, and plagues. It all culminates with the pale horse and everything from the previous horses, resulting in the death of one-

quarter of the world's population, about 2 billion people. But the worst is still yet to come.

Revelation 6:7-8 ... "Come!" I looked, and there before me was a pale horse! Its rider was named Death, and Hades was following close behind him. They were given power over a fourth of the earth to kill by sword, famine and plague, and by the wild beasts of the earth.

Days of Noah

Like the days of Noah and Lot, we live in a world full of violence, injustice, pornography, homosexuality, and every kind of sick twisted perversion. In the United States alone, since 1971, over 63 million babies have been killed through abortion. How long will God hold back His judgment for all this? Something far worse than Noah's flood is coming.

Isaiah 5:20 Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

2 Peter 2:5-9 ... and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly; and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly; and delivered righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked (for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented his righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds) then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment,

Luke 17:26-29 "And as it was in the days (full of violence, every thought evil) of Noah ... so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. "... also in the days of Lot (the entire population was homosexual) "... but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all.

Planet in Travail

Jesus said that there would be earthquakes in various places, which is significant because before the millennial kingdom begins, the earth will be released from the curse and recreated to be a paradise again. All creation groans with birth pains until the coming of the Lord, and the planet is longing to be set free from Adam's curse and be regenerated.

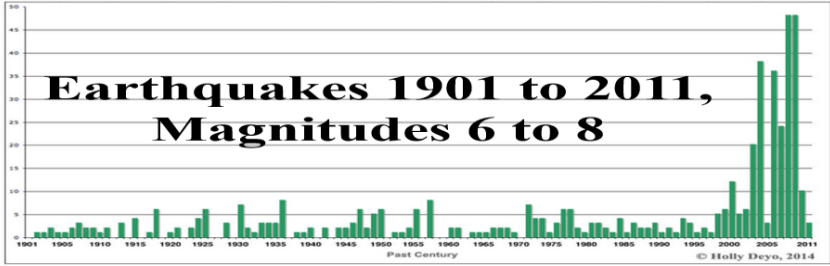
The face of the earth will be changed and will undergo the worst earthquakes in history, mountains and islands moving out of place, valleys and rivers created, with hail and meteor showers. Nature's labor pains will get stronger and closer together until Christ the king arrives and the millennial kingdom begins. And Satan knows this, which is why we have the "religion of climate change," with the profits of planetary doom, oppressive laws, restrictions, lies for political gain, and fake science.

Romans 8:19-22 The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.

Earthquakes in Various Places

Look at the chart to see the rise of earthquakes and the following scriptures speaking of the big ones that will hit in the future. ***There will be ... earthquakes in various places, Matthew 24:7.***

Earthquakes in the End Times	
Jesus Prophecy Matthew 24:7	"For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places.
Battle of Gog And Magog Ezekiel 38:19-20	"For in My jealousy and in the fire of My wrath I have spoken: 'Surely in that day there shall be a great earthquake in the land of Israel, ' so that the fish of the sea, the birds of the heavens, the beasts of the field, all creeping things that creep on the earth, and all men who are on the face of the earth shall shake at My presence. The mountains shall be thrown down, the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground.
Resurrection of 2 Witnesses Revelation 11:13	At that very hour there was a severe earthquake and a tenth of the city collapsed. Seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and the survivors were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven
After 6th Seal Revelation 6:12-14	I watched as he opened the sixth seal. There was a great earthquake. The sun turned black like sackcloth made of goat hair, the whole moon turned blood red, and the stars in the sky fell to earth, as late figs drop from a fig tree when shaken by a strong wind. The sky receded like a scroll, rolling up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place.
After 7th Bowl Revelation 16:18-20	Then there came flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder and a severe earthquake. No earthquake like it has ever occurred since man has been on earth, so tremendous was the quake. The great city split into three parts, and the cities of the nations collapsed. God remembered Babylon the Great and gave her the cup filled with the wine of the fury of his wrath. Every island fled away and the mountains could not be found.
At the Second Coming Of Christ Zechariah 14:4-8	On that day his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem, and the Mount of Olives will be split in two from east to west, forming a great valley, with half of the mountain moving north and half moving south. You will flee by my mountain valley, for it will extend to Azel. You will flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah.



At the battle of Gog and Magog, God will use the forces of nature to defeat the invading armies. God will send an earthquake so powerful to be felt worldwide, accompanied by rain, hail, fire, and brimstone. He will also turn the invaders against each other, and none will survive. The world and Israel will have to acknowledge that God alone defeated Magog, and God will get all the glory for his miraculous intervention.

Ezekiel 38:18-38 "And it will come to pass at the same time, when Gog comes against the land of Israel," says the Lord GOD, "that My fury will show in My face. "For in My jealousy and in the fire of My wrath I have spoken: 'Surely in that day there shall be a great earthquake in the land of Israel, 'so that the fish of the sea, the birds of the heavens, the beasts of the field, all creeping things that creep on the earth, and all men who are on the face of the earth shall shake at My presence. The mountains shall be thrown down, the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground.' "I will call for a sword against Gog throughout all My mountains," says the Lord GOD. "Every man's sword will be against his brother. "And I will bring him to judgment with pestilence and bloodshed; I will rain down on him, on his troops, and on the many peoples who are with him, flooding rain, great hailstones, fire, and brimstone. "Thus, I will magnify Myself and sanctify Myself, and I will be known in the eyes of many nations. Then they shall know that I am the LORD.'"

When Christ returns, he will stand on the Mount of Olives, and a great earthquake will split the mountain in two and create a valley. Christ walks from there and enters the Eastern Gate of Jerusalem where a river will break forth and run beginning from the Eastern Gate and will flow to the Mediterranean Sea to the west, and the dead sea to the east, the dead sea will come back to life and be full of fish. All the mountains and islands will move, and the earth will undergo a renovation.

Zechariah 14:4-8 *On that day his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem, and the Mount of Olives will be split in two from east to west, forming a great valley, with half of the mountain moving north and half moving south. You will flee by my mountain valley, for it will extend to Azel. You will flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the LORD my God will come, and all the holy ones with him. On that day there will be no light, no cold or frost. It will be a unique day, without daytime or nighttime a day known to the LORD. When evening comes, there will be light. On that day living water will flow out from Jerusalem, half to the eastern sea and half to the western sea, in summer and in winter.*

Ezekiel 47:1-12 *Then he said to me: "This water flows toward the eastern region, goes down into the valley, and enters the (dead) sea. When it reaches the sea, its waters are healed. "And it shall be that every living thing that moves, wherever the rivers go, will live. There will be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters go there; for they will be healed, and everything will live wherever the river goes. "It shall be that fishermen will stand by it from En Gedi to En Eglaim; they will be places for spreading their nets. Their fish will be of the same kinds as the fish of the Great Sea, exceedingly many.*

Persecution

Jesus told us that there would be persecution, similar to the other birth pains, persecution against Jews and Christians will increase with greater intensity until there is an open genocide to exterminate all believers. Ironically, this persecution will initially come from a global religious community that the Bible calls the Harlot church.

The harlot world religion will become drunk on the blood of the saints, much like the inquisitions of the dark ages, and the fake church will worship at the altar of the government (state churches), fake science, climate change, homosexual LGBTQ rights, medical tyranny, and so forth. As we get closer to the coming of the Lord, the true church will have to go underground, being denigrated, segregated, shut down, isolated, demonized, and eventually incarcerated and killed.

***Matthew 24:8-10** "All these are the beginning of sorrows. "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. "And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another.*

***Revelation 17:5-6** And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement.*

***Revelation 2:10** Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you; the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life.*

End Times Backsliding

Jesus said because sin or lawlessness abounds, the hearts of many will grow cold, and many will lose their faith. The church has always had wolves, ministers of Satan, false apostles. But in the latter times, it will get increasingly worse with deceptions, backsliding, spiritual blindness, fake dead churches, demonically inspired teachings, and many won't listen to the truth, wanting to have their ears tickled with pleasant things and prosperity messages of greed.

Matthew 24:12 "And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.

2 Timothy 4:3-4 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

1 Timothy 4:1 Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,

Days of Noah & Lot

One of the main themes of Jesus' warnings was to be watching. When speaking of Noah and Lot, the people of those times just lived business, as usual, buying, selling, married life, planting gardens, until one day they were completely surprised and destroyed with no hope of escape. Some will mock and say that Jesus is not coming back, that it is all a big fairytale until suddenly they are caught by surprise and destroyed.

2 Peter 3:3-7 ... knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning

of creation." For **this they willfully forget**: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, by which **the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water** (Noah's flood). **But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.**

Luke 17:26-29 "And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: **"They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. "Likewise, as it was also in the days of Lot: They ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built; "but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. 1 Thessalonians 5:2-3** For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. **For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape.**

1 Thessalonians 5:6-8 Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober. **For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation.**

The Rapture

The rapture is where the dead and living believers who are "in Christ" are suddenly, and without notice, caught up to meet Jesus in the air, where they will receive their eternal resurrection body and their heavenly inheritance. The church, the bride of Christ, and the snatching away of believers in the rapture were mysteries to the Old

Testament saints. Only after the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost were those mysteries revealed.

Ephesians 5:25-32 *Husbands, love your wives, just as **Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her**, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish ... **This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.***

1 Corinthians 15:51-52 *Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep (die), but we shall all be changed in a moment, **in the twinkling of an eye**, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.*

1 Thessalonians 4:15-17 *For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep (dead). **For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout**, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. **And the dead “in Christ” will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.** And thus we shall always be with the Lord.*

So, here is the big question, who will Jesus take in the rapture? Only God knows for sure, and everyone has their own opinion, but the most important thing is not to set the bar too low and be left behind. Many preach easy belief-ism, which says that when someone repeats a sinner's prayer, they are good to go and have a get out of tribulation card with a ticket to heaven in the rapture.

That sounds great, but how disastrous would it be if the traditions of men (the sinner's prayer) were only giving a false sense of security? How much weight should we put on a single prayer if not accompanied by repentance, being born again, and living a Spirit-filled life? And yes, we know that salvation is by grace through faith alone and not by works. But we have a responsibility to do our part also.

Revelation 19:7-8 "Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and **His wife has made herself ready.**" And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

James 2:17-18 Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

Here is another problem, where do the tribulation martyrs come from if the rapture removes all Christians from earth? There will be a great multitude of martyrs during the tribulation.

Revelation 7:9, 14 After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands "These are the **ones who come out of the great tribulation**, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

According to some teachers, there will be a tremendous revival during the tribulation where vast multitudes will be saved, only to die as martyrs. That sounds hopeful for those who miss the rapture if that's true. The Bible must say a lot about it, right? Actually, no. In the book

of Revelation, there is only one example that implies by speculation that gentiles (non-Jews) get saved during the great tribulation.

Revelation 11:13 *In the same hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. In the earthquake seven thousand people were killed, and the rest were afraid and gave glory to the God of heaven.*

After seeing the two witnesses killed and resurrected, they were afraid and gave glory to God, but does that mean they came to repentance and faith and became martyrs? That's about the extent of revivals we see in the tribulation, at least among possible gentile nations. Could it be possible that many of the martyrs were the lukewarm, backslidden, professing Christians who missed the rapture and returned to Christ before being killed in the tribulation? Which brings up the question, what on earth is worth missing the rapture? This world has nothing for the bride of Christ, who is ready to go right now and is watching, waiting, longing for Jesus to come.

We know that there will be a tremendous revival with the nation of Israel during the tribulation, with 144,000 getting saved at one time. We also know that one-third (5 million?) of the Jewish population will get saved (Zech 13:7-9), survive, and populate the millennial kingdom. However, if one-third were saved and lived, what about the other two-thirds (10 million?) that died? Would it be possible they became part of the vast multitude of martyrs?

Most likely, yes, the martyrs will sing the song of Moses, which points to them being Jewish.

Revelation 15:2-3 *And I saw something like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the victory over the beast, over his image and over his mark and over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God. They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying: "Great and marvelous are Your works,*

Lord God Almighty! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the saints!

Contrary to the theory of a tribulation revival among gentiles, we see multitudes who refuse to repent and curse God.

***Revelation 9:20-21** But the rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, **did not repent of the works of their hands, that they should not worship demons, and idols of gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk. And they did not repent** of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts.*

Revelation 16:8-11** Then the fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire. And men were scorched with great heat, **and they blasphemed the name of God** who has power over these plagues; **and they did not repent and give Him glory.** Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain. **They blasphemed the God of heaven** because of their pains and their sores, **and did not repent of their deeds.

If people can't live for Christ now, how will they die for him then? Who knows if God will grant people the ability to repent or receive the love of the truth to be saved after they rejected the truth, believed the lie, and took pleasure in sin over God?

2 Thessalonians 2:9-12** The coming of the lawless one (antichrist) is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, **because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this reason, God will send them strong delusion, that they

should believe the lie, that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

We do not want to discourage anyone's faith because the rapture is a blessed hope. If you love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength, He will finish the work He began in your life, and you will be ready. The key is that He is coming for "His bride," His bride loves Him, and His bride loves His appearing.

Titus 2:11-13 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

1 Thessalonians 4:15-17 ... And the dead "in Christ" will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.

Jude 1:24-25 Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to God our Savior, who alone is wise, Be glory and majesty, Dominion and power, Both now and forever. Amen.

1 John 3:2-3 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

2 Timothy 4:8 Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

Jesus speaking of the day of the Lord (great tribulation), saying it will be like a trap, it closes suddenly, and there is no escape. We must be watchful and careful of being caught in the tribulation trap. We should do everything we can and pray that we, our family, friends, and anyone who will listen will escape the hell on earth that is coming and be taken in the rapture when Jesus comes for His church.

***Luke 21:34-36** "Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with dissipation, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and **that day will close on you unexpectedly like a trap.** For it will come upon all those who live on the face of the whole earth. Be always on the watch, **and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen,** and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man."*

We need to be like Noah, moved with fear, and encourage people to get into the ark of salvation before it is too late because something worse than the flood is coming and is almost here!

***Hebrews 11:7** By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household*

Conclusion

We are in the end times and seeing a rise in persecution against Christians. Many countries closed churches during the pandemic, revealing their bad intentions towards the people of God. And in a different type of pandemic, the plague of apostasy is infecting many churches as they become woke to the world and become dead to God. That is leaving many sincere followers of Jesus with nowhere to go.

Finding a good church is becoming very difficult, and they are becoming fewer and fewer. It is easy to find a mega building full of people with an exciting band, fog lights, tight jeans, and big screens that preaches a gospel of greed or being a better worldly you. The mega pastors preach every wind of doctrine that is most popular at the

moment to tickle itchy ears. The delusions and deception in the last days before the coming of the Lord will only get increasingly worse. The narrow road for the righteous is becoming narrower while the Broadway to destruction will become wider for the compromised and lukewarm.

We can see what's coming for the uncompromising followers of Jesus, who will eventually go underground by being pressured and forced out of institutional churches and back to being the family of God in gatherings and the temple of the Holy Spirit as individuals, meeting in homes, parks, and wherever possible. As persecution rises, it will create a vacuum, and many people will not know where to go or what to do. That is why believers must learn the essential teachings of the faith and be able to share them with others. **You are the church!** Invite people to your home or out for a coffee, create a fellowship group, and you **be the church.**

These studies, charts, and other resources are shared freely on our website:

Ears2Hear.online.

Jesus is coming soon, so may we love his appearing and be found blameless before him when he returns!

The Tool Box Series

Jesus commanded his followers to make disciples, but a majority of church goers do not have the tools they need to be obedient to the call. The Tool Box Series is a set of essential studies that are designed to equip believers with the tools they need to build a solid foundation of faith for themselves, for discipleship, and for small groups.

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