

Bible Prophecy

2 Timothy 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, **a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing** the word of truth. (Read Prov. 2:1-5)

With each Bible truth, there is only one correct interpretation. Much study is required to become a student of the eternal Word of God. With the Word of God and the Holy Spirit, you have all the tools you need to become *a workman that needs not to be ashamed*.

John 16:13 Howbeit when he, the **Spirit of truth**, is come, he will **guide you into all truth**: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: and **he will shew you things to come**.

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Introduction to Prophecy

God is:

- **Creator**

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

- **Most High God – Possessor of heaven and earth (the Authority)**

Genesis 14:19 And he blessed him, and said, Blessed *be* Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth: ²⁰ And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all.

- **Eternal God concerning Time**

Psalms 90:2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou *art* God.

Revelation 1:8 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

Revelation 22:13 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.

- **Eternal God concerning Space - Inhabitor of Eternity**

Isaiah 57:15 For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name *is* Holy; I dwell in the high and holy *place*, with him also *that is* of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

Space in the universe is continually expanding – hence God not only always has been and always will be, but there is nowhere that God is not. God always has been and always will be everywhere.

- **Author of Bible**

2 Timothy 3:16 All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

Jesus said: Matthew 24:35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

25% of the Bible is prophecy.

Everything must have a proper foundation. To understand prophecy, we have 2 important foundations:

- I) The Bible is God's Word
- II) The Bible is to be interpreted literally
It is extremely important as to how we interpret prophecy.
If the literal sense makes sense, seek no other sense.

I) The Bible is God's Word

3 Reasons why the Bible is God's Word

1) One Author

Written in three languages (Hebrew, Greek, Aramaic)

Written on three continents, 40 different authors, covering a time-span of 1600 years. Authors with different backgrounds - fishermen, statesmen, doctors, tax collectors, kings, shepherds... yet these 66 books dovetail into 1 book that has one author - the Holy Spirit.

2) Fulfilled Prophecy shows that it is inspired by God

Bible demands 100% accuracy in fulfillment –

Deuteronomy 18:22 When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him.

Luke 2:1-7 And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (*And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.*) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called **Bethlehem**; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. **And she brought forth her firstborn son**, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

This is a fulfillment of Micah 5:2 (written near 700 B.C.)

Micah 5:2 But thou, **Bethlehem** Ephratah, *though* thou be little among the thousands of Judah, *yet out of thee shall he* come forth unto me *that is* to be ruler in Israel; **whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.**

God worked all this out so that the prophecy written by Micah would be fulfilled 700 years later.

3) One central theme - the blood of the Lamb

Exodus 12:5 Your **lamb** shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take *it* out from the sheep, or from the goats: ⁶ And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening. ⁷ And they shall take of the **blood**, and strike *it* on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it.

Exodus 12:12 For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I *am* the LORD. ¹³ And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye *are*: and **when I see the blood**, I will **pass over you**, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy *you*, when I smite the land of Egypt. (Written 1500 B.C.)

This event of the Passover Lamb was a prelude to Christ coming as our Passover Lamb.

1 Corinthians 5:7 Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:

1 Peter 1:18 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation *received* by tradition from your fathers; ¹⁹ But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

This theme of a Lamb will run through the Bible:

Isaiah 53:5 But he *was* wounded for our transgressions, *he was* bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace *was* upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. ⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. ⁷ He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is **brought as a lamb to the slaughter**, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. (Written about 700 B.C.)

John 1:29 The next day John seeth **Jesus** coming unto him, and saith, Behold the **Lamb of God**, which taketh away the sin of the world. (About 33 A.D.)

Revelation 5:6 And I beheld, and, lo, in the **midst of the throne** and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a **Lamb** as it had been slain...

Revelation 5:8 And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four *and* twenty elders fell down before the **Lamb**, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints.⁹ And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast **redeemed us to God by thy blood** out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; (About 90 A.D.)

Acts 8:32 The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and **like a lamb** dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth:³³ In his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken from the earth.³⁴ And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, **of whom speaketh the prophet** this? of himself, or of some other man?³⁵ Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the **same scripture**, and **preached unto him Jesus**. (About 60 A.D.)

In Acts 8, the unsaved Ethiopian eunuch was reading Isaiah 53 about the Lamb. When Philip (the preacher) explained that this Lamb was Jesus, we find 2 great truths concerning the Bible:

- 1) The Lamb is the central theme that shows one Author as these 66 books dovetail.
- 2) The fulfilled prophesy of Isaiah as he foretold of Christ's sacrificial death. A lamb does not fight back – it is a defenseless creature. Jesus laid down His life for us:

John 10:15 As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep...¹⁷ Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again.¹⁸ No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again....

Exo 12	Isa 53	Acts 8	John 1	Rev 5
Lamb	Lamb	Lamb of	Lamb	Lamb
Blood shed		Isa 53 is	takes away	is Jesus
Blood applied	not fight	Jesus	sin of world	blood has
Judgment spared	back			saved them

Why is the central theme the blood of the Lamb? It is only way to forgive sins:

Hebrews 9:22 And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

Ephesians 1:7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

Colossians 1:14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

Revelation 1:5 And from Jesus Christ, *who is* the faithful witness, *and* the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,

Revelation 5:9 And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;

Revelation 7:14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Just as in Exodus 12, the blood had to be applied to the doorposts of the house, even so Jesus' blood has to be applied to our life to escape the judgment of God. Thank God for the blood of Jesus.

2 Timothy 3:16 All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God... literally means that God-breathed through the authors as they wrote down the words.

The unique construction of the Bible by 40 authors over 1600 years; a central theme that runs through it and fulfilled prophecy are all strong evidences that the Bible is God's Word.

II) The Bible is to be interpreted literally

There are 4 ways to interpret Scripture:

1) Allegorical

Those who believe in allegorical interpretation leave the literal sense and seek a 'deeper' meaning. They will say things such as:

"What the Bible says is this, but what it really means is..."

"The literal sense is a vehicle for a secondary, more spiritual sense."

This method of interpretation puts the mind of the interpreter as the authority.

This opens the door to speculation and imagination. God takes second place to the fanciful ideas of the one who is stating the meaning of the verse.

2) Tradition

Some believe the tradition of the church is above the authority of the Scripture.

3) Literal Interpretation – except for future prophecy

Some will interpret all Scripture literally but will say that prophecy is symbolic. They will spiritualize prophecy and interpret it different than other parts of the Bible.

4) Literal Interpretation (This is the only correct view)

This is the **method that elevates the Bible to a position of authority**. If the literal sense makes sense, seek no other sense. One must:

- Take the very word at its primary, ordinary, usual literal meaning unless the facts of the context indicate otherwise.
- This allows the Bible – to be the Authority on what the Bible means. It means what it says.
- The literal interpretation allows for verses that are symbolic to be interpreted as such.

The only way to know how God will fulfill prophecy in the future is to see how He fulfilled it in the past. If the 1st coming of Christ is fulfilled literally, the 2nd coming must also be literal.

Compare Isaiah chapter 2 and Isaiah chapter 53. Both are prophecies at the time of their writings. Isaiah chapter 53 is a prophecy concerning Christ's first coming. It was written near 700 B.C. and was fulfilled literally. Isaiah chapter 2 is a prophecy concerning Christ's second coming. It was written near 700 B.C. also. There is no reason to interpret these two passages differently. Christ's second coming should be interpreted literally just as His first coming was fulfilled literally.

Jesus foretold of end-time events in Matthew chapter 24. These events are literal.

Symbolic or Literal?

- 1) Days of creation are literal
 Gen. 1:5,8,13,19,23,31,2:2 are the seven days described. Moses tells us that they are literal:
 Exodus 20:11 For *in* six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them *is*, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.
- 2) Adam & Eve are two literal people
 Gen. 1:27, 2:21-22
 Romans 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world...
- 3) The 7 churches in Rev. ch 1-3 are 7 literal churches in 7 literal cities.
- 4) The 144,000 in Rev. 7 are 144,000 literal people from the 12 literal tribes of Israel. There is no reason to not believe these are literal.
- 5) The 4 horsemen of chapter 6 are symbolic. This is explained in the context.
- 6) The 'woman' and the 'dragon' of Rev. 12 are symbolic. The dragon is the Devil:
 Revelation 12:9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

III) The Bible has doctrinal books and historical books.

Books in the Bible have different purposes for which they are written.

- Matthew through Acts are primarily Historical books – written as history
- Romans through III John are primarily Doctrinal books – written for doctrine
- 1 & 2 Thessalonians are books primarily for end times – written for doctrine
- Revelation is primarily a prophetic book.

If you are going to rightly divide the word of truth, you must base your doctrine on doctrinal books with historical books to back it up. For instance, if you want to know what the Bible teaches on salvation, Romans is primarily written for the doctrine of salvation – not Matthew, not Acts....

The doctrine of tongues:

Acts gives a historical view – what really happened when someone spoke in tongues.

II Corinthians gives a doctrinal view – rules for speaking in tongues.

(If one is not speaking a known language, then he is not speaking in tongues.)

Many, many people get into false doctrine by trying to base their doctrine on something written in one of the gospels or a poetical book in the Old Testament. Doctrine is found between Romans and III John.

Ephesians	Ch 1-3 Doctrinal	Our Wealth in Christ
	Ch 4-6 Practical	Our Walk in Christ

Romans	Ch 1-8	Salvation
	Ch 9-11	Israel
	Ch 12-16	Practical Christian Life

Prophecy Overview

The Bible is alive!

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God *is* quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Your salvation has given you life in your Spirit.

Ephesians 2:1 And you *hath he quickened*, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

1 Peter 1:3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

The Holy Spirit indwells you and will guide you into all truth. Prophecy is a difficult subject within God's Word and much discernment is needed to understand what the Bible teaches.

We are nearing the 2nd coming of Christ on this earth. To put time in perspective:

Adam and Eve 4200 B.C. / Noah's ark and worldwide flood 2518 B.C. / Abraham 2100 B.C.

Solomon's Temple 966 B.C. / Christ 4 B.C. to 29 A.D. / Today is 2016 A.D.

Soon a 7-year time of God's wrath followed by

1000 reign of King Jesus on earth, after which Eternity Begins

The Bible speaks of the last days:

2 Timothy 3:1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. ²For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, ³Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, ⁴Traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God.

Daniel 12:4 But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, *even* to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and **knowledge shall be increased**.

God is getting ready to pour out His wrath on this earth for its great wickedness. God has judged the world before during the time of Noah.

Genesis 6:5 And GOD saw that the wickedness of man *was* great in the earth, and *that* every imagination of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually. ⁶And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. ⁷And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them. ⁸But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

We find this future wrath of God is coming.

Revelation 6:15 And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; ¹⁶And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and

hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and **from the wrath of the Lamb: ¹⁷ For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?**

Jesus told us that the last days would be like days of Noah and Lot
Luke 17:26 And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. ²⁷
They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all. ²⁸ Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; ²⁹ But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed *them* all. ³⁰ Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.

In the days of Lot, God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, and Admah, and Zeboim. (Hosea 11:8, Deut. 29:23, 2 Pet. 2:6). In the days of Noah God destroyed the world with a flood (2 Pet 2:5, Gen.6).

God delivered Lot **out of His wrath**

Genesis 19:22 Haste thee, escape thither; for **I cannot do any thing till thou be come thither.** Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar. ²³ The sun was risen upon the earth when Lot entered into Zoar. ²⁴ Then the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven; ²⁵ And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground.

God **preserved Noah through His wrath.**

Genesis 9:11 And I will establish my covenant with you; neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth. ¹² And God said, This *is* the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that *is* with you, for perpetual generations: ¹³ I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴ And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud: ¹⁵ And I will remember my covenant, which *is* between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶ And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that *is* upon the earth.

God will deliver all the saved out of the Wrath of God (The Tribulation Period) and God will preserve Israel through the wrath of God until Jesus returns and sets up His kingdom.

Prophecy is history written in advance. Some events of prophecy God has fore-ordained to occur.

The 1st coming of Christ was planned by God:

Acts 2:22 Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know: ²³ Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:

Here are the order of events of the last days.

The end time events are also pre-planned by God. Here is the order of those events:

1. Rapture –

God will deliver Christians out of this world **before** He pours out His wrath on this earth.

Here is our Blessed Hope:

Titus 2:13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

1 Thessalonians 4:13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. ¹⁴ For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. ¹⁵ For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive *and* remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: ¹⁷ Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

1 Corinthians 15:50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. ⁵¹ Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, ⁵² In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. ⁵³ For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality. ⁵⁴ So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. ⁵⁵ O death, where *is* thy sting? O grave, where *is* thy victory?

Jesus came to earth for 33 years.

Matthew 1:23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

A) He promised to send the Holy Spirit to indwell every believer (after He was glorified)

John 7:37 In the last day, that great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. ³⁸ He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. ³⁹ (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

John 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; ¹⁷ Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. ¹⁸ I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

John 16:7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

John 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;

The Holy Spirit is another (another of the same kind) Comforter. He is just like Jesus. God, the Holy Spirit indwells every believer. This is how one knows that he/she has been saved.

B) The Holy Spirit hinders the work of iniquity on this earth through the lives of believers

2 Thessalonians 2:6 And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. ⁷ For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth *will let*, until he be taken out of the way. ⁸ And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

The above verses teach us:

- i) The Holy Spirit hinders the withholds and hinders the work of iniquity
- ii) He (the Holy Spirit) will be taken out of the way
- iii) When the indwelling Holy Spirit leaves this earth, all Christians that He indwells will also leave this earth
- iv) After the Holy Spirit is taken out of the way, the Antichrist will then be revealed

The Bible teaches: Rapture (all saved leaving the earth) 1st, then Antichrist

This chronological order is also found in the book of Revelation:

Rapture:

Revelation 4:1 After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.

Antichrist:

Revelation 6:1 And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see. ² And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer.

2. 7 year Tribulation

There is coming a 7-year period of God's wrath called the Tribulation Period. A one-world leader will emerge – the Antichrist. He will come in as a peacemaker. After 3 ½ years, he (the Beast) will sit in the rebuilt Temple in Jerusalem and demand to be worshipped as god. Israel will flee into hiding; and the world will experience a time of horrific catastrophe. At the end of this 7-year Tribulation Period, all nations will gather against Israel at the battle of Armageddon. Jesus will return to earth at that time and Israel will trust Him as their Messiah. Jesus will reign on this earth for 1000 years.

3. Antichrist

The Antichrist is the rider on the white horse. He brings in 'peace' as it is a short-lived peace.

Revelation 6:1 And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see. ² And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer. ³ And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see. ⁴ And there went out another horse *that was red*: and *power* was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword.

Note: Antichrist comes on the scene: "when the Lamb opened one of the seals." The coming time of Antichrist is in the hands of a Sovereign God.

He will reign on this earth as the Beast for 3 ½ years.

Revelation 13:1 And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. ² And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as *the feet* of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat,

and great authority. ³ And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. ⁴ And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who *is* like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? ⁵ And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty *and* two months.

4. Judgments on the Earth

God pours out His wrath:

Revelation 6:16 And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: ¹⁷ For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

Matthew 24:21 For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

7 Seal / 7 Trumpet / 7 Vial Judgments

The 1st Seal judgment brings the Antichrist to earth. The 7th seal opens up the 7 trumpet judgments. The 7th trumpet will bring in Christ's Kingdom:

Revelation 11:15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become *the kingdoms* of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

This 7th trumpet contains all the events of chapters 12 through 18 of Revelation – including the 7 vial judgments.

5. Armageddon

All nations gather against Israel to attempt to destroy Israel. Armageddon comes from Har Megiddo – or Mount of Megiddo. This is the location of this war.

Revelation 16:14 For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, *which* go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.
Revelation 16:16 And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.

6. 2nd coming of Christ

Jesus will return to earth at His 2nd coming.

Revelation 19:11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

Revelation 19:16 And he hath on *his* vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

He comes to Judge the earth. Read Revelation 19:11-21.

God will preserve Israel through the Tribulation Period and a remnant of Israel will be saved.

Romans 11:26 And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:

Zechariah 12:10 And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and

they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for *his* only *son*, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for *his* firstborn.

7. King Jesus will Rule & Reign for 1000 years

Revelation 20:1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. ² And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, ³ And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season. ⁴ 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. ⁵ But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This *is* the first resurrection. ⁶ 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.

During this time, He will rule as King – it will be a theocratic-dictatorship. Mankind will live in a perfect environment, Satan will be bound, and yet mankind will still rebel against God.

8. Great White Throne Judgment

At the end of the 1000 reign of King Jesus, all individuals who are lost without Christ will stand before God and judged.

Revelation 20:11 And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. ¹² And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is *the book* of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. ¹³ And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. ¹⁴ And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. ¹⁵ And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

9. Christ's Eternal Kingdom Begins

Daniel 7:13 I saw in the night visions, and, behold, *one* like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. ¹⁴ And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom *that* which shall not be destroyed.

Time will only be for a while. Soon, time will be no more. Saved will rule & reign in Christ's everlasting kingdom!

James 4:14 Whereas ye know not what *shall be* on the morrow. For what *is* your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

The Kingdom of God

Adam was given dominion over this earth – hence, he was put on earth to reign. His kingdom was to reign on this earth.

Genesis 1:26-28 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

Adam fell – sinned and lost his ability to reign.

Not only was man corrupted, but also all of creation was corrupted and cursed.

Thorns and weeds are a result of this cursing.

Animals' aggressiveness and ferociousness comes with this curse.

The wind howls in a minor key.

This dominion was lost at the fall of man. The devil gained this dominion.

Satan is now the prince of this world. His kingdom is this world.

Matthew 8:11 And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven. ¹² But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

(Verse 11 is kingdom of God, verse 12 is Satan's kingdom).

John 12:31 Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out.

John 14:30 Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.

John 16:11 Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.

2 Corinthians 4:4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

Ephesians 2:2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

Matthew 4:8-9 Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.

God is sovereign, but the devil is the god of this world. The reign of the devil is only temporary.

Mankind will reign – as God intended him to. It will be in Christ's Kingdom.

God gave dominion over this earth to Adam. Through the fall of man, Satan took this dominion – he is the god of this world. In Revelation, chapter 5, Jesus takes a seven-sealed scroll from God the Father:

Revelation 5:1 And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals.
and that seven-sealed scroll will bring in Christ's Kingdom. (This scroll is the title deed to the earth.)

King Jesus will reign for 1000 years, then after those 1000 years, His everlasting kingdom will begin. Hence, His kingdom will be two-fold: A 1000 year reign on earth – followed by an eternal, everlasting kingdom

The Bible prophesied of Christ's 1st coming to earth – (Isa. 53, Ps. 22, Micah 5:2, Isa. 7:14, 9:6). But it also prophesied of His 2nd coming. Note some prophesies will contain a prophecy that looks forward to both His 1st and His 2nd coming:

Zechariah 12:10 And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me (2nd coming – see Romans 11:26) whom they have pierced (1st coming), and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for *his* only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for *his* firstborn.

Isaiah 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given (1st coming): and the government shall be upon his shoulder (2nd coming): and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of the increase of *his* government (His everlasting kingdom) and peace *there shall be* no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

The Kingdom of God

1) Was prophesied in the Old Testament

Daniel 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, *but* it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.

Daniel 7:13 I saw in the night visions, and, behold, *one* like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. ¹⁴ And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom *that* which shall not be destroyed.

2) Prophesied at Christ's coming to earth

Luke 1:30 And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. ³¹ And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. ³² He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: ³³ And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

3) Kingdom of God was here

Luke 17:20 And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: ²¹ Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.

The preposition *within* can mean among or in... It is a vague word – seems to indicate that Christ, the King of the Kingdom is right there among them / within their midst.

4) Kingdom was Offered to Israel.

Matthew 21:4 All this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, ⁵ Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass.

Zechariah 9:9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he *is* just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.

Mark 11:9-10 And they that went before, and they that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna; Blessed *is* he that cometh in the name of the Lord: Blessed *be* the kingdom of our father David, that cometh in the name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna to the Son of David! "Hosanna!" is compounded of two words meaning "save" and "now," or, "I pray," and is written in full *Hoshia-na*, The expressions uttered by the people are mostly derived from Ps 118., which formed part of the great Hallel (Ps 113-118) sung at the Feast of Tabernacles. "Hosanna!" was originally a formula of prayer and supplication, but later became a term of joy and congratulation. So here the cry signifies "Blessings on *or*, '*Jehovah bless*' the Son of David!" *i.e.* the Messiah, acknowledging Jesus to be he, the promised Prince of David's line. Thus we say, "God save the king!" PULPIT HELPS

Luke 19:35-40 And they brought him to Jesus: and they cast their garments upon the colt, and they set Jesus thereon. And as he went, they spread their clothes in the way. And when he was come nigh, even now at 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 that they had seen; Saying, Blessed *be* the King that cometh in the name of the Lord: peace in heaven, and glory in the highest. And some of the Pharisees from among the multitude said unto him, Master, rebuke thy disciples. And he answered and said unto them, I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out.

Matthew 21:9 And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the Son of David: Blessed *is* he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest. ¹⁰ And when he was come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, Who is this? ¹¹ And the multitude said, This is Jesus the prophet of Nazareth of Galilee.

5) Israel rejected Him

John 1:11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not. ¹² But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name:

Rejection is Implied By:

Matthew 21:13 And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves.

Fig Tree Cursed Matt. 21:19-20

Parables of Matt. 21:28-32; Matt. 21:33-42; Matt. 22:1-14

Matthew 21:43 Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof.

Matthew 21:45 And when the chief priests and Pharisees had heard his parables, they perceived that he spake of them.

Matthew Chapter 23 is a judgment sermon addressed to the 'Rulers of Israel' – scribes, Pharisees, hypocrites and lawyers... woe is a word of judgement.

Jesus loves Israel – can you hear His pathos as Israel rejects Him... 'ye would not:'

Matthew 23:37 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, *thou* that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under *her* wings, and **ye would not!**

The placard placed above the criminal hung on a cross indicated his crime. The 'crime' Jesus committed was being the King of the Jews.

John 19:19 And Pilate wrote a title, and put *it* on the cross. And the writing was, JESUS OF NAZARETH THE KING OF THE JEWS.

Thus, Jesus' crime was Who He was, not what He did!

Acts 2:22-23 Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know: Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:

Acts 3:12 And when Peter saw *it*, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let *him* go. ¹⁴But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you; ¹⁵And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses.

Acts 4:10 Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, *even* by him doth this man stand here before you whole. ¹¹This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.

Although Israel rejected Jesus Christ, the real reason He died on the cross was a payment for our sins. My sins = the reason Jesus Christ shed His blood. I am guilty, not 'National Israel.' Yes, National Israel did reject Him, but the divine purpose was to pay my debt.

6) At His 2nd coming, Israel will accept Christ as their Messiah, will be saved and the Kingdom will be brought to earth. (Rev. 19:11 – 20:1-6)

Zechariah 12:10 And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced...

Romans 11:26 And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: ²⁷For this *is* my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins.

7) We will reign with Christ (see parable of kingdom in Luke 19:12-27)

A) For 1000 years

2 Timothy 2:12 If we suffer, we shall also reign with *him*: if we deny *him*, he also will deny us:

Revelation 5:10 And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

Revelation 20:6 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.

Zechariah 14:9 And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one.

B) For ever

Revelation 22:5 And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.

8) His kingdom will forever increase

Isaiah 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom,

The increase of his government would be the result of *more people*. (Here is my opinion):

Those in eternity will be children of Abraham:

Genesis 13:16 And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, *then* shall thy seed also be numbered. Genesis 15:5 And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be. Genesis 22:17 That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which *is* upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies;

This promise, like other Bible promises, will have a minor fulfillment, but also a literal, major fulfillment. The literal fulfillment of the number of descendants as the dust, stars and sand will be billions and billions. There are estimated to be 200 billion stars within the Milky Way galaxy. Scientists estimate there may be 100 billion galaxies or more.

We do not know what will happen with the saved at the end of the Millennium. Perhaps God will give the Israelites a new covenant and they will have bodies similar to Adam and Eve before their fall. See Heb 8:8-12, Jer. 31:31-33, Jer. 32:38-40, and Eze. 37:24-27.

Hebrews 8:10 For this *is* the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel **after those days**, saith the Lord; **I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts**: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:

Luke 1:33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

It would seem that Israelites will be in a perfect body and reproduce children in eternity. In this way, the Bible will fulfill this prophecy:

Jeremiah 33:22 As the host of heaven cannot be numbered, neither the sand of the sea measured: so will I multiply the seed of David my servant, and the Levites that minister unto me.

God's "Plan A" was for Adam and Eve to not sin, eat from the Tree of Life, live forever in a perfect state, and reproduce children in eternal bliss. Now, God's "Plan B" at the end of the Millennium is for Israel, in a new covenant with Jehovah, to live in a pre-fall condition of perfection and reproduce children to populate His Everlasting Kingdom.

9) Your position of ruling and reigning will be determined by what you do on this earth

2 Timothy 2:12 If we suffer, we shall also reign with *him*: if we deny *him*, he also will deny us:

Revelation 2:26 And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: (This is the only promise to the saved in Rev. chapters 2 &3 that has a pre-requisite to receiving it)

Overview of the Book of Revelation

The book of Revelation is the consummation of prophecy. No new prophecies have ever been written or ever will be written. It deals with 3 main groups of people:

The Church	Ch. 1-4
The Jews	Ch 6-19
The Saved Nations	Ch 20-22

Revelation 1:1 The **Revelation of Jesus Christ**, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified *it* by his angel unto his servant John:

It is the revelation (unveiling) of Jesus Christ. He is unveiled as:

- High Priest in the midst of the church (Ch 1-3)
- Lamb worthy of praise (Ch 4)
- Lamb takes 7-sealed book (Ch 5)
- Wrath of the Lamb poured out (Ch 6-19)
- Coming King of Kings (Ch 19)
- 1000 Year reign of King Jesus (Ch 20)
- Light of the New Kingdom (Ch 21-22)

Events and People in book of Revelation:

- Seal & Trumpet Judgments (Ch 6, 8-10)
- 144,000 Jewish witnesses (Ch 7)
- 2 Witnesses (Ch 11)
- Israel goes into hiding for 1260 days (Ch 12)
- Beast (Antichrist) reigns on this earth for 42 months (Ch 13)
- Angels (Ch 14)
- 7 Vial Judgments (Ch 16)
- False Church (Ch 17)
- Babylon rebuilt (Ch 18)
- 2nd Coming of Christ (Ch 19)
- Millennium (Ch 20)
- All Things New (Ch 21-22)

God dealing with Israel

The Bible is primarily a book about Israel. From Gen. 12 to Malachi, it is about Israel. Revelation chapters 6 and on is about Israel. Romans chapters 9-11 remind us that God is not finished with Israel. They have been put aside for a time. Israel is a nation again – we are near the end of the church age. Jesus is coming soon!

Here is the condensed conclusion of Paul speaking of Israel in Romans ch 9-11:

Romans 11:1 I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid... ² God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew....Romans 11:25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. ²⁶ And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob.

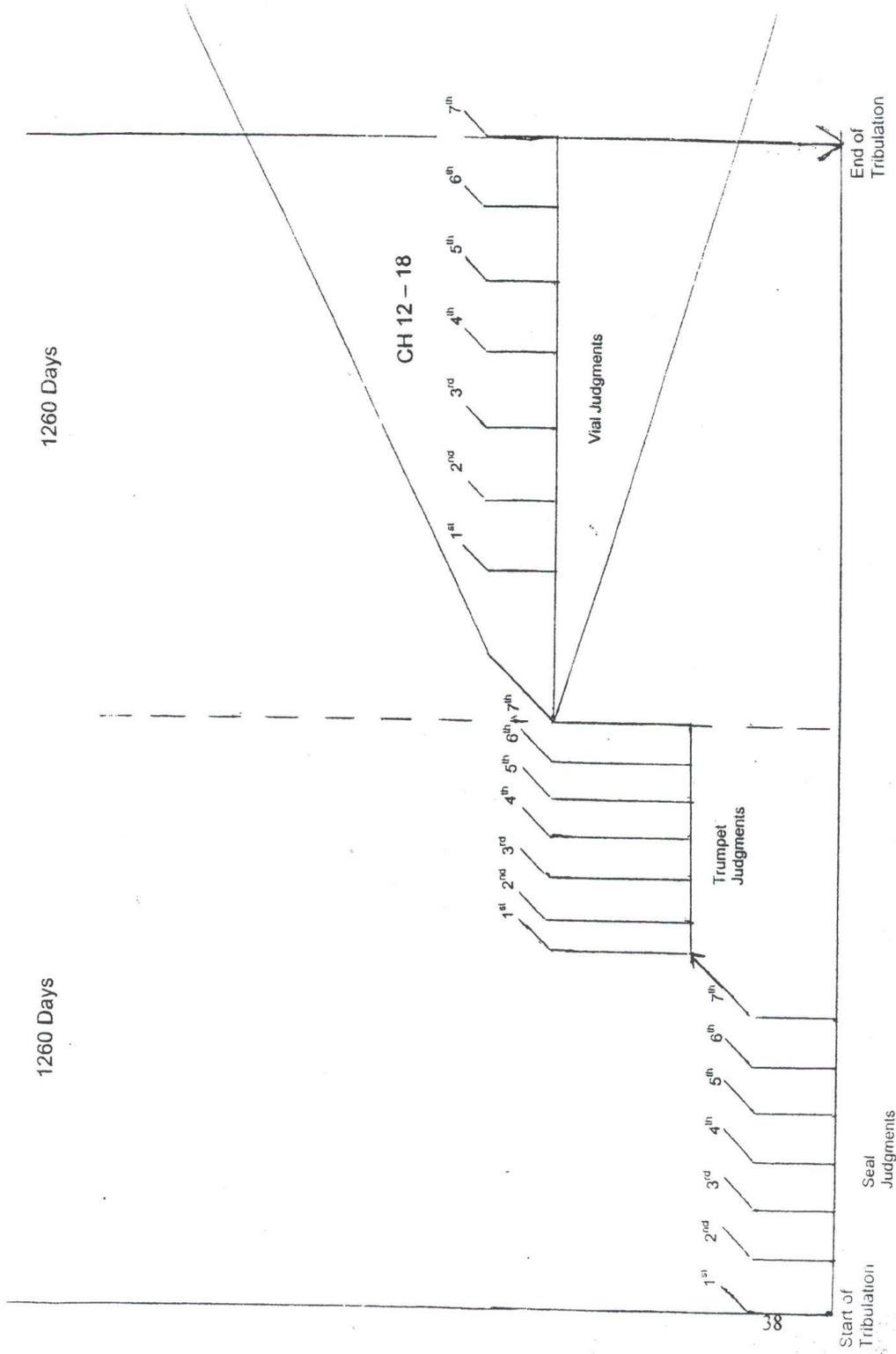
The One who comes out of Sion – the Deliverer is the Lord Jesus Christ.

Chapters of Revelation in Relation to the 70th Week of Daniel

	<u>Beginning</u>	<u>Middle</u>	<u>End</u>
Chapter 4-5	Judgment Seat of Christ Title Deed Taken		
Chapter 6, 8-9	7 Seals opened → 7 th Seal opens 7 Trumpets →		
Chapter 7	144,000 Preach →		
Chapter 11	Temple Rebuilt → 2 Witnesses Prophecy →	Dead for 3 ½ Days	
Chapter 12		Devil Cast out of Heaven → Israel Goes into Hiding →	
Chapter 13		Beast →	
Chapter 14		144,000 have been Martyred Angels Preach	
Chapter 15-16		7 Vial Judgments →	
Chapter 17	False Church → ?		
Chapter 18	Babylon Rebuilt → ?		
Chapter 19		Marriage Supper of Lamb	
Chapter 20			2 nd Coming Unsaved Destroyed Millennium Begins Satan Bound
Chapter 21-22			Eternity

People and Events of Revelation in Relation to the 70th Week of Daniel

	<u>Beginning</u>	<u>Middle</u>	<u>End</u>
Lord Jesus Christ	Pours out Wrath Saves Repentant		Saves Israel Destroys Wicked
Church	In Heaven Judgment Seat of Christ		Marriage Supper of Lamb
Israel	7 Year Covenant with Antichrist	Covenant Broken Goes into Hiding ----->	Saved
Devil	False Trinity	Cast Out of Heaven Attacks Israel	
Antichrist	Peacemaker Signs and Wonders	Sets Self up as 'god' in Temple The Beast ----->	Cast Alive into Lake of Fire
False Prophet	Point people to Antichrist	Demands Mark of the Beast	
False Church	Charismatics and Catholics	Destroyed by E.C.M.	
Preachers	144,000	Angels ----->	
Saved	Many Saved	Very Few Saved	Few Saved
Economy	Babylon Rebuilt	Destroyed in 1 Hour	



God's Plan For Israel

Israel Regathered

Deuteronomy 30:3 That then the LORD thy God will turn thy captivity, and have compassion upon thee, and will return and **gather thee from all the nations**, whither the LORD thy God hath scattered thee. ⁴ If *any* of thine be driven out unto the outmost *parts* of heaven, from thence will the LORD thy God gather thee, and from thence will he fetch thee: ⁵ And the **LORD thy God will bring thee into the land** which thy fathers possessed, and thou shalt possess it; and he will do thee good, and multiply thee above thy fathers.

Isaiah 27:12 And it shall come to pass in that day, *that* the LORD shall beat off from the channel of the river unto the stream of Egypt, and **ye shall be gathered** one by one, O ye children of Israel. ¹³ And it shall come to pass in that day, *that the great trumpet shall be blown*, and they shall come which were ready to perish in the land of Assyria, and the outcasts in the land of Egypt, and shall worship the LORD in the holy mount at Jerusalem.

Jeremiah 23:3 And I will **gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds**; and they shall be fruitful and increase. ⁴ And I will set up shepherds over them which shall feed them: and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall they be lacking, saith the LORD. ⁵ Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. ⁶ In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this *is* his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

Ezekiel 36:24 For **I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land**. ²⁵ Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. ²⁶ A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do *them*. ²⁸ And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God.

Amos 9:14 And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit *them*; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them. ¹⁵ And **I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them**, saith the LORD thy God.

Zechariah 8:7 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Behold, I will save my people from the east country, and from the west country; ⁸ And **I will bring them**, and they shall dwell in the midst of Jerusalem: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God, in truth and in righteousness.

Israel Restored

Isaiah 35:1 The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. ² It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the LORD, *and* the excellency of our God... **Isaiah 35:10** And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Isaiah 2:1 The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. ² And it shall come to pass in the last days, *that* the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. ³ And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ⁴ And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they

shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

Ezekiel 36:33 Thus saith the Lord GOD; In the day that I shall have cleansed you from all your iniquities I will also cause *you* to dwell in the cities, and the wastes shall be builded. ³⁴ And the desolate land shall be tilled, whereas it lay desolate in the sight of all that passed by. ³⁵ And they shall say, This land that was desolate is become like the garden of Eden; and the waste and desolate and ruined cities *are become* fenced, *and* are inhabited.

Ezekiel 37:15 The word of the LORD came again unto me, saying, ¹⁶ Moreover, thou son of man, take thee one stick, and write upon it, For Judah, and for the children of Israel his companions: then take another stick, and write upon it, For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and *for* all the house of Israel his companions: ¹⁷ And **join them one to another into one stick; and they shall become one in thine hand.** ¹⁸ And when the children of thy people shall speak unto thee, saying, Wilt thou not shew us what thou *meanest* by these? ¹⁹ Say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will **take the stick of Joseph**, which *is* in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel his fellows, and will put them with him, *even with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick*, and they shall be one in mine hand.

Israel will be Saved as Jesus Returns to Earth

Romans 11:26 And so **all Israel shall be saved:** as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:

Zechariah 12:9 And it shall come to pass in that day, *that* I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. **Zechariah 12:10** And **I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications:** and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for *his* only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for *his* firstborn.

Hebrews 8:8 For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a **new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah:** ⁹ Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. ¹⁰ For this *is* the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: ¹¹ And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. ¹² For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.

God Turns the Hearts of Israel by:

Israel rebuilds their Temple. Antichrist sits in Temple as god, which drives Israel into hiding for 1260 days. She (Israel) is now ready to trust Christ as Messiah. He comes to set up His kingdom on this earth.

End Time events center on Israel. Antichrist will sign a peace treaty and allow them to rebuild the Temple. As people hate Israel and the Middle East conflict heats up, it indicates that Jesus' return is near.

The 70th Week of Daniel

The Tribulation Period lasts exactly seven years or 2,520 days. This is known by a study of Daniel 9:24-27. The 70th week of Daniel is the Tribulation Period.

When Daniel refers to the word *weeks*, he is referring to a seven-year timeframe. The word in the Hebrew is the word 'shabuwa.' The definition of this word is: "1. *period of seven days, week*; of marriage feast. 2. *heptad or seven of years.*"¹ This means that the seventy 'weeks' can be either seventy 'seven-day periods' or seventy 'seven-year periods.' The context will determine which one to use.

This principle of time measurement is not new. One day stood for a year in the following verse:

Numbers 14:34 "After the number of the days in which ye searched the land, *even* forty days, each day for a year, shall ye bear your iniquities, *even* forty years, and ye shall know my breach of promise."

And one-week meant one 'seven-year period' in these verses:

Genesis 29:27 "Fulfil her week, and we will give thee this also for the service which thou shalt serve with me yet seven other years. ²⁸ And Jacob did so, and fulfilled her week: and he gave him Rachel his daughter to wife also."

This approach of seven-years for one-week will be applied to Daniel 9:24-27. The following is a word-for-word reading of the Scriptures except for the notes added by this author which are in parenthesis.

Daniel 9:24-27:

"Seventy weeks are determined

(70 weeks = 70 x 7's which totals 490 – in this case **490 years**)

upon thy people and upon thy holy city, (Israelites and Jerusalem)

to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins (For Israel – Rom. 11:26)

and to make reconciliation for iniquity (The sin of Israel's rejection of Messiah)

and to bring in everlasting righteousness (King Jesus reigns in righteousness)

and to seal up the vision and prophecy (End of need for vision & prophecy)

and to anoint the most Holy (Most Holy Place in Millennial Temple)

¹ Bible Works 4.0 Whittaker's Revised BDB Lexicon p. 988

Know therefore and understand, that from

the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem **unto**

the Messiah the Prince **shall be**

seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks (7+62 = 69 weeks or 69 x 7 = **483 years**)

the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.

And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off

(This has happened – thus 69 weeks have been already fulfilled),
but not for himself: and

the people (Rome) of the prince that shall come (Antichrist)

shall destroy the city and the sanctuary (Titus and Romans destroyed Jerusalem in 70 A.D.)

and the end thereof *shall be* with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.

And he (Antichrist)

shall confirm the covenant with many for **one week** (yet unfulfilled)

(**This is the last week – the 70th week** – one week of years = **7 years**)

and in the midst of the week (3 ½ year mark)

he (Antichrist)

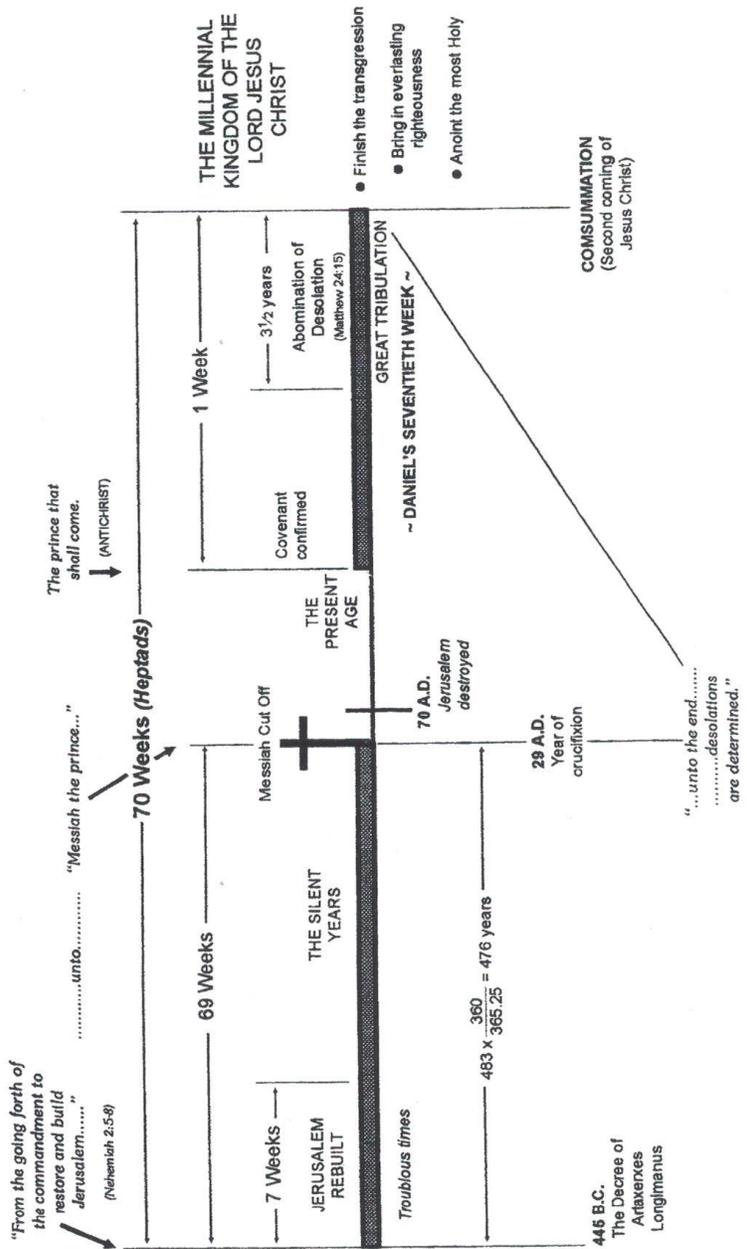
shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease (in the Jewish Temple)

and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make *it* desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.”

Thus, the first sixty-nine weeks of Daniel have been fulfilled. The seventieth week of Daniel is unfulfilled. In the midst of the week (the 3 ½ year mark), he shall cause the sacrifice and oblation to cease – as the Antichrist sits in the Temple as God (II The. 2:4).

It is imperative that one understands that this seven-year timeframe is yet future, as it is the Tribulation Period's timeframe.

Daniel's Prophecy of THE SEVENTY WEEKS



DANIEL'S "SEVENTY WEEKS"

DAN. 9:24-27

24 Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to atone for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy.

25 Know therefore and understand that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem, unto the Messiah the Prince, shall be **SIXTY WEEKS**, and **THREE WEEKS**.

DANIEL'S "SIXTY NINE" WEEKS

62 - WEEKS

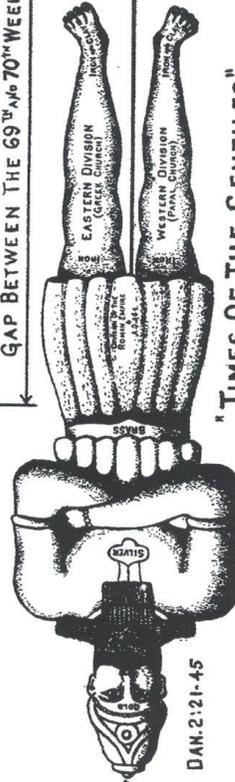
43-4 YEARS
TO "MESSIAH THE PRINCE"
DAN. 9:25-26, ZECH. 9:9, MATT. 21:1-11

A.D. 30

DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM
A.D. 70

and the people of the city shall be destroyed, and the sanctuary shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war resolutions are determined.

GAP BETWEEN THE 69TH AND 70TH WEEK



DAN. 2:21-45

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27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the middle of the week shall he cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations shall he make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

DANIEL'S "SEVENTIETH" WEEK

MIDDLE OF THE WEEK

3 1/2 - YEARS
TIME-TIMES-A HALF
42 - MONTHS
1260 DAYS

THE REVELATION
I. THESS. 1:7-10, REV. 19:11-21

1/25/19
WWW.SWORDSEARCHER.COM

"TIMES OF THE GENTILES"
LUKE 21:24

7 - WEEKS

49 - YEARS
TO THE REBUILDING OF JERUSALEM
NEH. 3-6.
the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.

7 - YEARS

B.C. 445

B.C. 606

Daniel's Views of the TIMES Of The GENTILES

Chapter 2	Chapter 7	Chapter 8	KEY
HEAD of GOLD	WINGED LION Eagle's wings Stood like a man		BABYLON Mobility King humbled 606
BREAST/ARMS of SILVER Two arms	BEAR Two sides Raised up on one side Three ribs	RAM Two horns One horn higher Highest horn up last Three directions	MEDIA-PERSIA Two nations Persia dominant Persia Younger Three Nations conquered 538
BELLY/THIGHS of BRASS	LEOPARD Dominion given to it Four wings Four heads	HE GOAT Over all the earth Touched not the ground Notable Horn Four notable horns Little Horn arising	GREECE Vast conquests Fast conquests Alexander the Great Four Generals Antiochus Epiphanes 333
LEGS of IRON Two legs	MONSTER		ROME East and West division 63 ↕ B.C. ↕ A.D.
THE VALLEY OF THIS PRESENT AGE THE GREAT PARENTHESIS			
TEN TOES	TEN HORNS		TEN KINGDOMS
UNCUT STONE	LITTLE HORN ANCIENT of DAYS	<i>Vs. 23-25-KING</i>	ANTICHRIST
GREAT MOUNTAIN	EVERLASTING DOMINION		SECOND COMING MILLENNIAL KINGDOM

The Ministry of the Holy Spirit

The work and ministry of the Holy Spirit necessitates that **the Rapture must occur before the Tribulation Period**. The book of Thessalonians is a doctrinal book that places much emphasis on the return of the Lord. It is here (II Thessalonians) where it is emphatically taught that the Holy Spirit will take all believers to heaven before the Antichrist is revealed.

The Holy Spirit was promised in all 4 gospels and the book of Acts

Matthew 3:11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me... he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and *with* fire:

Mark 1:8 I...have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost.

Luke 3:16 I indeed baptize you with water; but...he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire:

John 1:33 he that sent me to baptize with water...said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending... the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost.

Acts 1:5 John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost...

The Coming of the Holy Spirit was Fulfilled in the book of Acts:

He came and indwelt Jews (Acts 2:1-4), Samaritans (Acts 8:14-17), Gentiles (Acts 10:44-45), and the Uttermost (Acts 19:1-6).

The Holy Spirit is a Gift for all Believers in the N.T.:

Acts 2:38 Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Romans 8:9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

The Holy Spirit's Ministry in the N.T. is one of Indwelling

John 14:17 *Even* the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

This Indwelling will be Forever:

John 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever...

The ministry of the Holy Spirit coming to earth started after Jesus was glorified:

John 7:38-39 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. ³⁹(But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

The ministry of the Holy Spirit leaving earth will occur just before the Antichrist is revealed:

2 Thessalonians 2:3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for *that day shall not come*, except there come a falling away first, and that **man of sin be revealed**, the son of perdition; ⁴Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God. ⁵Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? ⁶And now ye know what withholdeth that **he might be**

revealed in his time. ⁷ For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth *will let*, until **he be taken out of the way.** ⁸ And **then** shall that **Wicked be revealed**, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: ⁹ *Even him*, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders...

“**He** who now letteth *will let*, until **he** be taken out of the way.” Who is this “he?” It is the Holy Spirit. He hinders the work of iniquity (through believers as the salt of the earth) – until he be taken out of the way – and then that Wicked (the wicked one / the lawless one) be revealed.

If the Holy Spirit leaves the earth, those whom He indwells forever must also leave.

II Thessalonians chapter 2 could be titled, “The Revelation of Antichrist.”

And then shall that Wicked be revealed:

- That man of sin
- The son of perdition
- Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped;
- So that he as God sitteth in the Temple of God, shewing himself that he is God
- Whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming
- Whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,

Rapture 1st
II The. 2:6-7
Rev. 4:1

And Then

Antichrist
II The. 2:8
Rev. 6:1-2

The Tribulation period starts when:

In Heaven – when Jesus opens the 1st seal, then the Antichrist is revealed:

Revelation 6:1 And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals.... ² And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer.

On Earth – when Antichrist signs a one-week covenant, the Tribulation Period begins:

Daniel 9:27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease...

Why the Rapture Must occur Before the 7-Year Tribulation Period
The Holy Spirit leaves the earth and all believers go up with Him --
Then the Antichrist is revealed.

The Tribulation Period begins when Antichrist signs a 7-year covenant. The Holy Spirit leaves before the Antichrist is revealed.

Therefore, the Rapture occurs first, and **then** the Tribulation period begins with the Antichrist signing a covenant. Thus, we will not know who the Antichrist is.

Chart # 7

The Ministry of the Holy Spirit

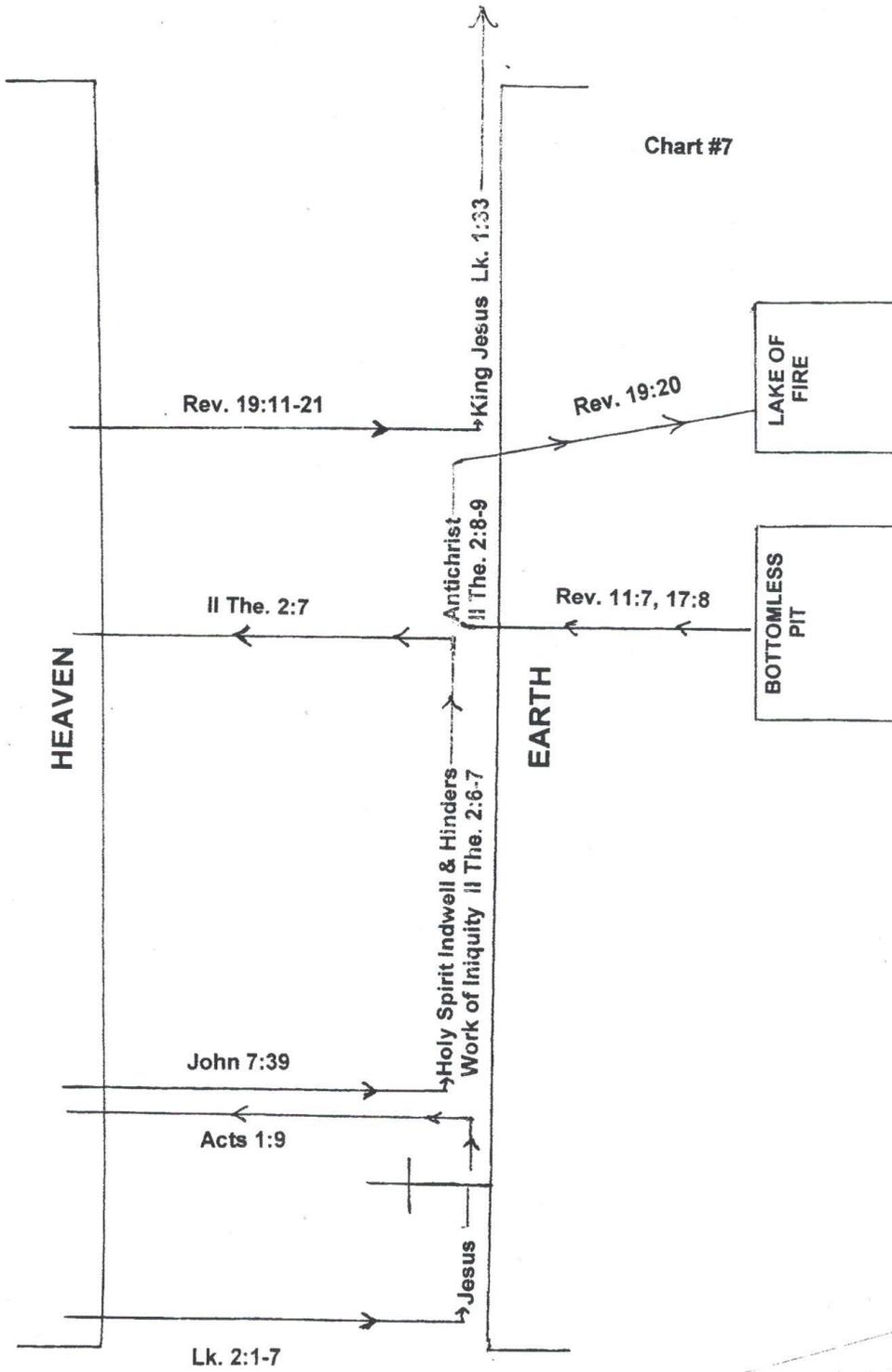


Chart #7

What Happens at the Rapture

Lord Descends

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

The Holy Spirit (Indwelling Ministry) Goes Up

2 Thessalonians 2:7 For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth *will let*, until he be taken out of the way.

All whom He indwells, go up at the Rapture:

1 Cor. 3:16 Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and *that* the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

Romans 8:9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

Our Body Gets Saved

Romans 8:11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

Romans 8:23 And not only *they*, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, *to wit*, the redemption of our body.

All the saved are sealed by the Holy Spirit until the body is saved:

Ephesians 1:13 In whom ye also *trusted*, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

Ephesians 4:30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

What will our saved body look like:

Philippians 3:21 Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

1 John 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

1 Corinthians 15:50 Now this I say, brethren, that **flesh and blood** cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

Luke 24:39 Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not **flesh and bones, as ye see me have.**

Just after the Rapture, the Antichrist signs a 7-year peace treaty. He is the world's answer to the vacuum of leadership. He turns into the Beast at the 3 ½ year mark.

Antichrist Arrives

2 Thessalonians 2:7-8 For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth *will let*, until **he be taken out** of the way. **And then shall that Wicked be revealed**, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

Tribulation Period Begins with a 7-year Peace Treaty

1 Thessalonians 5:3 For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

Peace has been brought by the Antichrist (Rev. 6:1-2) -- as peace is taken in Rev. 6:4

Revelation 6:4 And there went out another horse *that was red*: and *power* was given to him that sat thereon **to take peace from the earth**, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword.

The Tribulation Period begins on earth with the signing of a 7-year covenant:

Daniel 9:27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations...

The Tribulation begins in heaven with the Lamb opening the 1st seal – the Antichrist (White Horse).

Revelation 6:1 And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard...

Jesus Stated that the End Times would be like the Days of Noah and the Days of Lot:

Luke 17:26 And **as it was in the days of Noe**, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man.

Luke 17:28 Likewise..**as it was in the days of Lot**; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold...

Like Lot, Christians will escape the wrath of God

Genesis 19:22 Haste thee, escape thither; for I cannot do any thing till thou be come thither. Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar.

Like Noah, Israel will be preserved through the wrath of God

Jeremiah 30:6-7 Ask ye now, and see whether a man doth travail with child? wherefore do I see every man with his hands on his loins, as a woman in travail, and all faces are turned into paleness? Alas! for that day *is* great, so that none *is* like it: **it is even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it.**

Pre-Tribulation Rapture

John 14:3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, **I will come again**, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there* ye may be also.

1 Thessalonians 1:9-10 For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God; And **to wait for his Son from heaven**, whom he raised from the dead, *even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come*.

'Delivered' is in the 'Past progressive future perfect tense.' A future event that is a done deal!

Ephesians 4:11-14 And **he gave some**, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, **pastors and teachers**; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That **we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine**, by the sleight of men, *and* cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

It is the job of the pastor to teach sound doctrine. Here is the doctrine of the pre-tribulation rapture of all the saved. Remember, with truth – there is only one truth.

1 Timothy 4:13 Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to **doctrine**.

2 Timothy 3:16 All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for **doctrine**, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

2 Timothy 4:2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and **doctrine**.

Doctrine gives you assurance. For example; the doctrine of salvation – to know you are saved gives you peace and contentment; the doctrine of eternal security – to know you cannot lose your salvation gives you stability; and the doctrine of the Rapture – to know you cannot go through the wrath of God gives you an assurance of the unknown future.

Doctrine of the Rapture

There is much controversy over the Rapture. Some say there is no Rapture. There is much confusion as to when the Rapture will occur. Will Christians go through the Tribulation Period? When does the Wrath of God start?

As with any doctrine, there is only one truth. Everything else is error. One way of salvation. Eternal security is a sure thing. Baptism and Lord's Supper are ordinances, not added grace. What the Bible teaches about the Rapture and end times are doctrine. There is only one truth about the timing of the Rapture and the people who will miss the wrath of God. Study truth and error is exposed.

The Wrath of God is Coming Soon

Gay marriage is law of the land. Remember Sodom & Gomorrah was destroyed due to perversion. 58 million babies in USA and about 1 ½ billion babies worldwide have been aborted. When Cain killed Abel, God said:

Genesis 4:10 And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground.

If the voice of Abel's innocent blood cries out to God, what must the voice of innocent babies' blood cry do to the ears and heart of God? The reason the Rapture has not yet occurred is due to the fact that God is longsuffering.

God did not allow the judgment on the Canaanites until their "iniquity was full."

Genesis 15:16 But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites *is* not yet full.

This Wrath of God will be the Worst Time on Earth

Daniel 12:1 And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and **there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation *even to that same time***: and at that time thy people shall be delivered...

Jer. 30:6-7 Ask ye now, and see whether a man doth travail with child? wherefore do I see **every man with his hands on his loins, as a woman in travail, and all faces are turned into paleness?** Alas! for **that day *is* great, so that none *is* like it**: it *is* even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it.

Matthew 24:21 For then shall be **great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.**

If you think you have problems now, if you miss the Rapture, the wrath of God will be like birth pangs. (See Jer. 30:6-7 above)

The Rapture has Everything to do with the Holy Spirit's Indwelling Ministry Leaving:

❖ When did the Holy Spirit's indwelling ministry start?

- In Acts 2, the Day of Pentecost, He indwelt **Jews**.
Speaking in tongues was an outward evidence of an inward work.
Hebrews 2:4 God also bearing *them* witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?
- In Acts 8, the Samaritans (**½ Jew, ½ Gentile**) had the Holy Spirit indwell them.
- In Acts 10, the Holy Spirit indwelt **Gentiles**.

God was showing that the transition of the indwelling Holy Spirit was for all believers, not just Jews.

❖ The Holy Spirit was to come after Jesus was glorified.

John 7:39 (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet *given*; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

Jesus died, was buried and arose from the dead on the 3rd day. He then spent 40 days on earth:

Acts 1:3 To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

Acts 1:9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

After he was glorified – after these 40 days, on the 50th day... on Pentecost, the Holy Ghost descended to indwell believers. This was foretold.

Acts 1:5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

❖ The coming of the Holy Spirit to indwell believers was foretold in various ways:

- Baptized by the Spirit Matt.3:11, Mark 1:8, Luke 3:16, John 1:33, Acts 1:5
- Promise of the Father Luke 24:49, Acts 1:4
- Promise of the Spirit Acts 2:33, Joel 2:28-32, Gal. 3:14, Eph 1:13
- Gift of the Holy Ghost Acts 2:38

They knew it was coming.

John 16:7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

❖ This indwelling ministry continues to this day and will continue until:

The Holy Spirit's Indwelling Ministry Will End With His Leaving

2 Thessalonians 2:6-7 And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth *will let*, until he be taken out of the way.

❖ When the Holy Ghost leaves, all whom He indwells leave and the Antichrist is then revealed.

The Antichrist will be Revealed

2 Thess. chapter 2 is the chapter on the Revelation of Antichrist. The names of Antichrist are underlined.

2 Thessalonians 2:3-8 Let no man deceive you by any means: for *that day shall not come*, except there come a falling away first, and that **man of sin be revealed**, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God. Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? And now ye know what withholdeth that **he might be revealed** in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth *will let*, until he be taken out of the way. And then shall **that Wicked be revealed**, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

2 Thessalonians 2:9 *Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders...*

Timing of Antichrist:

2 Thessalonians 2:6-8 And now ye know what withholdeth that he (ANTICHRIST) might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth *will let*, until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming...

The Holy Spirit hinders the work of iniquity through the indwelling Holy Spirit as Spirit-filled believers are the salt of the earth. When that indwelling ministry is done – the Holy Spirit leaves – after that, “*And then*” shall Antichrist be revealed.

**The Holy Spirit came down on the Day of Pentecost and He will leave on the Day of the Rapture.
(SEE CHART)**

Who goes up at the Rapture? The Holy Spirit leaves. All whom He indwells leave also.

The Signing of a 7-year Covenant will Start the Tribulation Period

After “He” leaves... and then shall the Wicked be revealed. How is the Antichrist revealed? By his signing of the covenant of Dan. 9:27

Daniel 9:27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease...

Daniel 9:24 **Seventy weeks** are determined upon **thy people** and upon **thy holy city** (Israel & Jerusalem)

The first 69 weeks (weeks of years) are fulfilled and the 70th week – a seven year period:

- Begins when Antichrist signs a 7-year covenant
- Is for Israel / Is a continuation of the first 69 weeks
- People get saved same way as they did in the first 69 weeks
- Holy Spirit does not indwell in the 70th week of Daniel

On earth, this 70th week begins with the Antichrist signing this covenant.
Daniel 9:27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week..

In heaven, this 70th week begins with the movement of the Lamb of God.

Revelation 6:1-2 And I saw **when the Lamb opened one of the seals**, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see. And I saw, and behold a **white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer.**

The timing of this event is in the hands of a Sovereign God.

When Antichrist Signs this Covenant, He is Revealed / Hence Rapture has Already Occurred

- Rapture 1st then Antichrist
- Saved will not know who the Antichrist is
- Rapture 1st then Tribulation Period
- Tribulation Period lasts 7 years (7 x 360 days)
- The Tribulation Period will have 21 judgments
- Tribulation Period ends with Jesus coming back to set up His kingdom

1 Thess. 5:9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

Luke 17:26-29 And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all. Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed *them* all.

Like Lot, Christians will be delivered before the wrath of God.

Genesis 19:22 Haste thee, escape thither; for I cannot do any thing till thou be come thither. Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar.

Like Noah, Israel will be preserved through the wrath of God.

Jeremiah 30:7 Alas! for that day *is* great, so that none *is* like it: **it *is* even the time of Jacob's trouble**; but he shall be saved out of it.

Israel will be preserved until the end of the Tribulation Period and will have their hard heart softened and they will turn to Jesus Christ as their Messiah as He returns to earth to set up His kingdom.

Romans 11:26 And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:

Important Dates

4174 B.C.	Creation (date is approximation)
2518 B.C.	Flood (Generally accepted as accurate)
2166-1991 B.C.	Abraham
1526-1406 B.C.	Moses
1446-1406 B.C.	Israel in the Wilderness (40 years)
1406 B.C.	Israel in the Land
1010 - 970 B.C.	Reign of King David
966 B.C.	Temple Built (Note I KI 6:1 – generally accepted as accurate)
722 B.C.	Assyrian Captivity – (Israel - northern kingdom / 10 tribes)
606 B.C.	Fall of Jerusalem - Babylonian Captivity (Judah, southern kingdom / 2 tribes)
586 B.C.	Temple Destroyed / Babylonian Captivity (Judah)
536 B.C.	Remnant Returns to Jerusalem / Foundation of Temple Laid
516 B.C.	Temple Rebuilt
445 B.C.	Walls Rebuilt in Jerusalem
29 A.D.	Messiah Rejected

Interpreting Bible Prophecy

These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so. (Acts 17:11)

Here are some basic guidelines in understanding Bible Prophecy.
25% of the Bible is prophecy.

How to Interpret Prophecy

The Bible must be interpreted literally to allow God to be the Authority. Literal interpretation is always relied upon first. Very seldom is a symbolic interpretation in order – even in prophecy. Here are seven rules for understanding prophecy.

1) Literal Interpretation

If the literal sense makes sense, seek no other sense. There is no reason to interpret prophecy any different than the rest of the Bible. Prophecy will have symbolism often.

2) Chronology is often irrelevant

I.E. Revelation 12:5 And she brought forth a man child (30 A.D.), who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron (Mill.): and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne (Ascension).

3) Interpretation By Types & Parables

Types – something that is a “shadow” of a future truth. Types are not realized until much later. Luke 24:44. One type easy to understand is the Passover (1 Cor. 5:7, Exo. 12). Another one is the brazen serpent (John 3:14, Numb. 7).

Parables – a narrative to convey a truth – it imparts one truth. Matt. 13 – the parable of the sower and the seed. The seed is the Word of God and the soil is the human heart.

4) If Prophecy is yet unfulfilled, it means a literal fulfillment is to come

Isaiah 17:1 “The burden of Damascus. Behold, Damascus is taken away from *being* a city, and it shall be a ruinous heap.”

This event has not happened. Often when commentaries come across a passage like this, they allegorize it because they do not understand it. When we do not understand a prophecy, it is because of our shortcomings, not a problem with the prophet’s writing.

5) Prophecy, like history often repeats itself

They say ‘history repeats itself’ – actually ‘Prophecy repeats itself.’

The Day of the Lord came around 600 B.C. and again it will come in the Tribulation Period.

Babylon was a city built by a united people in Gen.11. It will be built again and headed up by Antichrist (Rev. 18)

Gog and Magog go against Israel in Eze. 38-39 and at end of Millennium, Gog and Magog will again attack Jerusalem (Rev. 20:7-9).

6) Often there is a gap in a prophecy

Gaps are explained with writings in (). Note these () are added by me.

Isaiah 9:6 For unto us a child is born (**Jesus' 1st coming**), unto us a son is given: and the **government** shall be upon his shoulder (**Jesus Millennial Reign**): and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Zechariah 9:9-10 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee (**Jesus' 1st coming**): he *is* just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass. And I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim, and the horse from Jerusalem, and the battle bow shall be cut off: and he shall speak peace unto the heathen: and **his dominion shall be** from sea *even* to sea (**Jesus' Millennial Reign**), and from the river *even* to the ends of the earth.

Isaiah 61:1-2 The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to *them that are* bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD (**Jesus 1st coming – see Luke 4:18-19**), and the day of **vengeance** of our God (**Jesus' 2nd coming**); to comfort all that mourn;

Titus 2:13 Looking for that blessed hope (**Rapture**), and the glorious appearing (**Jesus' 2nd coming physically to earth at end of the Tribulation Period – see Rev. 19:11-21**) of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

Luke 1:31-33 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS (**1st Coming of Jesus**). He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever (**Jesus' Millennial Reign**); and of his kingdom there shall be no end (**Jesus' Reign in Eternity**).

Revelation 12:5 And she brought forth a man child (**Birth of Jesus**), who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron (**Jesus' Millennial Reign**): and her child was caught up unto God, and *to* his throne (**Jesus Resurrection of Acts 1:9**).

Major & Minor Fulfillment of Prophecy

Sometimes there is a major and (a later) minor fulfillment. We see this as the Bible speaks of the Day of the Lord as a time of judgment during the era of 606 – 536 B.C. as God judged Judah and then later – a future event – the Tribulation is referred to as the Day of the Lord – a time of judgment.

So there can be prophecies that speak of the coming Day of the Lord and it may refer to a minor fulfillment (606 B.C.) with a major (more complete and all literal) fulfillment in the future.

This is difficult to understand, but we will witness it in three examples.

1) The Coming of Elijah

Elijah will come:

Mal. 4:4-5: "Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, *with* the statutes and judgments. Behold, **I will send you Elijah** the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:

Jesus said that John the Baptist was a fulfillment of this:

Matt. 11:10-15 "For this is *he*, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee. Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than **John the Baptist**: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force. For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. And if ye will receive *it*, **this is Elias, which was for to come**. He that hath ears to hear, let him hear. (See also Matt. 17:10-12)

Was John the Baptist the fulfillment of Elijah coming to earth? Yes, he was the minor fulfillment of this, with a major, more complete and literal fulfillment to come. In Rev. 11:3-14 there will be two witnesses come to earth during the Tribulation Period and one of those will be Elijah as Elijah will come: Malachi 4:5 Behold, I will send you **Elijah** the prophet **before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD**:

John came in the "spirit and power of Elijah," but he was not Elijah himself. We know from history that John the Baptist was not sent "before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD."

Thus, your minor fulfillment is a miniature picture of the literal fulfillment.

This is a minor and a major fulfillment. Some refer to this as a near and a far fulfillment.

2) The Abomination of Desolation

"Matthew 24:15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)"

Jesus spoke of the *abomination that makes desolate* as a future event. The Jewish people would have considered this a past event. How do we reconcile this? One is a minor fulfillment already done and the one event spoken by Jesus is a future event as a major fulfillment.

The Minor Fulfillment

Antiochus Epiphenes offered a sow in the Holy of Holies on Dec. 25, 168 B.C. fulfilling the "Abomination that makes Desolate." (Dan. 8:9-14, 9:27, 11:31, 12:11)

The Major Fulfillment

Jesus spoke of it as a future event.

Matthew 24:15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place...

It will be fulfilled by a future event as the Antichrist sits in Temple as God:
"Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God." II The. 2:4

Antiochus offering of a sow upon the altar in 168 B.C. is a minor fulfillment of Antichrist setting himself in the temple as God.

The minor fulfillment is a miniature picture of the future event.

This is a difficult to understand concept – but it is one that allows the Bible to speak for itself.

3) The Pouring out of the Holy Spirit

The historical account of what happened

Acts 2:6 Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man **heard them speak in his own language.**

Acts 2:8 And how **hear** we every man **in our own tongue**, wherein we were born?

Acts 2:11 Cretes and Arabians, we do **hear** them speak **in our tongues** the wonderful works of God.

Acts 2:16 But **this is that** which was spoken by the prophet Joel...

Was this a fulfillment of Joel? Read Joel 2:28-32.

The sun did not turn into darkness, and the moon into blood... and it was not a time of "that great and notable day of the Lord."

However, Peter declares that this was fulfilled. Was it fulfilled? It was a minor fulfillment with a major fulfillment to come in the future during the "notable day of the Lord."

Hence, during the Tribulation Period, also known as the Day of the Lord, the 144,000 or Rev. ch 7:3-8 will be a major fulfillment of the pouring out of the Spirit. The minor fulfillment is a miniature picture of the major fulfillment. The minor picture of Acts 2 was people speaking in tongues and every man hearing the gospel in their own language and multitudes got saved:

Acts 2:41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added *unto them* about three thousand souls.

So, the major fulfillment will be the 144,000 witnessing to this world as Rev. 7:9 states:

"After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of **all nations**, and **kindreds**, and **people**, and **tongues**, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands...."

How did they get the gospel to all these variety of people? Tongues! A major fulfillment of Acts chapter 2.

Brief Overview - Tribulation Period

God will pour out His judgment.

7 Seal, 7 Trumpet & 7 Vial Judgments (Rev. 6, 8-9 & 16)

¼ of earth dies (Rev. 6:8) and later ½ of earth dies (Rev. 9:18)

God will take home His children before He pours out His wrath

I The. 4:13-18, I The. 5:9, I The. 1:9-10, Titus 2:13

The Tribulation Period begins with the Antichrist signing a covenant

Dan. 9:24-27

He receives help from the False Prophet Rev. 13:13-15, Matt. 24:24

God will still want to see people saved while He is pouring out His wrath

Rev. 6:9-10, Rev. 7:9, Rev. 7:13-14, Hab. 3:2

Temple will be rebuilt by Israel

Rev. 11:1-2

Halfway into the Tribulation Period (1260 days)

Antichrist sits in Temple as God 2 The. 2:4, Dan. 9:27, Matt. 24:15

False Prophet has Mark of the Beast implemented Rev. 13:16-18

Satan is cast out of heaven Rev. 12:6-12

Israel goes into hiding until Jesus comes back Rev. 12:6&14, Matt. 24:15-20

Battle of Armageddon at end of the Tribulation Rev. 16:16

Jesus returns on a white horse Rev. 19:11

He comes to save Israel Zech. 12:10, Rom. 11:26

He comes to destroy the Antichrist & False Prophet Rev. 19:20, 2 The. 2:8

He comes to judge the world 1 The. 1:7-9, Zech. 14:12

He comes to save Gentiles who have rejected the mark of Beast Matt. 24:13, Zech 14:16,

He comes to set up His kingdom Dan. 7:9-14, Zech 14:9

The New Temple will be built in the Millennium Eze. Ch. 40-48

Satan will be bound for the 1000 reign of Christ Rev. 20:1-4

Short battle of Gog & Magog Rev. 20:7-9

Satan is cast into the Lake of Fire Rev. 20:10

The Great White Throne Judgment Rev. 20:11-15

Time will be no more & All Things New Rev. 21:5

Main Players in the Tribulation

Lord Jesus Christ – Christ comes for His saints at the *rapture* just before the Tribulation. He comes with His saints as He returns on a white horse. In the meantime, He pours out His wrath on the earth during the Tribulation, saves the repentant, and returns at the end of the 7 years to save Israel. At His 2nd coming, he also destroys the wicked and sets up His kingdom.

Israel – They sign a covenant with the Antichrist and rebuild their Temple as Moses and Elijah help them. Half-way into the 7 years, the Antichrist breaks the covenant and sits in the Temple as god. Israel goes into hiding for 1260 days and are supernaturally preserved and fed by God. As all nations gather to destroy them at Armageddon, they look up to Christ and receive Him as their Messiah as He is coming to earth on a white horse.

Devil – He gives his power to Antichrist to help him rule the earth. Halfway into the Tribulation, the devil is cast out of heaven and is cast down to earth. He takes his fury out on Israel, but God helps Israel. The devil is bound for 1000 years and is then loosed for a little season for one final rebellion. He is then cast into the lake of fire.

Antichrist – He signs a covenant (probably with Israel and the Muslims and solves the Middle East crisis). He is a peacemaker. Half-way into the Tribulation, he 'rises from the dead' and turns into the Beast. He sets himself up as god in the Temple. He rules the earth as the false Christ. He is destroyed when Christ comes to earth.

False Prophet – He is a religious leader that does great signs and wonders. He points people to worship the Antichrist. Half-way into the Tribulation, he demands that all receive the mark of the Beast to buy or sell. He is destroyed when Jesus returns.

False Church – The Antichrist rides the false church as he rises to power. The false church is headed up by Rome, however, the Charismatic (TV church) will join in.

God's Preachers – God uses the 144,000 Jews to preach the gospel to the whole world. These preachers will speak in tongues as the world will hear the gospel in their own language. An angel preaches in chapter 14, as all the 144,000 have been killed.

Saved – Those that get saved in the Tribulation will be martyred. Very few will be saved in the second half of the Tribulation.

One World Society – Antichrist will control politics (government), economy (mark of the Beast), and the religion (false church). The city of Babylon will be rebuilt as the economic center of the world.

Church – The believers of the church age will be raptured out before God pours out His wrath. They will take part in the Judgment Seat of Christ and the Marriage Supper of the Lamb while the Tribulation Period occurs.

Holy Spirit – He was given as a gift to indwell believers after Jesus was glorified. He is taken out just before the Antichrist is revealed and so all believers arise with Him. He works in the Tribulation the same way He did in the Old Testament. The Tribulation is the 70th week of Daniel and therefore a continuation of the dispensation of the first 69 weeks.

The Coming Worldwide Famine

Famines are rare. Ninety-nine times the word *famine* is used in the Bible. If I counted correctly, there are eight different famines mentioned in the Bible with one yet to come.

Sometimes there is a localized famine due to an enemy army besieging a city, while other times it is more widespread. Here are the biblical accounts of famines:

Three Famines in the Book of Genesis

Gen. 12:10 And there was a famine in the land: and Abram went down into Egypt to sojourn there...

Gen. 26:1 And there was a famine in the land, beside the first famine that was in the days of Abraham....

Gen. 41:56 And the famine was over all the face of the earth: And Joseph opened all the storehouses...

Famine in Time of Judges & Time of King David

Ruth 1:1 Now it came to pass in the days when the judges ruled, that there was a famine in the land...

2 Samuel 21:1 Then there was a famine in the days of David three years, year after year...

Famine in Samaria

2 Kings 6:25 And there was a great famine in Samaria: and, behold, they besieged it, until an ass's head was sold for fourscore *pieces* of silver, and the fourth part of a cab of dove's dung for five *pieces* of silver.

"The ass, being an unclean animal, would not be eaten at all except in the last extremity, and the head was the worst and so the cheapest part; yet it sold for "eighty pieces" (rather, shekels) of silver, or about \$1.25 of our money; as in the Cadusian famine mentioned by Plutarch, where an ass's head was sold for \$2.00. "Dove's dung" is thought by some to be the name of a plant; but it is better to understand the term literally. Both animal and human excrement have been eaten in sieges, when a city was in the last extremity." (Paraphrased from PULPIT COMMENTARY)

Assyrian Captivity – Famine upon Israel (10 tribes) is Implied

2 Kings 18:9-10 And it came to pass in the fourth year of king Hezekiah, which *was* the seventh year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, *that* Shalmaneser king of Assyria came up against Samaria, and besieged it. And at the end of three years they took it: *even* in the sixth year of Hezekiah, that *is* the ninth year of Hoshea king of Israel, Samaria was taken.

A famine is assumed, as Assyria, that had besieged Israel now threatens Judah also by using words that describe the ending of a famine. This implies that Israel suffered the description below.

2 Kings 18:27 But Rabshakeh said unto them, Hath my master sent me to thy master, and to thee, to speak these words? *hath he* not *sent me* to the men which sit on the wall, that they may eat their own dung, and drink their own piss with you?

Babylonian Captivity – Judah (2 tribes) Besieged for 18 months

2 Kings 25:1-3 And it came to pass in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, in the tenth *day* of the month, *that* Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came, he, and all his host, against Jerusalem, and pitched against it; and they built forts against it round about. And the city was besieged unto the eleventh year of king Zedekiah. And on the ninth *day* of the *fourth* month the famine prevailed in the city, and there was no bread for the people of the land.

The resultant state of this notable time is recorded by Jeremiah, the weeping prophet in the book of Lamentations. His broken heart was ignored as Judah continued in their rebellion and sin.

Lamentations 4:4-6 The tongue of the sucking child cleaveth to the roof of his mouth for thirst: the young children ask bread, *and* no man breaketh *it* unto them. They that did feed delicately are desolate in the streets: they that were brought up in scarlet embrace dunghills. For the punishment of the iniquity of the daughter of my people is greater than the punishment of the sin of Sodom, that was overthrown as in a moment, and no hands stayed on her.

Lamentations 4:8 Their visage is blacker than a coal; they are not known in the streets: their skin cleaveth to their bones; it is withered, it is become like a stick.

Lamentations 5:10 Our skin was black like an oven because of the terrible famine. Over and over again, Jeremiah, the weeping prophet, had warned Judah, but it was to no avail:

Jeremiah 19:4 & 19:9 Because they have forsaken me, and have estranged this place, and have burned incense in it unto other gods... I will cause them to eat the flesh of their sons and the flesh of their daughters, and they shall eat every one the flesh of his friend in the siege and straitness, wherewith their enemies, and they that seek their lives, shall straiten them.

Famine of 70 A.D.

Though not recorded in the Bible, it is recorded history that Titus besieged Jerusalem and starved out the inhabitants. Josephus records a lady named Mary eating her child.

Famine – an End Time Sign (likely that of Rev. 6:5-6)

Matthew 24:7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.

Mark 13:8 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be earthquakes in divers places, and there shall be famines and troubles: these *are* the beginnings of sorrows.

Luke 21:11 And great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven.

The Coming Famine in the Tribulation Period

The above signs mentioned by Jesus have not yet been fulfilled. In the Tribulation Period, there is coming a worldwide famine.

Revelation 6:5-6 And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand. And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine.

This appears to have been the food allotted to one man for a day in exchange for the pay of a common labourer for one day. (Paraphrased from PULPIT COMMENTARY)

The Tribulation Period Begins

1 st Seal	White Horse	Antichrist comes to bring peace	Rev. 6:1-2
2 nd Seal	Red Horse	War comes; peace is taken away	Rev. 6:3-4
3 rd Seal	Black Horse	Famine comes	Rev. 6:5-6
4 th Seal	Pale Horse	Death & Hell follow (To kill with sword, hunger & beasts of earth)	Rev. 6:7-8
5 th Seal	Martyrdom	Christians killed	Rev. 6:9-10

Rev. 6:16-17 And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the **wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come...**

You Need to Escape the Tribulation Period

Luke 21:36 Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

That which makes you worthy is to have the **Blood of Jesus Christ forgive your sins**. When you trust Jesus Christ as your own personal Savior, His Blood forgives your sins and His righteousness is put onto your account. Ponder these verses.

2 Corinthians 5:21 For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

We exchange our sins for His righteousness.

Romans 4:6-8 Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works, *Saying*, Blessed *are* they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. Blessed *is* the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin.

Imputeth means 'to put on one's account.' The righteousness of Jesus Christ is imputed to one that is saved.

Romans 3:23-25 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth *to be* a

propitiation through **faith in his blood**, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

Romans 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

You need to give your whole heart to God and ask Jesus Christ to forgive your sins and by faith receive Him as your own personal Savior. In your own words, cry out to God for mercy and forgiveness. Read and re-read this booklet until you know that you are forgiven. You can know:

1 John 5:13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that **ye may know that ye have eternal life**, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

John 3:3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

John 1:12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name:

1 John 5:11-12 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; *and* he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

I heard this good news of the Bible thirty-six years ago. The Lord stirred my heart and I soon realized how great my sin was before a holy God. I saw the reality that Jesus Christ's blood paid for my sins and in a simple prayer; I opened my heart to God and asked Jesus Christ to forgive me. He did just that. I have never been the same.

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

The Blood of Jesus Christ makes an unworthy sinner such as I worthy of everlasting life – not due to my goodness but due to His mercy!

***It is my desire to see you in heaven. Please seek forgiveness of you sins until you find it.
“...Seek, and ye shall find...” Matthew 7:7***

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