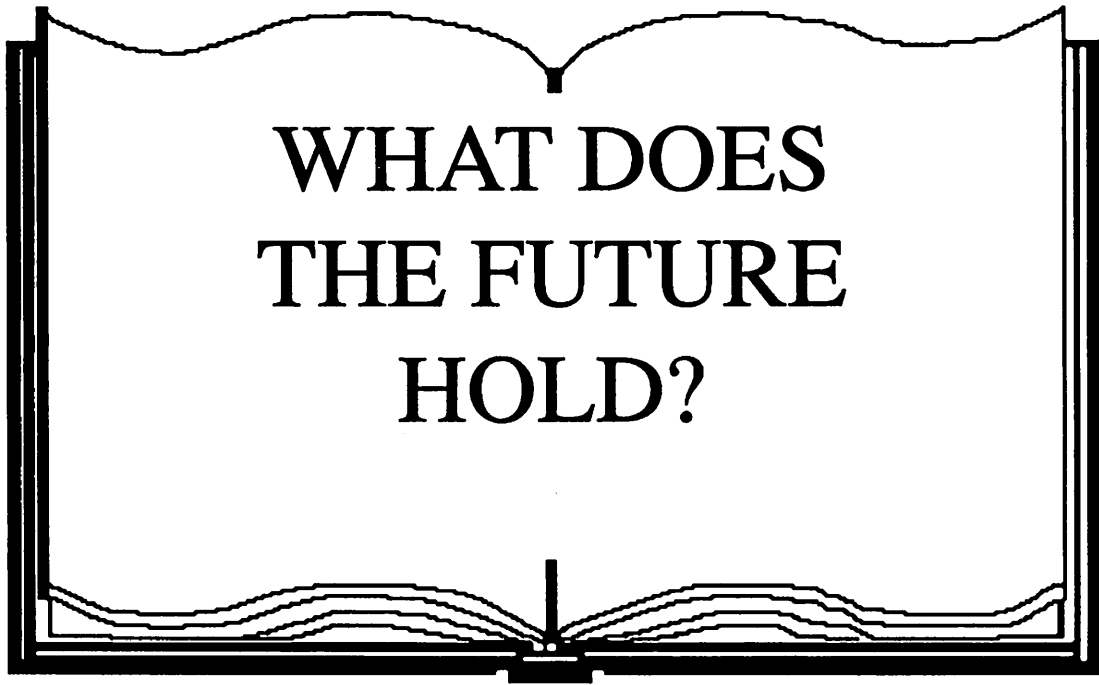


What Does The FUTURE Hold ?

By

Rev. Dr. Andrew J. Losier



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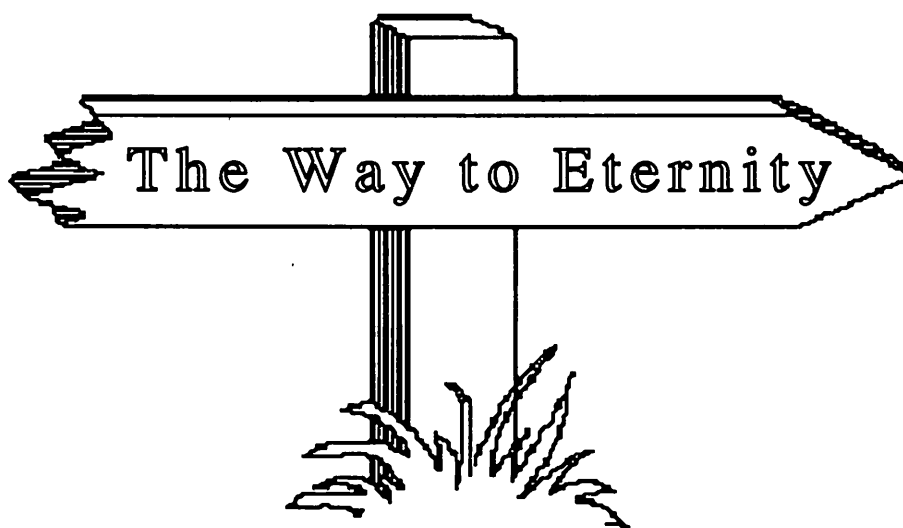
Rev. Dr. Andrew J. Losier

**Founder and President
of
Christian Literature and Bible Center Inc.**

Not to be Sold

**"WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?"
THIS STUDY SERIES HAS BEEN WRITTEN TO
ESTABLISH THE BELIEVER IN THE WORD.
THIS INVOLVES A STUDY OF WHAT
BELIEVERS PRESENTLY ANTICIPATE AS TO
ETERNITY TO COME .**

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



**"Write these things which thou hast seen,
and the things which are,
and the things which shall be hereafter"
Rev. 1 : 19**

Rev. Dr. Andrew J. Losier

"WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?"

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INTRODUCTION.

"Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is at hand" Rev.1:3. "Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter:" Rev.1:19. It would be very frustrating to the Christians today, if the Lord had not revealed the things which we can expect in the last days as well as the things to come. God has given to us the "Blue Prints", not only of what can be expected in this life, but also a little of the "Glorious Future"! Those of us who read and study the Word of God are familiar with man's failures down through the ages. However, when it comes to the revelation of future events, we hesitate and often doubt the reality of the wrath of God, being poured out upon wickedness. It is my intentions to expound the Word of God in the simplest terms as to what the future holds.

There are many signs and wonders which convince the Bible student that we are living in the last days of this age. I will give some examples of why I believe that the coming of the Lord is drawing very near. I desire, as clearly as possible, to help the reader of this book to realize that Christ is the answer to every problem in this world of stress and anxiety. I also want to show from the substance and evidence from the Bible that God has provided all that we need for time and eternity.

You will note that we are dealing with each event, individually and in the order of fulfillment according to the Word of God. Some of these events to follow are terrible, as the wrath of God is poured out upon the unregenerate, but remember, "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness, but is long suffering toward us, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat; the earth also, and the works that are in it, shall be burned up. Seeing, then, that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy living and godliness, Looking for and hastening unto the coming of the day of God, in which the heavens, being on fire, shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?" 2 Peter 3:9-12.

DEDICATION.

As Believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, our lives are no longer our own, but we have been bought with a price. "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver and gold, from your vain manner of life received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." 1 Peter 1:18-19. Every Christian should thoroughly dedicate his life to the service of the Lord. We should present our bodies a living sacrifice to the Lord which is acceptable by the Lord. When our lives are dedicated to the service of the Lord, then we also have fellowship one with the other. (1 John 1:7-9) Christian fellowship is a precious commodity and is to be desired. I have found such fellowship with many of God's children down through my missionary years, for which I am grateful to the Lord. I would like to dedicate this book to several such devoted Christians whom Dorothy and I have known for more than forty years. Paul and Margaret Gregory of Spartanburg, South Carolina have followed this work with their prayers and cares during all of these years. It is a joy and honor to acknowledge their great part in furthering the Gospel through the printed page. Paul and Margaret Gregory and Family, I dedicate this book to you Dear Ones.

There is another very precious family that has followed this work with their prayers and cares for many years. In fact the mother of this family, I have known as far back as 1935 when an unofficial Dallas Theological Seminary quartet visited in her home. Woody and Isabel Blomdahl and their precious family have followed our work these many years with their prayers and investments in this mission work. It is my privilege and honor of also dedicating this book to the Woody and Isabel Blomdahl family.

IN MEMORY.

As I write this textbook for the glory of God, I am indebted to many Christian business co-workers and I just learned of the homegoing of an outstanding saint of God, Sister Hazel E. Williams of Canyon, Texas. She was born Oct. 15, 1906 near White Cloud, Kansas. She moved to Amarillo, Texas in 1927. Sister Hazel Williams established a Chevrolet Dealership in Canyon Texas which she operated with her husband Edgar Williams for 52 years. I learned to know about these fine folks during a missionary Conference in Lubbock Texas and was assured of their prayer support. They also offered to me vehicles at cost price if ever needed. I took advantage of this offer many times and would desire only to purchase a standard car. However, Sister Hazel would remark, "Why ask God for peanuts when He will give you something better"?

It was always refreshing to enter such a home, where the Lord was glorified. I will never forget those many visits with Hazel, as her husband went to be with the Lord in 1961, and she would always remark, "Make this your home, whether I am here or not, and you will find the key hanging on the wash line".

Hazel has left that tired, worn out body and is now in the presence of the Lord, free from pain and death forever more! Absent from the body, present with the Lord! Hazel has joined with many of her loved ones and friends, waiting for that final re-union when we shall be "Caught Up" together with those of all ages and be forever with the Lord.

FORWARD.

It has always been a great joy of mine in the Christian walk to meet Christian business men who have their priorities according to the principles of God. I have met many such Christian friends down through the years of my mission experience. I thank God for each of them and the privilege I have had in presenting the work which the Lord has entrusted to me. Coming to Toccoa, Georgia, I have met up with another such believer, desiring to do the will of God in his life. I therefore wish to introduce you to Pastor David Quiner of the El Paso Bible Church.

In every generation, every age, there are a few servants of God who stand out, who demonstrate God's unique touch on their lives and ministries. This uniqueness is manifested in two primary ways:

1. A positive spiritual impact on the heart of all those privileged to be touched by their personal lives; and
2. A very large number of people brought by the Lord under their ministry through leading, speaking and writing.

This is true of Andy Losier, the author of this work. I say this while recognizing his impact on my heart, observing the impact on multitudes, and from close fellowship with his family whom to know is to love.

This book is designed to help the sincere believer "grow in grace and in knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ." (II Peter 3:18a) A basic fact that is often overlooked is the third part of the great commission of Matthew 28:20 which commands the teaching of doctrine. This is a doctrinal book and therefore a book of substance.

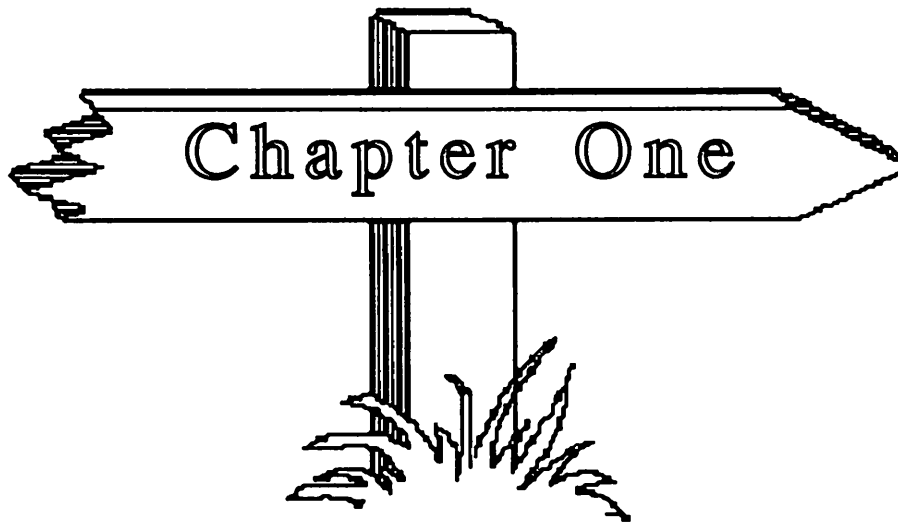
I believe it would be a major mistake to catagorize this book according to the stage of advancement of the student. This work will prove to be an important learning tool for the beginner, the intermediate, and the most advanced Bible scholar. Be assured it will find a prominent place in my library as I continue into my 50th year of continuous Bible study.

As a pastor I have opportunity to review many of the best Christian and theological works of our day. I think this is a great one. It is a must for every serious Bible student. I am grateful to my dear friend, Andy Losier, for submitting to his Lord's leading and being obedient to produce this important book. I am confident that God is going to use this work far more extensively than any of us project.

1 Tim.4:13; ".....Give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine."

David B. Quiner, Pastor
El Paso Bible Church,
El Paso, Texas. U.S.A.

CAUGHT UP BY GOD



John 14 : 1 - 6
1 Thes 4 : 13 -18
1 Cor 15 : 51 - 58

CHAPTER I. CAUGHT UP BY GOD.

Needless to say, regardless of where one lives in this present world, we are all faced with terrorism, the total depravity of man, rebellious, greedy, lustful and a generation of godlessness. One may say that we have always been faced with these problems, and rightly so. However, I want to point out that there was a time when Christianity was given more respect at the beginning of the nineteen hundreds, than we find today. What has happened? I firmly believe that we are coming to the end of this age of Grace. My conclusion is based upon several reasons and I would like to list some of them for your consideration.

1. Israel is returning to her land. In 1948 Israel was re-instated as a nation. Antisemitism is on the increase around the world and the Hebrew people are returning to their own land. Ever since they were granted to return to their land, they have been constantly at war with their neighbors. Here is what the Word says about the regathering of the Hebrew nation. Deut.30:1-5; Isa.11:11-12; Isa.14:1-3; Isa.27:12-13; Isa.43:1-7; Jer.16:14-16; Jer.23:3-8,29; Jer.30:10-11; Jer.31:8-10; Jer.32:37-38; Ezek.11:17; Ezek.20:34, 41-42; Ezek.34:11-13; Ezek.36:24, 28, 33-38; Ezek.37:1-14,21-22; Ezek.39:25-28; Hosea 1:10-11; Amos 9:14-15; Micah 4:4-7; Zeph.3:18-20; Zech.8:4-8.

Nothing can stop the regathering of Israel back in her God given land! Yes, Israel has been disobedient to God in introducing idols, not keeping the sabbatic years or the Jubilee years, and most of all, rejecting the Messiah who was promised to come. (Gen.3:15; Isa.7:14.) The Arab nations, with control of vast oil deposits have become wealthy and are bristling with war machinery of all sorts, and are preparing to drive Israel out of the small portion of her land that she possesses.

2. The formation of the European Common Market to be completed in 1992. This is to be established under the revival of the Roman Empire. It was predicted by God during the Babylonian captivity and revealed to the prophet Daniel. Dan.2:1-43; Dan.7:1-8, 15-28; Dan.8:23-27; Dan.9:27; Dan.11:36-45. A thorough study of the Image which God revealed to King Nebuchadnezzar and the interpretation given to Daniel, is necessary to understand this future revival of the Roman Empire.

3. The Dictator of the world will be revealed during the Great Tribulation as in Revelation chapter six through chapter eighteen. Please study carefully the booklet "One World Government Under Satan" by Rev. Dr. Andrew J.Losier.

The world population and political powers are well agreed upon a socialist world of the future. Just because the U.S.S.R. seems to be changing back to private enterprise, don't make the mistake that socialism is dead! It is very much alive, even in the United States of America. The people of the world are looking for free hand outs and a world leader who will promise peace and unification. This all is a deception from Satan, as he is offering his counterfeit as to God's promise of a kingdom of righteousness. A Dictator of the world, may have already been born as this textbook goes forth.

4. The false efforts of Peace among the great powers of the world. They are inconsistent as they deal with the various nations. Their outlook is pragmatic and their judgments are based upon selfish benefits. Jeremiah was faced with this same problem in his day. "saying, Peace, Peace; when there is no peace." Jer.6:11b. "Why do we sit still?"

Assemble yourselves, and let us enter into the fortified cities, and let us be silent there; for the Lord, our God, hath put us to silence, and given us water of gall to drink, because we have sinned against the Lord. We looked for peace, but no good came; and for a time of health, and behold, trouble!" Jer.8:14-15. Christ reminds us of what can be expected in these last days. Matthew 24:4-8.

5. The unrest in all of the Middle East with the constant oil crisis and enmity even among the Moslem nations. This involves the build up of armaments, in an attempt to neutralize and equalize the nations in the Middle East. This is but a forerunner of the coming battle of Armageddon. It is a preparation and prelude of what God has predicted would come. Let me remind you that this cannot take place until the True Church is taken out from the wrath to come. 1 Thess.1:10.
6. The coming of the Lord "FOR" His saints must precede the Great Tribulation. I draw my conclusion from the following Scriptures.
 - a. When Christ returns to set up His kingdom upon earth, He will come with all of the Saints. 1 Thess.3:13. Therefore we all must be in Heaven, preceding this event, which can only take place by being "Caught Up". 1 Thess.4:13-18.
 - b. The Tribulation cannot start until all the Believers are in Heaven to behold the opening of the seals. Rev.4:1-5:10;
 - c. The only time that you cannot set a date as to the coming of the Lord is pre-tribulation. God alone has set His time. Acts 1:7
 - d. The restraining power of God the Holy Spirit will cease when the rapture takes place, allowing the Great Tribulation to begin.
 - e. The Great Tribulation is the last week of the 70 times 7 of the Book of Daniel and is "Jacob's Trouble" and not the Church's trouble. Jer.30:7.
 - f. In Revelation 2:18-29 the Lord Himself makes a statement for and against the church of Thyatira. This church of idolatry was strong in works, love, service, faith and patience. (Rev.2:19.) But the Lord had much against her concerning her refusal to repent of her fornication. Please note Rev.2:22. "Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into GREAT TRIBULATION, except they repent of their deeds." Now if we as the Body of Christ were all going through part or all of the Great Tribulation, why would the Lord mention this as a special punishment to this particular type of church?
7. The water ways of the world are being polluted beyond recovery, preparing for the great tribulation which will follow the rapture. (Rev.8:7-11.)

These are but a few reasons as to why the rapture must take place prior to the Great Tribulation. God is going to take the future Bride of Christ, "out from the wrath to come". 1 Thess.1:10. We should look forward to this great event with thrilling anticipation! There

will be great joy as the Believers of all ages are gathered together and behold the Lord Jesus Christ, "Face to Face". There will be great sorrow and sadness among those who will be left behind. The first reference to this event was given by Christ Himself. "Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 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. And where I go ye know, and the way ye know. Thomas saith unto Him, Lord, we know not where Thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me." John 14:1-6. This straight forward statement from the Son of God is certainly very definite and clear. Where is Christ now? Of course He is in Heaven at the right Hand of God the Father. What is Christ doing in Heaven for His future Bride? A place is being prepared in His Father's mansions for His future Bride. Why will Christ return in the clouds to this earth ? He clearly said, "I will come again and receive you (Believers). Where will Christ take us as Believers? Into the very Heavenly Mansions , where He has been preparing a place for us for almost 2,000 years.

I am puzzled by these skeptics who pass over these definite plans of Christ and read into the Scripture some vague human view point! It is necessary that the Lord takes us out from the wrath to come. (1 Thess.1:10;) We are to be presented to the Father, where a great wedding will take place in the presence of Saints of all ages. We as Christians are identified as the "Body of Christ". Some may say, I thought Christ was going to set up His kingdom on earth. Yes, you are exactly right, but your timing is wrong. If Christ did not return for the True Church and rapture us out of the coming Great Tribulation, the Heavenly marriage could not take place. We who are Christians must all be brought into the presence of God for this marriage of the Lamb of God. The Bride of Christ and the Saints of all ages will have seven glorious years in the Heavenlies, during that great tribulation. When those seven years of tribulation are ended upon the earth, then, and then only do we return with the Lord to set up His 1,000 year Kingdom of Righteousness. We must be established before God the Father unblamable in holiness, with the perfect righteousness of Christ. "To the end He may establish your hearts unblamable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His Saints". 1 Thess.3:13. In other words, the complete True Church must all be gathered in Heaven in order that the complete True Church may return to earth with Christ to set up His kingdom.

May each of us be prepared for that great event which may take place any time when the Christians will be "Caught Up", and receive their glorified bodies, and given our place in the Mansions of God. This great event will include the "Dead in Christ" (physical death) of all ages. Those from Pentecost back to Adam and Eve, will not be the Bride of Christ, but rather the "friends of the Bridegroom". "He that hath the Bride is the Bridegroom; but the friend of the Bridegroom, who standeth and heareth Him, rejoiceth greatly because of the Bridegroom's voice; this my joy, therefore, is fulfilled." John 3:29. From Pentecost until the rapture will include those dead in Christ and those living. We all will be changed in the "twinkling of an eye".

What will be the signal or sign for this great event? Turn with me to 1 Thessalonians chapter 4 verses 13 through 18. "I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them who are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also who sleep in Jesus will God bring

with Him. For this we say unto you by the Word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not precede them who are asleep. 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 who 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. Wherefore, comfort one another with these words." Let us analyze just what this portion of Scripture reveals.

1. Those that sleep, refers to the physical bodies in the grave. The soul and spirit are in the presence of the Lord. Note 1 Cor.5:3; and Luke 23:43.
2. The Souls of those who died in Christ, will come with Christ to be joined together with a glorified body. (1 Jn.3:1-3;) It is necessary that those who are at present in Paradise with the Lord, must return with Him to be clothed in their identification, receiving their glorified bodies. The critics might say, where will these future bodies be found? They have turned to dust and earth. Of course they have returned to what God originally made man of, which is earth. If God made original man out of the dust of the earth, what will hinder Him from doing it again, and this time with a glorified body? Praise God for His mighty power.
3. Those of the Believers who will be alive when Christ returns in the clouds, will be changed after those who died receive their glorified bodies. All those Believers who are alive at the coming of the Lord shall be caught up soul and spirit and their bodies will be changed, receiving a glorified body.
4. We will see the Lord in the clouds, as the shout and trumpets sound forth and we will be changed into that Heavenly glorified body, which will be capable of soaring into the clouds to be with the Lord.
5. From this moment on, we shall ever be with the Lord, as He takes us to those mansions of the Father, where a place has been prepared for us.

When Jesus was brought before Caiaphas the high priest, and before the Sanhedrin (Mark 14:53-65; Matt.26:57-68;) and was asked by the high priest, (Matt.26:63;) "I adjure thee by the Living God, that thou tell us whether thou be the Christ, The Son of God,". Jesus answer was very significant and to the point. (Matt.26:64;) "Jesus saith unto him, thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, hereafter shall ye see the Son of Man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven." What Stephen declared as he was being stoned to death, (Acts 7:54-60;) gave them a clear picture as to where Jesus was in heaven. "At the right hand of the Father". The latter part of this declaration is a future event, which shall be fulfilled when the Lord comes for His own and with His own. (See the booklet available on this subject.)

The coming of the Lord in the clouds is actually in two phases. The first is known as being "Caught up" or "Rapture", which takes the Believers from the Day of Pentecost until Christ comes for His own, calling out the future Bride of Christ. With the True Church, there will also be the resurrection of the Old Testament Saints, known as the Friends of

the Bridegroom. This portion of Biblical truth is very important and must constantly be kept in mind.

Christ is waiting to return in the clouds to gather those for whom He has been preparing a place in the Mansions of God the Father. Only God the Father knows of the specific time of His return for His own. We are "Looking for the blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the Great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ." Titus 2:13. This event will be listed among the greatest events in history since the birth, death and resurrection of the Lord. This event is going to happen so quickly. "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." 1 Cor.15:52. The natural man would like to be able to establish himself apart from God and make a name for himself as they tried while building the tower of Babel. The religious man and humanistic crowd would like to establish a world system apart from God. They refuse to accept the total depravity of man and some will even have a form of godliness but deny the power of an Eternal God. Our blessed hope depends entirely upon the accomplishments of Christ. "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. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him. 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. 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. Wherefore comfort one another with these words." 1 Thess.4:13-18.

We shall be caught up quickly and at a time when the world cares little about what God has to say. The Bible also tells us that this rapture will take place suddenly even as a thief comes to steal. "For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night." 1 Thess.5:2. This does not mean that Christ is a thief, but rather of the suddenness of His coming. As we take all precautionary methods against the thief, so we should be ready at all times, listening for that trumpet call and the appearing of the Lord in the air. This coming of the Lord to receive His own is essential for we must be taken to our heavenly refuge, during the outpouring of the wrath of God upon this wicked world. May we be reminded, "But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are children of light, and the children of day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober." 1 Thess.5:4-6. This old wicked world is going to get a shock beyond description and when the rapture takes place, the evidence of it will be revealed through chaotic conditions throughout the world. We can expect perilous days to continue, in spite of all of the warnings which the Lord gives. "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, truce breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away." 2 Tim.3:1-5.

Let's just pause for a moment on this statement from the Bible. "And the dead in Christ shall rise first" 1 Thess.4:16b. The Old Testament clearly places a tremendous emphasis on resurrection, as the Saints of old made such preparations and indicated it in burial

rather than cremation. Job was assured of this as he asked the question, "If a man die, shall he live again?" Job.14:14. Though he made such a statement, Job knew that his Redeemer lives (Job 19:25.) Then he comes to the realization, "And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God." Job 19:26. Martha was assured of this resurrection. (Jn.11:23-24.) The Lord Jesus Christ states, "But as touching the resurrection of the dead, have ye not read that which was spoken unto you by God, saying, I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living." Matt.22:31-32. We are specifically dealing with the "dead in Christ" during the rapture, which indicates that there are also those who are dead apart from Christ. Their resurrection will be dealt with later. "Verily, Verily, I say unto you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live. For as the Father hath life in Himself; so hath He given to the Son to have life in Himself; and hath given Him authority to execute judgement also, because He is the Son of man. Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation." John 5:25-29. Some may be confused about the statement, "they that have done good" and may think that salvation depends upon works. On the contrary, for this merely reflects back to their being "In Christ" in obedience to God and receiving the righteousness of Christ as their goodness. Since the Believers who have died are in the presence of the Lord (soul and spirit), it is important that their dead bodies be raised from the graves, where ever they may be and that miracle will take place in a glorified unification of an immortal glorified body with soul and spirit.

Now let us deal with "We who are alive" (1 Thess.4:17.) It all will happen so quickly the dead being raised and the living being changed. The important factor is that we will all be "caught up" together with them and be with the Lord forever. "For our citizenship is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: 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." Phil.3:20-21. The Bible clearly sets forth this important issue and we do not need to worry about what we will be like in our heavenly abode, or when we return to earth for the kingdom of righteousness. What will those glorified bodies be able to do? No material structure can prevent us in our activities, we will be able to eat and drink as the Lord is able to do. Our finite minds cannot comprehend all that God is preparing for us. "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 Jn.3:2-3.

The question may be asked, "What happens after that"? Well, God hasn't given us all of the details in one portion of Scripture, for He wants us to search out the Scriptures as workmen who needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of truth. (2 Tim.2:15.) Let us take this journey into outer space according as it is written in the Bible.

1. We will soar into outer space, led by the Lord Himself, arriving in Heaven, beholding the splendor of God, in that glorious Heaven and fellowshiping with those faithful angels. The singing will be the most wonderful music that we have ever heard.

2. We will be escorted to those mansions of God the Father, as a great assembly of Believers, all of us in those glorified bodies, made possible by the grace of God through our Lord Jesus Christ. John 14:1-6.
3. We are then advised that we are to assemble before the "Judgement Seat of Christ". 2 Cor.5:10. The wood, hay, and stubble will all be burned away. One must remember that this judgement seat before which the Believers stand is not a judgement for sin, but rather a reward for faithful works. Those that have done good works among the Believers for their personal gain, prestige or glory, will all be burned. Let each of us ask the question, "Why am I doing this good deed"? Is it for selfish interest or gain, or for the glory and honor of God? Many evangelists and preachers as well as Christian writers are in the profession for what they can get out of it. All such good deeds will be as wood, hay, and stubble at the Judgement Seat of Christ.
4. Since Christ paid the debt of our sins, they are forever removed and will never be remembered again, praise the Lord. May we remind ourselves that our sins, past, present and future have all been paid for by Christ upon the cross. Glory to God in the highest, our sins were paid for almost 2,000. years before we ever were born! Yes, the sins of the whole world were all laid upon Christ as He suffered, bled and died on Calvary. (Jn.1:29.)
5. The issue will be as to our rewards for faithfulness to the Lord while on earth. 1 Cor.3:9-16. This judgement seat of Christ will be for distinguishing those Believers who were faithful and removing the wood, hay, and stubble. Some will be saved so as by fire and without rewards. (1 Cor.3:15.
6. Some Believers will receive high ranking positions of responsibility, because of their faithfulness upon the earth.
7. Some Believers will have all of their good works which were done for their own glory, honor and position destroyed as "wood, hay, and stubble". They shall be saved so as by fire. 1 Cor.3:15.
8. A new name will be given to each of us which is written down in Heaven. Rev.3:12.
9. We will sit around the communion table with the Lord as we remember His broken body and the shedding of blood, for our sins. Matt.26:29; Mk.14:25; Lk.22:18;
10. We then, as the Body of Christ, (Christians) make ourselves ready for the "Marriage of the Lamb". The garments that we put on will be of fine linen, clean and white, clothed with the righteousness, given to the Saints. (Rev.19:7-8;)
11. The Saints of all ages will be the guests attending this tremendous ceremony. This will be one of the greatest banquets ever to be held. (Rev.19:9.)
12. All of Heaven will rejoice that Christ has received His Bride.

We do not know the sequence of all the events which will take place in Heaven during those seven years that we spend there before returning to earth with the Lord. However we do have some events which will take place in Heaven during our stay in those mansions of the Father. Let us consider these important events for a moment. John on the Isle of Patmos had a pre-view of what was to happen when the rapture takes place, and the Holy Spirit had him record it in Revelation chapters 4 and 5.

1. Heaven opens and God is seated upon the Throne and there are 24 other thrones around about with 24 Elders seated, and wearing crowns of gold. (Rev.4:1-4.) (Could be a representation of both the 12 Tribes of Israel and the 12 Apostles of the Church of Christ.)
2. The brightness of God will fill the Heavenly atmosphere with lightnings and thunders. There will appear the seven expressions of God. (Rev.4:5.)
3. A multitude of Saints will then be seen as a "Sea of Glass" for brightness. There were also the Heavenly angels present before the Throne of God. (Rev.4:6-9.)
4. Then those who sit upon the 24 thrones were seen by John to bow before the Throne of God and cast their crowns before the Lord who alone is worthy of all praise and glory. (Rev.4:10-11.)
5. John then saw a preview of the scroll in the right hand of God who sat upon the throne. (Rev.5:1.)
6. This scroll contains the judgments that are to come during the Great Tribulation and a mighty angel of God seeks for one, worthy to open the scroll so that the judgments upon the earth will begin. (Rev.5:2.)
7. No one could be found in all creation, worthy to open these seals, and the Apostle John began to weep. (Rev.5:3-4.)
8. One of the Elders then told John not to weep and behold the Lamb of God appeared and was able to take the scroll from the Hand of God the Father.
9. The angelic hosts with their musical instruments began to play and those seen as the "Sea of Glass" began to rejoice with singing the following: "And they sang a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; for Thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by Thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; and has made us unto our God a kingdom of priests, and we shall reign on earth." Rev.5:8-10.)
10. The countless angelic hosts burst out into singing and praising Christ the Lamb of God. (Rev.5:11-14.) That scroll can only be opened by Christ in the presence of the angelic hosts and all of the redeemed. This can only take place after the rapture, when we are in the heavenly mansions of God. We are assured that Christ will come before the out pouring of the wrath of God upon this earth.

This great tribulation which is to come will be the final judgement of God against Israel, because of her rejection of the Messiah. Then God will also pour out His terrible wrath upon the nations for their treatment of Israel and rejecting the Messiah. This will culminate in the coming of the Lord to set up His Kingdom of Righteousness, when the armies of Satan will be destroyed, before the Kingdom of Righteousness begins. Rev.19:11-21.

We are to have seven glorious years in Heaven, as we are made ready to rule and reign with the Lord upon this earth in our glorified bodies. There will be plenty of activity as we fellowship with Believers of all ages and enjoy the eternal reunion with our loved ones. Words cannot describe these marvelous things to come. "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him. But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit; For the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God." 1 Cor.2:9-10.

During our stay in Heaven, and to be exact, after three and a half years a terrible spiritual battle will take place in Heaven and we are going to be there to see it. As Bible scholars know, Satan and his demons must appear in Heaven from time to time to give an account before Almighty God as to their whereabouts and their activities. (Note Job.1:6-2:7.) We are also told that he accuses the brethren before God, but praise God we have an Advocate with the Father, even Jesus Christ the Righteous One. (1 Jn.2:1-2.) This accuser of the Believers will be cast out of Heaven forever. (Rev.12:10.) The final spiritual battle in Heaven will take place when we will be there. Turn to Revelation chapter 9 and Revelation 12:7-12. Here you have the details of Satan and his demons being cast out of Heaven by Michael the Archangel and his army of angels. You may ask, "Where are they cast"? That is a good question and note in Rev. chapter 12 that Satan was given the key to the bottomless pit where a great army of demons will have served at least 6,000 years in prison. As Daniel described in Dan.9:27; of the "Abomination of Desolation" that would come, he was predicting this very terrible time that would come upon this earth during the second half of the Great Tribulation. The Lord also made mention of it in Matthew 24:15, 21; For 42 months or 3 1/2 years Satan's hell will break loose on this planet earth. It will be the final attempt of his evil forces to destroy all knowledge of the Living God.

The Lord has revealed these wicked things to come upon the earth and the pollution will not be limited to the surroundings, but will penetrate deeply into the very lives of the followers of Satan. Praise God, we will be in Heaven with the Lord and all the Believers from ages past! We have a glorious Gospel to share with the nations, fulfilling that great commission of the Lord, "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the age. Amen". Matt.28:19-20.

The "Rapture" shall not happen without great evidence through catastrophes and disasters upon the whole face of the earth. Graves will be opened and the bodies gone, causing bewilderment and amazement beyond description. Those left behind who were familiar with what the Bible taught, but never accepted Christ as their Saviour, will know beyond a shadow of doubt what has happened. The churches will have all of the Believers gone in that twinkling of an eye and the last trumpet sound. There will be accidents in the air, at sea, and on land. The rapture of the true church will not be hidden, but evidence

of this great event will be everywhere. The world will find out the important place that Christianity occupied in all phases of life. Let us just list some of these areas.

1. The True Ministers of the Gospel will all have been taken to Heaven.
2. Church congregations will only have the unregenerate left.
3. Mothers and Fathers, Sisters and Brothers, will have gone to be with the Lord and families will be separated and broken.
4. Officials in most businesses, will have left their work incomplete. Many skilled laborers will be gone, having been "caught up" with Christ into the heavenlies.
5. There will be no more missionaries of the faith found anywhere. Both at home and abroad, God's chosen vessels will have disappeared and caught up into the presence of the Lord.
6. Transportation will be disrupted everywhere. There will be countless accidents, filling the hospitals with the wounded and there will be a shortage of nurses and doctors to attend to them. The evidence of the rapture will be real and impressive!
7. Thieving will be world wide and uncontrollable. With this mass exit of Christians, many millions of homes will be vacated and looting will take place on a very large scale.
8. The restraining power of God the Holy Spirit will be removed. (2 Thess.2:6.) When the True church leaves this world, so will God the Holy Spirit remove His restraining power and hell will break loose on earth. Satan will have his full sway upon all human beings with great power.
9. Thousands of deaths will occur among the unregenerate, world wide. Transportation will be disrupted with cars, trucks, ships, trains and planes, traveling without drivers and pilots. This will be one of the greatest tragedies of all times.
- 10 Accidents by air, sea and land will be countless.

There will be an amazing awakening among those who had just put off accepting Christ as their personal Saviour. Yes, God again will manifest His grace in this world of sin and rejection. Perhaps there will be Bible Study for a short time, before the Dictator of the world receives his total power. We will deal with the Dictator's strategy, in the next chapter when the Wrath of God is poured out upon this sinful world. Let us mention a few important developments which will take place, "after" the rapture.

1. Many unregenerate who had put off accepting Christ as personal Saviour will begin to study the Bible and look for spiritual help.
2. The Jewish Remnant who were looking for the Messiah, will have their eyes opened to the realities of the fulfillment of prophecy.

3. Temple worship of Judaism will continue.
4. God will call out 144,000 youth from among the Jews to be His witnesses for the terrible and great tribulation. The details of this, you will find in Revelation chapter 7 and 14.
4. Angelic hosts, Moses and Elijah will testify of the coming kingdom of righteousness. The Book of Revelation reveals this point of truth very clearly. The Angelic trumpeters (Rev.8-9; Rev.11:15-19.) Another mighty angel. (Rev.10:1-7.) Moses and Elijah. (Rev.11:3-6.)

The rapture of the True Church, and the Saints of all ages is the next great event to take place under the foretelling of God. There is nothing standing in the way for this great event to take place, and the imminent return of the Lord should keep every Believer on the alert, looking up, and waiting to be caught up out from the wrath to come. (1 Thess.1:10.) It does not mean that we should fold our hands and sit back and wait, without anything to be done. But rather, it should inspire us to do all we can for the Lord, while we still have time. That great commission is by God's command, to continue unto the end of this age! There are lost souls in the "Regions Beyond" for whom God is depending upon us to tell the "Good News" that their hope of eternal life is in Christ. "For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved." John 3:17. You and I as Believers, have been commissioned by Christ as His Ambassadors to proclaim the unsearchable riches in Christ. Matt.28:19-20.

The "Rapture" concludes our responsibility in this world of sin. There will be many Believers very sorry that they did not make better use of their talents and time. Many Believers are selfish and egotistical and self centered. They desire to command and demand rather than humbly submit to the Lord. As Christ is the "Light of the World" so we have been entrusted with this same light which has brought light unto our souls. We are left in this world for God's purpose. Note this thought in that marvelous, inspiring prayer of Christ in John 17. "I pray not that Thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that Thou shouldest keep them from evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them through Thy Truth; Thy Word is Truth. As Thou hast sent Me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world." John 17:15-18. Let your light so shine before men that they may see the Lord Jesus Christ, accepting Him as their Redeemer, Lord and Master!

May I remind you of some important evidence from the Bible, as God has dealt with those of ages past. The following Biblical events will reveal some remarkable ways in which God has always dealt with obedience and disobedience.

1. God made man innocent (Gen.1:28-3:6.) and in His own image Gen.1:26-28; Gen.2:7. but disobedience resulted in being driven from the Garden of Eden. Gen.3:23-24. Man was given the freedom of choice, rather than given an instinct like the animal world.
2. God made mankind totally responsible morally, because of his sin. (Gen.3:6-7; This brought on the reign of death both spiritually and physically. Mankind was made conscious of all of this and was incapable of maintaining the right relationship with his Creator. This resulted in the punishment through the flood. Gen.8:1-14.

3. God started a new era of human government (Gen.8:15-11:32) with Noah and his three sons, placing a rainbow in the sky as a reminder that He would not again destroy the earth with a flood. (Gen.9:11-17.) However man multiplied and became wicked again even though God had divided out the land according to nations. Since they all spoke one language and they wanted to make a great name for themselves, they decided to make a great sky scraper, supposedly reaching up to God. Man failed again and the punishment was to confuse their languages and scatter them upon the face of the earth.
4. God in His omniscience knew that wickedness would continue, as man in his volition would chose to continue in sin because of the total depravity of man. So it was necessary to select one of the lineages from Noah to place the messianic hope and the family of Shem was chosen. (Gen.11:10-32.) From the lineage of Shem, there needed to be found the right family to guarantee the Messianic hope. This family would be started by Abram. (Gen.12:1-Ex.18:27.) Since God promised Abram with an unconditional covenant all of the land from the Euphrates river to the River Egypt, we can classify this age as the age of promise. This age of promise continued until the giving of the law at Mt Sinai after a terrible enslavement of 400 years in Egypt. This age of promise was set forth in Gen.12:1-3; Gen.13:14-17; Gen.15:1-7; Gen.17:1-8,15-19; Gen.22:16-18; Gen.26:2-5,24; Gen.28:13-15; Gen.31:13; Gen.35:9-12. These promises were for Israel as a nation and numbered as the sands of the sea. Likewise the Believers of our age have been blessed in Abraham as the stars of the heaven in number. Gal.3:16,28-29; So also the Gentile nations were blessed in faithful Abraham. Gen.12:3. We as represented in Christ are to trust God as did Abraham and our righteousness is in Christ Jesus. Rom.4:11, 16, 23-25; Gal.3:6-9; This age of promise did not terminate at Mt Sinai with the giving of the law, (Gal.3:17;) The land was an everlasting possession given to Israel (Ex.32:13; Ex.33:1-3; Lev.23:10; Lev.25:2; Lev.26:6; Deut.6:1-23; Deut.8:1-18; Josh.1:2, 11; Josh.24:13; Acts.7:17; Rom.9:4;
5. The giving of the law at Mt. Sinai brought in a new era under the direct laws of God. This extended from Ex.19:3 to Acts 1:26. As Israel disobeyed God, there were continual punishments by God, such as enslavement into the hands of the heathen nations surrounding Israel, to the captivities into Syria and Babylon. These were only temporary punishments, as Gabriel from heaven revealed to Daniel the 70 times seven, scattering unto all the nations of the world. Israel is now being regathered for the great tribulation which would be "Jacob's Trouble". (Jer.30:7.) God foresaw that Israel would reject her Messiah and even predicted when Christ would be cut off and crucified. (Dan.9:26.) As always, God's timing is exact, and so, 483 years after Cyrus' decree, Christ was crucified.
6. The Age of Grace is where we find ourselves today which has continued from the Day of Pentecost, (Acts 2:1-8;) to the rapture of the true church. This review of Bible truth should reveal to us the importance of being faithful to the Lord who has called us out of darkness into His glorious eternal light. We have seen in these brief statements of ages past, how mindful God is of world events and warns us that disobedience brings punishments both to individuals and nations. The rapture will bring in a terrible

judgement and wrath upon this godless world, and we will be studying it in the next chapter.

In concluding this chapter on the Rapture, may I ask you one important question as a Believer, "Are you ready to meet the Lord in the air"? Oh may the Lord reveal to you the tremendous responsibility which He has placed upon each of us, as Believers, to speed the Gospel light while we still have time. May we not come empty handed before the Lord. May our heart's desire be to hear Christ say unto us, "Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things. Enter thou into the joy of the Lord." Matthew 25:23. God has fully provided all that we need as "Ambassadors for Christ" and we are reminded to "Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Ephesians 6:11-12. Yes, the battle is great but God is greater and has provided us with all that we need to combat the enemy of our souls. We do not fight the enemy alone, but we have God the Holy Spirit dwelling within us to not only protect us, but to guide and direct us. "And let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have, therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." Galatians 6:9-10. "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds". 2 Cor.10:4.

Now I would like to ask those who are not Christians, this one question. "Are you willing to take a chance as to what the future holds"? There will be many good folks left behind when the rapture of the Believers takes place. God has provided an escape route for you through the Lord Jesus Christ, but if you refuse Christ Who is "The way, the truth, and the life" there is no other name whereby you must be saved. "For God so loved the world that He gave His Only Begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. He that believeth on Him is not condemned; but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the Name of the Only Begotten Son of God." John 3:16-18. God has done all that He can do for you, so do not put off accepting God's provision for your soul. "How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard Him. God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with diverse miracles and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?" Heb.2:3-4.

THE BELIEVER'S ETERNAL STATUS.

God has not left us in the dark as to what advantages a Believer in Christ obtains, but rather is very specific as to the tremendous dividends that God pays, when we accept Christ as our personal Saviour. I want to list just some of the outstanding benefits that are given to Christians.

1. A new birth by God the Holy Spirit. Jn.3:3-6.

2. Baptized by God the Holy Spirit. 1 Cor.12:13.
3. Made a new creature in Christ Jesus. 2 Cor.5:17.
4. Made spiritually alive. 1 Cor.6:17-20.
5. Indwelt forever by God the Holy Spirit. Jn.14:16-17; Rom.8:9-11.
6. Given special gifts by God the Holy Spirit. 1 Cor.12:11.
7. Provided with power by God the Holy Spirit. Zech.4:6; Rom.15:13,19.
8. Taught, guided and directed by God the Holy Spirit. Jn.16:13; Rom.8:14.
9. Given comfort by God the Holy Spirit. Jn.14:26.
- 10.Special prayer for Believers by God the Holy Spirit. Rom.8:26.
- 11.Christ the Eternal Son of God intercedes for us as our Advocate. 1 Jn.2:1.
- 13.God the Father is satisfied with Christ's provision for Believers. 1 Jn.2:2.
- 14.Our sins are all forgiven. Eph.4:32; Col.2:13; 1 Jn.2:12.
- 15.Cleansed. 1 Jn.1:7.
- 16.Believers already have eternal life. Jn.3:36.
- 17.Believers are not condemned before God. Jn.3:18.
- 18.Saved from the penalty, and power of sin. Jn.3:18; 1 Pet.1:5; Rom.8:2.
- 19.Set free from the law of sin and death. Rom.8:2.
- 20.Living by the power of God the Holy Spirit. 2 Cor.13:4; Eph.3:20.
- 21.Promised deliverance from the very presence of sin. Dan.9:24.
- 22.Our sins will be remembered no more. Ps.103:12.
- 23.Blessed with all spiritual blessings in Christ. Eph.1:3-14.
- 24.Joint heirs with the Lord Jesus Christ forever. Rom.8:17.
- 25.Clothed upon with the righteousness of Christ. 2 Cor.5:2.
- 26.We shall be like the Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Jn.3:1-3.

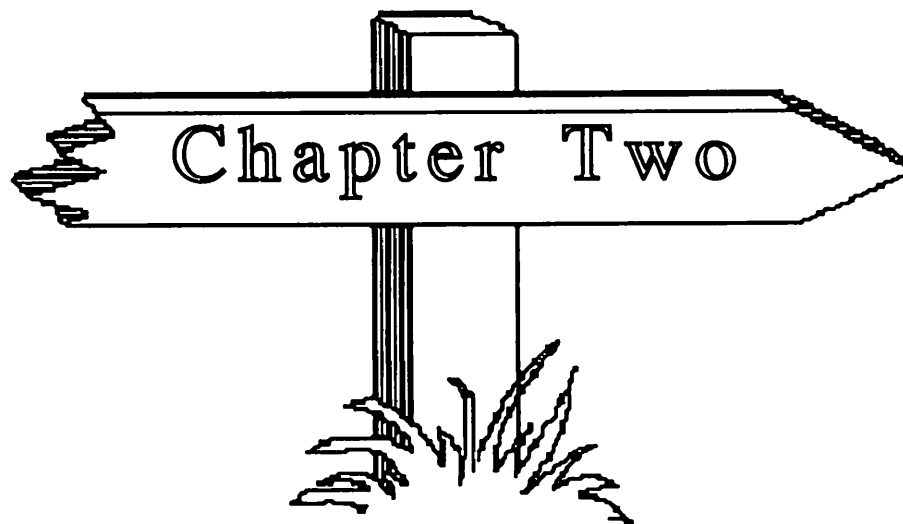
- 27. Believers are members of the body of Christ. 1 Cor.12:27.
- 28. Believer's bodies are the temple of God the Holy Spirit. 1 Cor.3:16; 1 Cor.6:19.
- 29. Believers are Ambassadors for Christ. 2 Cor.5:20.
- 30. Believers are citizens of heaven. Phil.3:20.
- 31. Believers are the salt of the world. Matt.5:13.
- 32. Believers are the light of the world. Matt.5:14.
- 33. Believers will receive a glorified body eternal in the heavenlies. Phil.3:21.
- 34. Believers are promised a new name written down in Glory. Rev.2:17; Rev.3:12.
- 35. Believers shall become a kingdom of priests. Rev.5:10.
- 36. Believers shall rule and reign with Christ. 2 Tim.2:12; Rev.5:10.
- 37. Christians from Pentecost to the rapture, to be the future Bride of Christ. Rev.21:2,9; Rev.22:17
- 38. Believers shall receive special rewards before the Judgement seat of Christ for faithfulness during their life upon this earth. 1 Cor.3:9-15. 2 Cor.5:10.
- 39. Sealed by God the Holy Spirit forever. Eph.1:13.
- 40. Eternally the sons of God. 1 Jn.3:1-3.

QUESTIONS

- 1. What is the importance of prophecy?
- 2. What evidence do you observe that we are living in the last days?
- 3. Has Christianity today the same prestige that it had in the early 1900 s? Give the reasons for your opinion.
- 4. According to the Word of God, what is the next great event to take place?
- 5. Name at least three reasons why we are very near to this great event. Cite Scriptures.
- 6. Why must Christ come for His True church?
- 7. Why doesn't the True Church go through the Tribulation? Give at least three reasons.

8. Explain briefly the following Scriptures. 1 Thess.1:10; 1 Thess.4:13-18; John 145:1-6; 1 Thess.3:13.
9. Who are the friends of the Bridegroom? Explain.
- 10 What are some of the events that will happen in Heaven when the True Church is raptured? Give at least 5 events the True Church will experience in Heaven.
- 11 Why cannot the Great Tribulation start while the True Church is still on the earth?
- 12 Will the remaining people on the earth have evidence that the Believers have been raptured? Give some examples.
- 13 Will God's grace be manifested during the Great Tribulation? Give four reasons.
- 14 Since the word "Rapture" is not a Biblical term, what similar term do we find?
- 15 What is the importance of the "Imminent" return of Christ?
- 16 Describe briefly God's ways of dealing with mankind in the ages past and some of the punishments which followed, due to their disobedience. Cite Scriptures.
- 17 Give a brief description of this present age and how it will end. Cite Scriptures.
- 18 Name 15 changes that take place when one believes in the Lord Jesus Christ as personal Saviour. Cite Scriptures.
- 19 Name 5 changes that will take place for the Christian after the rapture. Cite Scriptures.
- 20 Write briefly as to what you have learned through the study of the rapture.

THE WRATH OF GOD



John 3 : 36
Rev 19 : 11 - 16
Rev 20 : 10
Rev 20 : 11 - 15

CHAPTER 2.

THE WRATH OF GOD.

With the True Church and Old Testament Saints safely "Caught Up " into Heaven, let us learn from the Bible, what will be taking place upon the earth during our seven years in our heavenly mansions with the Lord. At this present stage of events, the signs of the time are indicating to Bible students that the end times are approaching. The stage is being set for a "One World Government" under the revival of the old Roman Empire. The Book of Daniel and the Revelation of Jesus Christ give us a picture as to what can be expected. Here are a few indications.

1. Civilization has become very corrupt . Atheism and humanism have taken the place of prayer and Bible reading in our public schools.
2. Our courts of justice are contaminated. From the lower courts to the supreme courts, we are faced with injustice. The American Constitution is often mis-quoted or mis-interpreted. Much of this has come about by adopting a pragmatic approach with priority treatment of certain groups.
3. International decisions are based upon pragmatic principles . One nation may be spendable to the other nations, depending upon their intrinsic lack of value or power to withstand.
4. Modern inventions. Television, nuclear achievements, computers and communications have given mankind aspirations apart from God. With a push button society, machinery is given the priority over God's supreme and absolute righteousness.
5. The common market of Europe. This will come into full status in 1992 and will be one of the most powerful blocs in the world. The revival of the Roman Empire as recorded in Daniel and Revelation substantiates this powerful empire in the hands of a wicked and mighty Dictator. The whole world has adapted a socialistic order and nationalism is almost a thing of the past.
6. The crumbling economy of the Russian empire. The tearing down of the Berlin wall to the internal demands within the iron curtain of Russia are certainly other signs of the time. It does not mean that communism and socialism has been rejected, but merely a sign of rebellion against authority. Eventually there will be a great demand for an international leader who will be so powerful to rule out war. This will be welcomed by many but eventually will be deceived and enslaved.
7. Israel returning to her land. The promised land is being partially occupied by the returning Hebrew people, ever since they were re-instated as a nation in April 1948. Their land consists of all of the territory from the Euphrates River, along the Tigris River and south to the River of Egypt, or the land of Goshen. They are being regathered from all of the nations of the world, as God promised. However, they as a nation are returning in unbelief and will receive their final punishment from God during

the Great Tribulation. There will be witnesses among them including angels, Moses, Elijah and the 144,000. from the 12 tribes of Israel, as recorded in Revelation 7:4-8.

8. False efforts of peace. Each world war or limited war has been declared as the final war to end war, and peace would be ushered in. "Peace, Peace, when there is no peace. Jer.6:11b. World leaders have always claimed to be able to establish a lasting peace, but all have failed and will continue to fail, until Christ Himself brings in Peace, ruling with a rod of Iron. Psalm 2:8-9; Rev.19:15.
9. The unrest in all of the Middle East. The great oil fields of the world are at stake and are found in the Middle East. Whatever the outcome of the talks and sanctions, God's Word assures us that these are but forerunners of that coming great battle of Armageddon. A tremendous build up of armaments is taking place right now and finance is not an issue with the billions in currency held by the Moslem world. What has happened in Iraq with it's downfall is but another chapter closed. The hatred of Israel continues among all Arabic nations and God alone can establish Israel back in her promised land.
- 10 Israel is being regathered for a purpose. God has promised to re-gather Israel in the latter days for several reasons. They will receive their final punishment for rejecting The Lord Jesus as Messiah. God will raise up witnesses among them for placing His seal upon them . Temple worship will be restored. Elijah and Moses will return. Israel will be in her land when the Lord returns for the promised thousand year reign of righteousness.
- 11 These following important events are to take place. As to the time period, before or during the tribulation, that is in God's knowledge. However the battle in heaven against Satan and his demons will take place in the middle of the tribulation and it is called, "The Abomination of Desolation". (Dan.9:27; Matt.24:15; Rev.9:1-11; Rev.12:7-12.)
 - a. The Holy Land is to be attacked by Russia.
 - b. The hordes of the East will cross the Euphrates.
 - c. The Revival of the Roman Empire.
 - d. For a short time, Israel will dwell in safety.
 - e. Edom is to become a famous refuge center for the Remnant of Israel.
 - f. Satan will be thrown out of Heaven by Michael the Archangel.
 - g. The world will choose a wicked Dictator with the hope of lasting peace.
 - h. Egypt along with Africa will become involved in the Middle East.
 - i. European unified power will supersede previous world powers.

j. The Rapture of the True Church is the next great event.

k. The turmoil in the Middle East is but a prelude for a build up of arms in preparation for that final battle.

l. The Gospel is being preached in it's final days before the Rapture.

m. Apostate religions are increasing as a world threat to the Living God.

God has manifested His power in previous judgments, such as the flood and the destruction of cities and nations, but this coming wrath of God is to come with the fullness of God's fury. Christ refers us back to the Book of Daniel and calls the last half of the Great Tribulation, "The Abomination of Desolation". Christ also says, "For then shall be great tribulation such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be." Matt.24:21. Make no mistake about this terrible onslaught of the coming wrath of God! It will be imperative that the Lord Jesus Christ comes in the clouds to deliver His future Bride out from the wrath to come! 1 Thess.1:10.

Unregenerate man has rejected the provisions and warnings by God and is determined to set up a world system after the demands of Satan. God separated the nations according to the number of the children of Israel. "When the Most High divided to the nation their inheritance, when He separated the sons of Adam, He set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel. "Deut.32:8. This has also been confirmed in Acts 17:26. "And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation."

Israel had to be kept as a separate and special nation for the preservation of the Messianic hope. God even had to separate one tribe of Israel as the legal royal lineage of the Messiah. God promised, Gen.3:15; God gave the sign Isa.7:14; God set the time. Gal.4:4-5. As God kept His promise in sending forth His Son as the Saviour, so He will send Him forth as the Shepherd to lead us home to glory! Then in the fullness of time "Thy Kingdom Come" will become a reality. However, God has a schedule to meet and every Word written in the Bible will be fulfilled. This ungodly world under the power of Satan will be thoroughly dealt with as the wrath of God is poured out upon it!

Were it not for the Revelation of Jesus Christ in the final Book of the Bible, we would have problems as to the placing and timing of this terrible onslaught by the Hand of God. However, the Lord has given us great insight as to His coming wrath. It is not always clear as to the sequence of events, but we do have a record as to what this world can expect.

Let us go back to the Book of Zechariah and note some important predictions. In Zechariah 1:7-17. The important feature is the "Red Horse", "The Nations", and "Jerusalem". Then in Zechariah 1:18-2:13. We have reference to the "Four Horns", or the four great empires that have scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem". God's unconditional covenant with Abraham and David still holds, and one day He will dwell with Israel as "Emmanuel" and "The Holy Land" will be restored. These brief statements in prophecy are far reaching, taking one from the scattering of the nation Israel by the four powers, (Babylon, Medo-

Persia, Greece and Rome), to the time when the Son of God will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. Significantly, the "Red Horse" which ties in with Revelation 6:1-8; reminds us of the terribleness of what is going to happen during the Great Tribulation. God the Holy Spirit revealed to Zechariah these things to come and eventually the King of Kings and Lord of Lord's coming and ruling upon the earth. Even the building of the Temple is referred to as a great event. (Zech.6:13.) There is much to be studied in the book of Zechariah, but for the present time I want to take you to Zechariah 12:1-4. This refers to Jerusalem as a "Cup of Trembling" unto all the people around the world. This is so obvious to us in this present day with the middle East getting ready for that great battle of Armageddon. Note Zechariah 12:11. Can you imagine a battle where the horses go blind and the riders go mad? That is exactly what is going to happen during that terrible battle. (Zech.12:3-4; Dan.9:12.)

God the Holy Spirit speaks through Ezekiel 37:1-28 concerning the revival of Israel as a nation and concerning the kingdom that was promised to both Abraham and David with an unconditional covenant. This will come to pass in God's own time. The scene suddenly changes to the armies of the north, known as Russia today. (Ezek.38-39.) I have often wondered how God is going to deal with Russia as that super power, transferring power to the Revival of the Roman Empire. Today we are seeing the Russian nation crumbling, due to her economy. However, we must remember that she is still a tool in Satan's hands and regardless of what peace pacts are made with her and what aid we will be giving to her, she is still in the grips of Satan. However, all events are under the sovereignty of God. Please note the following. "And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him; and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass through. He shall enter also into the GLORIOUS LAND, and many countries shall be overthrown, but these shall escape out of his hand, even Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon." Dan.11:40-41. Somehow and sometime the Armies of the north from the Middle East, which is Russia will enter the "Glorious Land". Note that God has set aside Edom and Moab, to which the remnant of Israel will flee as predicted by Christ. (Matt.24:15-21.) It is also mentioned in Zechariah 14:5; and Revelation 12:6; 12:12-17.)

Now we are ready to examine the conditions under which Russia will enter the Glorious land. Note the various nations involved in this invasion from the north. Gog is the ruling Dictator of Rosh, (Russia), Persia (Iran), Cush and Put (Ethiopia and Libya), Gomer (East Germany), Togar'mah (Armenia, which is held by Russia and Turkey). This attack is to take place in the latter years. (Ezek.38:8, 16.) The timing of the attack will be when Israel is dwelling in safety, which perhaps will be when a 7 year covenant is made with the Revived Roman Empire, (Dan.9:27.) Here are the references, concerning Israel dwelling safely. (Ezek.38:8, 11, 14; Ezek.39:26.) We are not given a time period other than that we know it will take place when these present wars are finished. The conditions will be terrible and darkness shall continue. (Zech.14:6; Rev.8:12.) We do not know the exact timing of God for these events, but we do know the results. One world Government under the power of Satan will continue for a seven year period, known to us as the Great Tribulation. We have sufficient evidence of this in the Book of the Revelation of Jesus Christ.

THE OUTPOURING OF THE WRATH OF GOD.

BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION.

CHAPTER 1.

The glorification of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The unveiling of the Son of God-The Lord Jesus Christ.

The Lord Jesus Christ as Alpha and Omega

The Lord is to be Supreme in the midst of the Body of Christ.

CHAPTERS 2 AND 3.

The Lord's appraisal of His church.

CHAPTERS 4 AND 5.

The True Church in Heaven

The united worship of Almighty God.

The breaking of the seals to usher in the Great Tribulation.

The identification of the Lamb of God.

The new song of the Redeemed from all nations.

CHAPTER 6.

The opening of 6 seals with the beginning of the Great Tribulation.

This gives us a bird's eye view of the beginning of "Jacob's Trouble".

CHAPTERS 7 AND 14.

The 144,000 separated unto God.

Both Jews and Gentiles saved who become tribulation saints.

CHAPTER 8.

The 7th seal opened and a half hour silence.

The appearance of the 7 angelic trumpeters.

The prayers of the saints preserved.

THE FIRST TRUMPET will bring forth hail and fire upon the earth.

1. One third of all the trees on the earth will be burned
2. All the green grass will be burned.

THE SECOND TRUMPET. Pollution and death at sea.

1. One third of the sea will become blood.
2. One third of the sea dwelling creatures will die.
3. One third of the ships will sink.

THE THIRD TRUMPET will cause a great star to fall.

1. One third of all rivers will become bitter
2. Many will die because of the water.

THE FOURTH TRUMPET Destruction in the celestial realm.

1. One third of the sun will be destroyed.
2. One third of the moon will be destroyed.
3. One third of the stars will be destroyed.
4. One third part of the light by day and night to be destroyed.

CHAPTER 9.

THE FIFTH TRUMPET will cause Satan to be cast out of heaven.

1. Satan the great star will fall and be cast down to earth.
2. The bottomless pit to be opened by Satan.
3. An army of demons will be released and led by General Destroyer.
4. The earth to be invaded for 5 months.

THE SIXTH TRUMPET. The Euphrates will become alive with angelic demons.

1. The four fallen angels under the Euphrates will be released.
2. Their army of 200,000 will slay one third of all human beings in one year, one month one day and one hour.
3. The remainder of human beings will not repent.

CHAPTER 10.

A MIGHTY ANGEL. A secret message to John.

1. The little scroll was the title deed to the earth.
2. What John saw was not to be written.
3. John was given the scroll to eat.

CHAPTER 11.

TIMES OF THE GENTILES COMING TO A CLOSE.

1. The Temple measured.
2. Forty two months remaining of the Great Tribulation, which is known as the "Abomination of Desolation".
3. God's two witnesses of the coming kingdom.
 - a. Two Olive trees a symbol of Israel.
 - b. Moses and Elijah.

THE SEVENTH TRUMPET. Amazing events recorded.

1. God's assurance that His kingdom would be established upon the earth.
2. Resurrection of both Believers and Unbelievers assured.
3. Judgement upon the wicked confirmed.
4. The Heavenly Temple to be opened

CHAPTER 12.

THE TURN OF HEAVENLY EVENTS, USHERING IN THE ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION.

1. The great wonder in Heaven of Israel.
2. The great red dragon, Israel's arch enemy.
3. Satan drew one third of God's angels.
4. The Messiah to rule with a rod of Iron upon the earth.
5. Israel to be persecuted during the great tribulation for 1,260 days, but a place of refuge will be prepared for her.
6. The great battle in heaven is recorded, with Michael the Archangel and his army becoming the victors.

CHAPTER 13.

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF "THE REVIVED ROMAN EMPIRE."

1. The rise of the revival of the Roman Empire.
2. The First Beast to be the Dictator of the whole world under the power of Satan.
3. The Dragon will make war with the Tribulation Saints.
4. The rise of the second Beast out from the Middle East, the false prophet from Jerusalem.
5. Idols will be set up in the Holy Land and within the Temple.
6. The mark of the Beast will be enforced. 6 6 6

CHAPTER 14.

THE 144,000 AND THE LAMB OF GOD.

1. The 144,000 will be sealed with God's Name pronounced.
2. The Tribulation song of the Saints pictured.
3. The everlasting Gospel will be proclaimed and portrayed.
4. Mystery Babylon's fall predicted.
5. The Wrath of God to be poured out upon those with the mark of the Beast. (6 6 6) prophesied.
6. Blessed will be the dead Tribulation Saints, their righteousness provided.

7. The Son of Man will go forth to battle personally. (Armageddon)

CHAPTERS 15 AND 16.

THE SEVEN BOWL JUDGMENTS. The seven last plagues of the wrath of God.

Mosaic song to be sung by a multitude.

THE FIRST BOWL OF THE WRATH OF GOD.

An out burst of terrible sores upon those with the mark of the Beast.

THE SECOND BOWL OF WRATH.

1. The sea will turn to blood.
2. All the sea creatures will die.

THE THIRD BOWL OF WRATH.

The rivers will turn into blood.

THE FOURTH BOWL OF WRATH.

1. Terrific heat from the sun will fall upon mankind.
2. God will be blasphemed by the wicked who do not repent.

THE FIFTH BOWL OF WRATH.

1. The Beast's kingdom will turn to darkness.
2. Pain and sores will break out without resulting in repentance.

THE SIXTH BOWL OF WRATH.

1. The Euphrates will dry up.
2. The kings of the East will invade according to Daniel 11:44.

THE GREAT BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON PREDICTED.

THE SEVENTH BOWL OF WRATH.

1. Angelic declaration of a completed work by God.

2. A mighty earthquake will strike the Great City of Jerusalem.
3. Islands will sink and the mountains disappear.
4. Hail stones in 100 lb weights will fall upon the earth.

CHAPTERS 17 AND 18.

THE DOOM OF MYSTERY BABYLON. Apostate Christendom and religions of the world are doomed.

1. The Great religious system throughout the world.
2. Political powers have used this mass movement for personal benefits regardless of the issues involved.
3. The Beast will use this religious system to come into world wide power.
4. The ecumenical combination of religions.
5. The Beast will destroy these powerful religions after he achieves his power through them.
6. The Demon from the bottomless pit will possess the Beast.
7. Seven empires dominated Israel and the eighth will be the revival of the Roman Empire.
8. The Lamb of God shall be the Victor as the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.
9. A great and powerful angel from heaven declares that Mystery Babylon will be destroyed.
- 10 People of all nations are warned to come out from among such who will be doomed, for the Lord our God has judged her.
- 11 Those tradesmen who deal with the ecumenical religious system will mourn because of their loss of profit.

CHAPTERS 19 AND 20.

THE MARRIAGE OF THE LAMB OF GOD.

1. The Hallelujah chorus of salvation.
2. The Lord will reign.

3. The Bride will be adorned and ready for the marriage.
4. The Friends of the Bridegroom will be invited to the marriage.

THE GREAT BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON.

1. The Lord Jesus Christ mounted upon the white horse, will come forth from heaven.
2. The Lord will go forth to battle the satanic powers upon the earth.
3. The Believers of all ages will follow upon white horses as observers.
4. The Lord will destroy the enemies with His Word.
5. The Beast and the false prophet will be cast into the lake of fire forever.
6. Satan will be cast into the bottomless pit for 1,000 years.
7. The Saints of God will live and rule with Christ for the thousand years.
8. Satan will be loosed for a little while for his final battle and defeated and cast into the lake of fire with his demons forever and ever.
9. The Great White throne will occur after the kingdom age, when all of the unregenerate of all ages will be raised from the dead to stand and bow before the Lord Jesus Christ.

CHAPTER 21.

THE NEW HEAVENS AND EARTH AND THE NEW JERUSALEM.

CHAPTER 22.

THE NEW PARADISE OF THE EVERLASTING CREATION OF GOD.

This gives you a brief outline of the Book of Revelation and the wrath of God will be dealt with in more detail. This Book covers a tremendous scope in God's great plan. It carries us through the present church age, with the church finally in heaven during the great tribulation. The terrible wrath of God will fall upon this ungodly world during that seven year period and culminates with the coming of the Lord to set up His Kingdom of Righteousness for the thousand years, passing into an eternal Kingdom where sin will never appear again.

THE SEVEN SEALED SCROLL TO BE OPENED.

In Revelation chapter 6 we have a pre-televised view of the opening of six of the seven seals. This is to be a reality when we as Believers stand before God in Heaven clothed upon with our eternal glorified body. Please observe how Satan counterfeits what God

predicts, and deceives people as to what God has declared. The opening of these seals, which is future, cannot be opened until the complete Bride of Christ is present with the Lord. John had a pre-view of all of this and it has been written for our admonition. As you study the outline of Chapter 6, you are reminded of the terrible wrath of God with a pollution beyond description, causing countless deaths. War, famine, pestilence, plagues and the stench of death will be found everywhere. These judgments of the six seals are but the beginning of the wrath of God. The seventh seal caused a terrible silence throughout heaven for about half of an hour. It reminds one of the silence before the storm.

The seven trumpeters appear and as the first trumpet will sound, hail stones will pour down upon the whole world with fire and blood everywhere. There will be forest fires everywhere with one third of all the trees burned and as much grass will also be burned. What a terrible situation will exist all over the world at the same time.

The second trumpet will sound and the third part of the sea turns to blood, a third of all living creatures in the sea dying, and no doubt causing one third of the ships to be destroyed. The sea may not affect the drinking water from the rivers, but when the third trumpet sounds, then the rivers will become bitter and many who drink the water will die. As the fourth trumpet sounds, God's wrath will be poured down from the sun, the moon and the stars. This will cause darkness upon the earth. At about this time which will take some three and a half years of the tribulation, there will be a great battle in heaven which Isaiah chapter 14 verses 12 to 17 predicted, would take place. When that fifth trumpet will sound, the battle in heaven will be over and Satan and his demons will be cast out of heaven forever. His final place of abode will be upon the face of the earth until finally cast into the lake of fire. God will assign Michael the Archangel and his army to throw Satan out of heaven, according to Rev.9:1-12; Rev.12:7-12. This will be the beginning of "The Abomination of Desolation" spoken of by Daniel and confirmed by Christ. Satan then will have access to another great army of demons which have been locked up in the bottomless pit from the day that they revolted against God Almighty. This army of demons will attack mankind for a period of 5 months.

As the sixth trumpet will sound, the scene will change and our attention will turn to the Euphrates river. There are 4 terrible fallen angels held captive by God under the river with their army of 200,000 demons. They will kill one third of all of the men in the world during their siege of one year, one month, one day and one hour, to be exact. (Rev.9:13-21.)

There will be a pause in the out pouring of the wrath of God as we review Revelation chapter 10-11:2. Those skeptics who try to classify the Book of Revelation as a mere spiritual dream, need to take note of the time periods mentioned, as well as the actual measuring of the Temple in Jerusalem, which is to be built. The Mighty Angel from God had the title deed scroll in his hand and revealed some things to John which were not to be written. John was to measure the Temple, and eventually he was given the scroll to eat. It was actually sweet and bitter as he ate it, proving that what John was beholding as previewed, was real and not just a wild dream. These things which were to follow had previously been predicted by Daniel. The length of time of the Abomination of Desolation would be "forty two months"! This amounts to three and one half years, dating from the casting out of Satan from heaven until Christ would return to set up His kingdom of righteousness. God sets this forth very plainly. May I also add, that God had promised to send Elijah to herald the King of kings and Lord of lords. (Mal.4:5.) John the Baptist was sent as a substitute for Elijah, while Christ was present the first time, because in God's omniscience He knew that Christ would be rejected as the Messiah. God never says

anything amiss and so in Revelation 11:3-14; we have the appearing of both Moses and Elijah and all people will be without excuse. How long do they witness upon the earth? Rev.11:3 tells us that they shall witness 1,260 days or three and one half years. This will be during the Abomination of Desolation. Read this account carefully.

The seventh trumpet is of great importance and we rejoice in the fact that, "The kingdom of this world is become the Kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever." (Rev.11:15.) The Temple in Heaven will then be opened at this time in preparations for the final judgments and rewards. This will not conclude the wrath of God upon the earth, or Satan's terrible onslaught, especially against Israel. (Rev.12:1-6.) Israel will have to flee to the hills of Edom as a place of refuge during this terrible persecution by the Red Dragon. Again we are told of the time period, which is 1,260 days or three and one half years. How do the critics of the Bible explain away these definite facts?

The future war in heaven is clearly set forth in Revelation 12:7-17. As has always been true with Satan being a spirit, he must take upon or indwell a material creature, or influence such a one. So Revelation chapter 13 describes the two beasts, the one for the revival of the Roman Empire and the second Beast as the false prophet from the Holy Land. Satan empowers the first Beast and the Demon as General of his demon army from out of the pit, indwells the second Beast. (Rev.11:7.) During these last three and one half years of the Great Tribulation, Satan's hell will break loose upon the earth. The Lord describes it as the most terrible time that will ever face His creation of all times. (Matt.24:21.) God's chosen vessels will be greatly persecuted and many killed. During this time the everlasting Gospel will be preached, Moses and Elijah will bear testimony, the 144,000 from Israel will witness and the majority of them will be killed. There will be countless numbers saved during the Tribulation in spite of the threat of death.

John is then given the vision of the future battle of Armageddon. (Rev.14:14-20.) This will be "the great winepress of the wrath of God". As we have already described some of the terrible things that will happen during this great battle in the valley of Megiddo, here we read, "And the winepress was trodden outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs." Rev.14:20. (600 feet to a furlong)

What we have already reviewed is certainly terrible enough, as the wrath of God is poured out. However, there is more of the wrath of God to be poured out according to this scroll which John had seen. Revelation chapters 15 and 16 give us a terrible picture of the seven bowl judgments of God. It is amazing that the Temple of God will be opened during these judgments, but rightly so. God had provided the Supreme Sacrifice of His Son, and provided the Mercy Seat, with Christ being both King and priest, "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him". Jn.3:36.

As the first angel pours out the first bowl of wrath, the whole world breaks out in terrible sores. What Job suffered will not to be compared with this foul and painful type of sore. This will fall upon all with the mark of the beast. This will be followed by a second bowl of wrath upon the sea and all living creatures die. What will the environmentalists do with this situation? This is followed by the third bowl of the wrath of God upon the fresh waters and they turn to blood. The cry will go forth for pure water at any cost. I am sure that all of the soda businesses will have a tremendous profit as long as their supply lasts. With all of the thirst that Satan's followers will have, they now will have to face a

scorched earth policy of God with terrible heat and fire. This comes about with the fourth bowl of wrath.

Now attention will be turned to the revival of the Roman Empire where the Beast dwells. The fifth bowl of the wrath of God will bring complete darkness to his empire, causing great pain and sores. One could conclude that perhaps when Russia makes her sneak attack upon the Holy land that the Revived Roman Empire is in darkness and unable to help. No one but God knows what the situation will be. One could draw this supposition from what follows as recorded in Revelation 16:12. The sixth bowl of wrath will dry up the Euphrates river, allowing the hordes of the East to cross and come into the Holy land. Revelation 16:13-21; gives us another glance at what the battle of Armageddon will be like, with hail stones one hundred pounds in weight.

The ecumenical movement of today as seen with the World Council of Churches and other mingled religions, having a form of godliness but denying the truth, are but forerunners of "Apostate Christendom" which will help put the Beast into power. (Rev.17:3-6.) Politicians have always bowed to special voting groups that will bring them votes in order to get into office. So the Beast of those latter days will use the cloak of religion to help him form a one world government. The seventh bowl of the wrath of God will then be ready to destroy these false religious systems, known as "Mystery Babylon". Now we can understand what Daniel had written concerning the seven heads and the ten horns of the revived Roman Empire. This false religion will be hated by the Revival of the Roman Empire. (Rev.17:16.) God will allow the wicked Beast to destroy this system forever! God will send a powerful angel from heaven to cry with a mighty voice against mystery Babylon. These religious groups place themselves as a ruling Queen, but shall fall to nothing by the wrath of God. The merchants of the world shall cry and feel sorry for themselves in the loss of this great profit of silks and satin, gold, silver and precious stones.

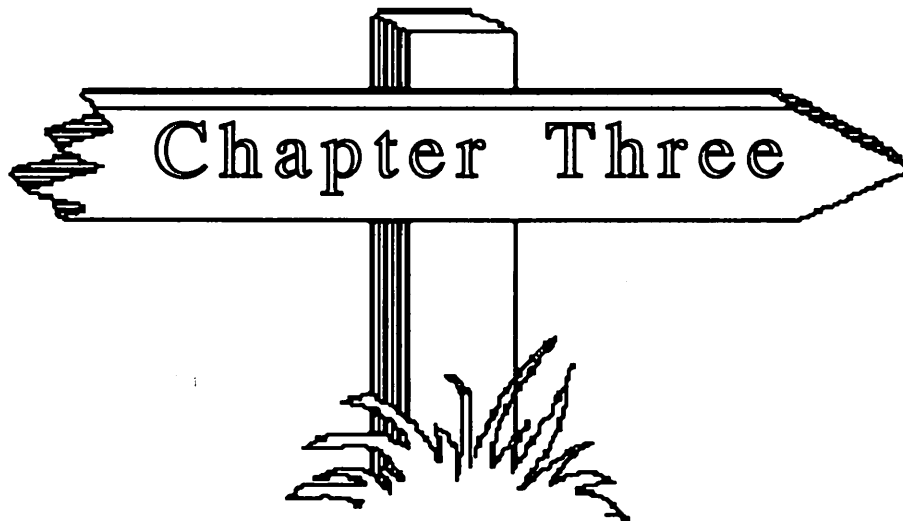
As we have reviewed what is to come during those seven years of Great Tribulation, one could say, enough is enough, BUT GOD is now ready to send His own Son to pour out the final wrath of God upon all mankind. In the fullness of time, God will send forth His Son as recorded in Revelation chapter 19 verses 7-21. We, as Believers, will be there to see this great victory of Christ as the King of kings and Lord of lords. The Beast and the false prophet will be cast immediately into the Lake of fire as their judgement forever and ever. Satan will be bound and cast into the bottomless pit for a thousand year term and placed on parole for a season before he gets his final prison sentence forever. Satan has been the god of this world system and unto the final day, he will use mankind to achieve this goal. Natural man desires to rule this world apart from God and always has been an easy prey for Satan. It will be Satan, that red dragon, who will give the Beast power and a great seat of authority. (Rev.13:2b.) The only way that you can escape the clutches of Satan is to turn to the Lord Jesus Christ, the author and finisher of our faith. You have been warned of the wrath of God according to the Bible and you are without excuse. "He that is forewarned, is forearmed". Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. and no one can come to God the Father, except by Him. (John 14:6.)

QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE WRATH OF GOD.

1. Give proof of the total depravity of all mankind. Cite Scripture.

2. What indications do we have that the world is not getting better? Write briefly on this subject.
3. Name some Biblical judgments of God in the past and describe according to God's Word.
4. How does God protect the Tribulation Saints from the onslaught of Satan and the Beasts?
5. What tribe is missing from the 144,000 Virgins during the Tribulation? Who takes the place? Why is this particular tribe disqualified?
6. Who are the witnesses during the Tribulation? Give Scriptures.
7. What do you understand about the "Abomination of Desolation? Cite Scripture and tell as to when it will begin and what length of time according to the Scripture.
8. When will the seals of the scroll be broken to start the Tribulation as recorded in Revelation?
9. Give 5 reasons why the True Church does not go through the Tribulation. Cite Scripture.
10. Give important events taking place, fulfilling Scripture.
11. Write concerning the seven seals, the seven trumpets and the seven bowls of the wrath of God.
12. Explain the meaning of Matthew 24:15-22. and Revelation 12:13-17.
13. Give a brief outline of the Book of Revelation.
14. What is to happen to all apostate worship during the tribulation?
15. Explain the resurrection of the dead.
16. The second Beast, who will be known as the false prophet, give a description of him and write briefly as to what land he will come from.
17. How do we know that people will be saved during the Great Tribulation? Cite Scripture.
18. Why is it necessary for God's wrath to be poured out upon all people including Israel?
19. What would you, according to your opinion, say the most terrible out pouring of God's wrath will be?
20. When does Christ as the Son of God pour out His wrath upon wicked mankind?

THE KINGDOM FROM GOD



Rev 20 : 4 - 6

CHAPTER 3

"THE KINGDOM FROM GOD"

INTRODUCTION.

The prayer that Christ taught the Disciples was of great importance, especially concerning the coming kingdom from God. Note how this prayer starts, "After this manner, therefore, pray ye: Our Father, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven." Matt.6:9-10. The earthly kingdoms have been stolen by Satan, who has set himself up as the god of this world system. Satan offered these kingdoms to Christ, if He would just bow down and worship him. This is exactly what the nations of the world are doing to this very day. They are bowing down to Satan in their manner of life with only a humanistic outlook. God is sovereign over all, but having given both angels and mankind the right of choice, this has brought chaos in God's whole realm. God in His omniscience prepared for this before the foundation of the world. God has a Master plan for all ages with the result of a new order where there would never be the threat of sin again. God's new creation will be absolutely perfect in every phase of His creation.

This whole world system, controlled by Satan, is totally depraved and every individual born into this system is brain washed by Satan. (2 Cor.4:4.) Make no mistake about it, Satan is a powerful being, the greatest creature that God ever created. However he is subject to the sovereignty of God and must give an account before Almighty God, as we have an example in the life of Job. Yes, he does accuse us as Believers day and night before God. (Rev.12:10.) That is why we need an Advocate before God the Father who can plead our case, based upon paying the debt of our sins on the cross. Christ alone can restore the right relationship with the Father through His sacrificial death and resurrection. Satan has been judged at the cross, but his sentence is postponed until the fullness of God's time is come. A thousand years before God is but a mere day, for our God of eternity is never limited to time, except where He desires to do so.

Many Christians are confused about the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ to set up His earthly Kingdom of Righteousness. There are many professional religious people who deny the truth of the Bible, and others who declare that the Bible merely contains some of God's revelation. There are others who declare that the Bible is but one of many religious books and all religions are acceptable to God. These professionals are usually called "Liberals" and deny the virgin birth of Christ, the new birth by God the Holy Spirit, and the blood atonement for sins. They have a beautiful message of how the world is getting better, and eventually through a new socialized order, everything will become a "Utopia"! Others ignore the "Rapture" truth and will teach that when the Lord Jesus comes in the sky that He will immediately set up His kingdom upon the earth. The Hebrew people had the same problem. They overlooked the coming of the Lord as the one who would be "wounded for our transgressions". (Ps.22 and Isa.53.) All they wanted was a deliverer from the heel of Rome.

When Jesus was brought before Caiaphas the high priest, as well as the Sanhedrin (Mk.14:53-65; Matt.26:57-68) and was asked by the high priest, (Matt.26:63.) "I adjure thee by the Living God, that thou tell us whether thou be the Christ, the Son of God." Jesus answered as only the Son of God could answer. (Matt.26:64.) "Jesus saith unto him, thou

hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, hereafter shall ye see the Son of Man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of Heaven." It is very essential that the Lord comes in the clouds to receive His own, "out from the wrath to come". 1 Thess.1:10. I also wish to remind you that the Tribulation cannot start until the complete Body of Christ is in Heaven. (Rev.4 & 5.) The Kingdom cannot start until we all return with the Lord. (1 Thess.3:13.) Also note that at this present time, Israel is returning to her land in the Middle East. If possible, get a copy of the booklet, "The Coming of the Lord" by Andrew J. Losier.

We are all aware of the struggle in the Middle East, which began when Israel was re-instated as a nation. These holy wars will continue until the Lord Himself comes with a rod of iron to set up His glorious righteous kingdom. The Moslem world will not accept Isaac as the one possessing the birthright to the inheritance of the land, which extends from the Euphrates River to the River Egypt. Saddam Husein was one of many of the Moslems who would like to utterly destroy Israel and claim possession of the Holy Land of Israel. Yes, Ishmael was the first son born to Abraham, but was rejected by the Lord as one born of a bond woman. Genesis chapter 25 clearly states that Isaac was given the birthright and blessings by God.

Israel is being regathered back in her homeland by the power and authority of God. As the revival of the Roman Empire takes place, there will eventually be a 7 year covenant made with Israel. This will not be in weakness but in power. Israel will have gained some commodity that the rest of the world will want a share of, and so the agreement will be made. However, at the end of 3 1/2 years, that covenant will be broken, when the Dictator of the world will be in full command. This will be called the "Abomination of Desolation". This will also trigger off a terrible persecution against Israel, and the Lord gives us a description of this in Matthew chapter 24. God will maintain His witness during those terrible days through Angelic hosts, the 144,000 of the tribes of Israel, Elijah and Moses. The Gospel of the Kingdom will be preached under severe conditions. Many from Israel will flee to the hills for God's special protection as a place of refuge. Now let us look at the outline of Kingdom truths to be considered.

OUTLINE.

I. THE PROPHECY OF THE COMING OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.

II. THE CONDITIONS OF THE WORLD WHEN THE KINGDOM COMES ON EARTH.

III. THE MIGHTY POWER OF GOD AT HIS COMING.

IV. THE REASON FOR THE COMING KINGDOM.

V. THE CONDITIONS AND DURATION OF THE KINGDOM OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.

I. THE PROPHECY OF THE COMING OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.

The coming of the Lord Jesus Christ to set up His kingdom on earth has been thoroughly foretold in the Scripture and must not be confused with the rapture of the true church. The true church's citizenship is in heaven, where she will become the Bride of Christ. As the prophets of old were given information of the coming of the Messiah, the Incarnate one, being born in Bethlehem of Judea, they also were given the information of the coming of the Lord to establish His kingdom on earth. The Lord Jesus Christ spent His whole earthly ministry explaining what the Kingdom was to be like, even during the 40 days after the resurrection. The Lord continually taught about the kingdom throughout His earthly ministry. He was rejected as the King and the kingdom was postponed, ushering in the "church Age" or the age of grace. At the present time the True church of the Lord Jesus Christ is being gathered and when this body of Christ is complete, the rapture will take place as we already discussed.

The dramatical change in the history of mankind and the preparation for the Eternal King and kingdom begins in the separation of the family of Shem. (Gen.11:10-32.) From here on through the Bible there will be only the lineage of Shem to be dealt with in preparation for the coming of the Messiah. God then separated Abram who became Abraham to become the possessor of the unconditional covenant, as we have in Genesis chapter 12. The title deed to all the land from the Euphrates river to the river Egypt is Israel's land forever. (Gen.13:15; Gen.15:18; Deut.32:8.) It is true that they never occupied all of this land, but nevertheless it belongs to Israel. Abraham became aware of something better than this present life and lived accordingly. "By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing where he went. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God" Heb.11:8-10. As a very wealthy man, Abraham could have built himself one of the greatest castles and dwelt in comfort for his entire life. Why didn't he? He was waiting for that kingdom of God to be established upon the earth. That in itself was a great witness before the whole known world.

Now that God has chosen out that particular family and tribe from all nations, there would be the process of elimination within Israel and God chose the tribe of Judah to provide the Messianic hope. "Judah, thou art he whom thy brethren shall praise; thy hand shall be in the neck of thine enemies; thy father's children shall bow down before thee. Judah is a lion's whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he crouched as a lion, and as an old lion. Who shall rouse him up? The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh (to whom it belongs) come; and unto Him shall the gathering of the people be. Binding his foal unto the vine and his ass's colt unto the choice vine he washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes. His eyes shall be red with wine, and his teeth white with milk." Gen.49:8-12. This can only refer to the Lord Jesus Christ, the Messiah. Compare this with the following references. (Ezek.21:27; Isa.63:3-7; Rev.14:19-20; Rev.19:15.) These are but a few of the references referring to the wrath of God being poured out against His enemies as the kingdoms of this world become the kingdom of God.

From the Tribe of Judah, God selects a particular man by the name of David. Here an unconditional covenant is made by God to David, that he would never lack for a son

to sit upon his throne. (2 Sam.7:16,24; 1 Ki.8:23; 1 Ki.9:5; 1 Chron.17:11-13.) That promise began with King Solomon and ends with the Lord Jesus Christ. It is true that this great kingdom is still in the future, but the King of kings is eternal in the heavens and is waiting upon the Father to bring in the kingdom. The rapture must first take place, gathering the saints of all ages into heaven to behold the marvels of God as the world passes through a terrible world wide tribulation.

The Old Testament is filled with assurances of this kingdom of righteousness in which the Lord Jesus Christ will reign. The earliest record that we have of this promise of God is found written by Enoch, of the seventh generation from Adam. A record of Enoch's writings is found in Jude 14, 15. "And Enoch also the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of His saints, to execute judgement upon all, and to convict all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him." Genesis 3:15 tells us of the identification of this kingly person with the sign, "The seed of the woman", rather than the seed of man. Isa.7:14. gives both the sign and the name of the Ruler to come. "Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a sign; Behold the virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son, and shall call His Name Immanuel." This birth was not of a young woman having a child, but rather a virgin. This is verified by the actual birth of the Lord Jesus Christ. "Now the birth of Jesus Christ was in this way; When as His mother, Mary, was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit." Matt.1:18. The eternal Son of God, took upon Himself a body like as ours, except without the sin nature.

Now let us go to Isaiah 9:6-7. "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, Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon His kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with justice and with righteousness, from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform it." What could be clearer than these statements as to the coming of the Eternal Son of God to usher in the kingdom of righteousness? Isaiah chapter 11 reveals some of the particulars of this kingdom and again reiterates the lineage of David, Christ shall come forth as a rod out of the stem of Jesse.

We will discuss the characteristics of this kingdom later on, so let us follow Judah into captivity among the Babylonians. Judah was separated from ten of the tribes of Israel by this captivity, for their individual punishment as well as their protection. Ezekiel was Judah's spiritual leader during these trying times. God placed Daniel in the royal position so that God the Holy Spirit would use him for the rise and fall of four kingdoms, namely Babylon, Medo-Persians, Greece and Rome. Israel shall revive as portrayed in Ezekiel 37. Nations shall come against Israel as in Ezekiel 38 and 39. These punishments are upon Israel because of idolatry and their false leaders, but God will maintain a remnant and regather them back in their land. The Middle East is coming into the lime light of world affairs, which is all in preparation of the coming of the Lord to rapture His own out of this world and eventually return with a rod of iron to set up His kingdom. (Psalm 2:9; Rev.2:27; Rev.19:15.) Ezekiel reminds the children of Judah that the Lord will restore all things and the glory of the Lord will shine again in the City of Jerusalem.

Let us explore what Daniel the prophet has recorded, concerning the coming kingdom of righteousness. God the Holy Spirit had revealed great truths to Daniel,

concerning these four kingdoms and their bitter end. "Blessed be the Name of God forever and ever; for wisdom and might are His, and He changeth the times, and the seasons; He removeth kings, and setteth up kings; He giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to those who know understanding" Dan.2:20b-21. Christ is then revealed as that great stone which will dash to pieces all earthly kingdoms of wickedness. "Thou sawest until a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon the feet that were of iron and clay, and broke them to pieces." Dan.2:34. "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 forever." Dan.2:44. "And the kingdom and dominion and greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey Him." Dan.7:27. These are tremendous statements as to the coming of the Kingdom of righteousness.

The minor prophets deal with Israel's punishment and the regathering in the final days. They warned Israel against their sinful life. The day of the Lord would come with judgement upon the wicked. "I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the Valley of Jehoshaphat (Valley of judgement and decision), and will judge them there for my people and for my heritage, Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land" Joel 3:2. All of this leads up to the establishing of the kingdom of righteousness which the Lord will establish. Amos comes out very strongly against sin as well as the restoration of Israel and then adds, "In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches of it; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old." Amos.9:11.

Micah comes out strongly with judgement and concludes with the promises of the future and glorious reign of the Messiah. "But thou, Bethlehem Ephrathah, 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." Micah 5:2.

Zechariah also reveals important information about the coming kingdom. "Jerusalem shall be inhabited like towns without walls for the multitude of men and cattle in it; For I, saith the Lord, will be unto it a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of it." Zech.2:4b-5. "Sing and rejoice, O daughter of zion; for, lo, I come, and I will dwell in the midst of thee, saith the Lord. And many nations shall be joined to the Lord in that day, and shall be my people; and I will dwell in the midst of thee, and thou shalt know that the Lord of hosts hath sent me unto thee. And the Lord shall inherit Judah as His portion in the Holy Land, and shall choose Jerusalem again". Zech.2:10-12. The temple shall be built. Zech.6:15. The kingdom shall be restored. Zech.8:1-8. Zechariah was given a very important revelation as follows. "In that day shall the Lord defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and he that is feeble among them at that day shall be like David; and the house of David shall be like God, like the Angel of the Lord before them. and it shall come to pass. in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. 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. In that day shall there be great mourning in Jerusalem, as the mourning of Hadadrimmon (a city), in the valley of Megiddon." Zech.12:8-11.

Malachi reveals to us the very one who will herald the coming of the Lord to set up His kingdom. "Behold, I will send you Elijah, the prophet, before the coming of the great and terrible day of the Lord; And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse" Mal.4:5-6.

Certainly these Old Testament references should verify the coming of the Lord to set up His Kingdom of righteousness. That great kingdom was postponed because Israel rejected her Messiah. God in His omniscience knew this, giving the Eternal Son an opportunity to call out from the whole world a "Bride" to be. He has promised to return and receive a great throng of Believers and present her to God the Father for His approval. The Father's mansions will be a prepared place for a prepared bride. With great activity in heaven we also will await the marriage, the feast and fellowship with saints of all ages. In the fullness of time Heaven will open and we will descend to earth with the Lord and behold the King of kings and Lord of lords take His kingdom upon earth and rule with a rod of iron for a thousand years.

II. THE CONDITIONS OF THE WORLD WHEN THE KINGDOM COMES ON EARTH.

As the Saints of all ages will gather in the heavenly realm at the time of the rapture (1 Thess.4:13-18.) we are told in the Scripture that a great tribulation will take place on earth for seven years. The Lord describes these days, "For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved; but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened." Matt.24:21-22.

At this present time there is the restraining power of God the Holy Spirit, who not only dwells within the Christians but He manifests His power in the world. "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. And when He is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgement: Of sin, because they believe not on me; Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; Of judgement, because the prince of this world is judged." Jn.16:7-11. However, when the rapture takes place, then that restraining power will be lifted and hell will break loose on earth. Note 2 Thess.2:3-8. "Let no man deceive you by any means; for that day shall not come, except there come the 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, showing 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 restraineth that he might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work; only He who now hindereth will continue to hinder until He be taken out of the way. And then shall that wicked one be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of His mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of His coming."

Although wickedness is prevalent throughout the world in our day, there will be a tremendous increase of wickedness when the rapture takes place. Man's wrath combined with God's wrath will be terrible as the Lord Himself described it. The 70th week of Daniel, or Jacob's trouble will overflow upon the whole world. Revelation chapters 6

through 18 fully describes the world's conditions. Just to name a few of these judgments during the Great Tribulation, such as -

1. False peace will bring the wicked dictator into power.
2. Universal war, famine and death.
3. Heavenly and earthly climatic disturbances.
4. Hail and fire mixed with blood will destroy one third part of the trees and burn all of the grass.
5. A third part of the seas will become as blood, killing a third of all living creatures in the sea and destroys a third part of the ships with a world wide pollution.
6. A third part of the rivers will become bitter and many die.
7. The heavenly stars, moon and sun will be darkened.
8. The "Abomination of Desolation" spoken of by Daniel and confirmed by Christ will take place as Satan will be thrown out of heaven by Michael and his angels. This will give added power to the dictator of the world and cause great killing among the Tribulation Saints.
9. A great army of demons, now in the bottomless pit will be released and they will torture many for a period of 5 months.
10. Four demons and their armies will be loosed from under the Euphrates and will slay one third of all of the men upon the earth during a period of 1 year, 1 month, 1 day and 1 hour. The wickedness will be so great upon the earth that the rest of the people refuse to repent of their sins.
11. During the "Abomination of Desolation", God will have His 144,000 proclaiming the Gospel of the kingdom. There will also be angelic witnesses, as well as Moses and Elijah, whom they will eventually kill in their rejection of God. God will even raise Moses and Elijah and bring them back to heaven, and shake the earth, killing 7,000 men.
12. The Beast International will be so powerful and will demand worship, which will be confirmed by the false prophet and set himself up in the Jerusalem Temple as very God. While the Tribulation Saints will receive the seal of God, all others will be under the power of the Dictator and be compelled to take the mark of the Beast, if they want the privilege of existence.
13. The wrath of God will be poured out upon the earth with plagues, such as bodily sores, sea of blood with all the creatures dying. The rivers and streams will also be turned to blood, the earth to be scorched, tremendous darkness will fall upon the Dictator's

realm, the demons then rage upon the earth and there will be a great disappearing of the Islands with hail stones falling with a weight of 100 lbs.

14. The doom of the ecumenical religions will come as a surprising blow to all and especially the merchants, who will lose their business and a severe darkness will cover the earth.

These conditions will exist during our seven glorious years in Heaven with the Saints of all ages. The Old Testament also gives us the description of the wrath of God upon the earth during these terrible days. As the ruling Beast, the False Prophet and the Demonic realm exalt evil, then the mighty power of God will break forth.

III.THE MIGHTY POWER OF GOD AT HIS COMING.

As we study the terrible conditions upon this earth under the rule of Satan, we can understand why the Lord has to come in person and manifest His mighty power. The Heavens will open and the King of kings and Lord of Lords will come forth riding upon a white horse, followed by angelic hosts and the Saints of God. A battle is to be fought by the Lord Himself and we shall behold His mighty power. "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". Rev.19:11. We are reminded of the very words which the Lord spoke. "When the Son of man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory. And before Him shall be gathered all the nations; and He shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats." Matt.25:31-32. However as Christ will approach to set up His kingdom of righteousness, He will be challenged by the wicked forces upon earth under the leadership of Satan himself.

The Mighty Son of God will face principalities and power and the rulers of darkness alone as we observe His eternal power. He will be seen as ready for war. Here is how the Apostle John saw Him pre-televised, "His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns; and He had a Name written, that no man knew, but He Himself. And He was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood; and His Name is called The Word of God. And the armies that were in heaven followed Him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of His mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it He should smite the nations, and He shall rule them with a rod of iron; and He treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He hath on His vesture and on His thigh a Name written, **King of Kings, and Lord of Lords.** Rev.19:12-16.

This reminds me of what the Holy Spirit had David to write. "Why do the nations rage, and the peoples imagine a vain thing? The kings of earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord, and against His anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. He Who sitteth in the heavens shall laugh; the Lord shall have them in derision. Then shall He speak unto them in His wrath, and vex them in His great displeasure. Yet have I set my King upon my holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree: The Lord hath said unto me, Thou art My Son; this day have I begotten thee. Ask of me, and I shall give thee the nations for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel. Be wise now, therefore, O ye kings; be instructed, ye judges of the earth. Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with

trembling. Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, and ye perish from the way, when His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they who put their trust in Him." Psalm 2:1-12.

No matter what weapons of warfare are used against Christ at His coming, they shall all be destroyed. "And He shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers, even as I received of My Father." Rev.2:27. While the Lord was with His disciples He taught them many eternal truths, which they could not always understand, until after Pentecost. These deep things can only be understood as God the Holy Spirit teaches us and guides us into all truth. (Jn.16:13; Rom.8:14.) With the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ to set up His kingdom of righteousness, there must be a cleansing and separation. Turn with me to Matthew chapter 25, and verses 31-41. There we learn of the separation of the sheep from the goats, or in other words, the Believers from the unbelievers. All nations will have to come before His mighty power and be judged. There will be great changes upon the earth and we will discuss the various reasons for the Lord coming to set up His kingdom. All those unbelievers will be judged and eventually cast into the Lake of fire to remain there forever and ever.

The mighty power of God will be seen as the Lord sits upon the white horse, clothed in battle dress. The dragon and the Beast and the False prophet will make their stand at the battle of Armageddon, counterfeiting the Triune God and deceiving countless numbers through the unclean spirits. (demons) These armies shall be drunk with evil power, thinking that they will defeat the very Son of God as He approaches them. (Rev.16:13-16. The battle may not last long but it will be a terrible sight "For they are the spirits of demons, working miracles, that 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." Rev.16:14. We have another description of the coming of the Lord in Revelation 14:14. "And I looked and, behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat, like the Son of Man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle" The Son of God will be ready to harvest in judgement, with justice and truth. God the Father will send forth His Son in the fullness of time. The Lord describes this terrible battle as the winepress. "And the angel thrust in his sickle into earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. And the winepress was trodden outside the city, (Jerusalem) and blood came out the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs." (1 furlong = 600 ft.) Rev.14:19-20.

For a fuller description of this great battle of Almighty God against the evil forces, we find this foretold in Zech.12:1-9. As Jerusalem is a continual burden to all the nations it truly becomes a "cup of Trembling" (Zech.12:2.) What I want you to particularly see is verse 4. "In that day, saith the Lord, I will smite every horse with terror, and his rider with madness; and I will open mine eyes upon the house of Judah, and will smite every horse of the people with blindness." Can you imagine the great confusion which will take place? The mighty power of the Lord will be manifested. "Behold, the day of the Lord cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished and half the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then shall the Lord go forth, and fight against those nations, as when He fought in the day of battle. And His feet shall stand in that day upon the Mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the

south." Zech.14:1-4. The mighty hand of God will be thrust into the heart of a depraved earth with a "rod of Iron"!

The Middle East is awakening and Biblical truths are being fulfilled. We do not know when all of this will take place, but we are assured as Christians that we will be taken out before the terrible conditions in the world reach their heights. Once the rapture takes place, we know that the count down by God has begun for the return of the Lord with His mighty power.

IV. THE REASON FOR THE COMING KINGDOM.

It is imperative that the Lord Jesus Christ returns to this world for the following reasons.

- 1. THE MASTER PLAN DEMANDS IT.**
- 2. THE PROPHECIES DECLARE IT.**
- 3. THE SUPREME TEST OF MANKIND REQUIRES IT.**
- 4. THE CHARACTER OF GOD WILL BE EXALTED THROUGH IT.**

1. THE MASTER PLAN DEMANDS IT.

The Bible records the absolute "Blue Print" and "Plan" of God. The Lord Himself gives us a clear statement as to the laws of God. "For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no way pass from the law, till all be fulfilled." Matt.5:18. In Daniel 9:24; which is a key verse and very conclusive as to God's purpose, we have this statement included. "and to seal up the vision and prophecy," God being immutable, never varies in His decisions and is omniscient and Sovereign. "I am Alpha and Omega the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, Who is, and Who was, and Who is to come, the Almighty" Rev.1:8. When God makes a promise or statement, you can rest assured that it will be kept. "Wherein God, willing more abundantly to show unto the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, That by two immutable things in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us, Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which entereth into that within the veil." Heb.6:17-19. God's statements are yea and amen! "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, and today, and forever." Heb.13:8.

The plan of God is clearly set forth in the Bible and God the Holy Spirit has been given to us to teach us and guide us into all truth. If you will thoroughly study the Bible and God's predictions, you will understand that God's statements of things to come are exactly as pronounced. "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with Whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."

Jas.1:17. God's timing is exact and complete. "But when the fullness of time was come, God sent forth His Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons." Gal.4:4-5.

We have sufficient evidence of proof through fulfilled prophecy to accept the future predictions and will discuss that more thoroughly. Unless you understand the complete structure of the Bible and the intended eternal purpose of God, then the whole trend of thought in the Bible becomes out of focus. Each age or period in time, places mankind in specific circumstances and each time God's plans are set forth. Since God knows the end from the beginning, we are totally dependent upon Him and must accept His Master plan for all ages.

2. THE PROPHECIES DECLARE IT.

It is amazing that one of our earliest prophecies of the coming of the Lord with the Saints was by Enoch who walked with God and talked with God until he reached the age of 365 years and God took him to his heavenly home. "And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of His saints." Jude 14. Abraham and David were both assured of a coming kingdom upon earth. Isaiah wrote of the kingdom conditions and the restoration to law and order upon this planet earth. (Isa.11 & Isa.65.) However the great prophecy of the prophet Isaiah is Isaiah 7:14; and Isaiah 9:6-7. "Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a sign; Behold, the virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son, and shall call His Name Emmanuel." 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, Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with justice and with righteousness, from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform it." This is certainly as clear a declaration that one needs in accepting a kingdom to come.

In the Book of Daniel we have that great image of Nebuchadnezzar which portrayed the four great kingdoms, Babylon, Medo-Persians, Greece and Rome which are history in the past. The final Revival of the Roman Empire will be destroyed by the Lord Jesus Christ when He sets up His kingdom. (Dan.2:45.) Before the Lord establishes His kingdom, Elijah must come forth to herald the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. (Mal.4:5.) Briefly these predictions established in the Bible are based upon our Immutable God!

The final prophetic message that I wish to bring before you is from the Lord Jesus Christ Himself. He taught kingdom truths for three years and as a climax of His earthly ministry, the Lord spent His 40 days after the resurrection teaching about the kingdom. (Acts 1:3.) Do you also remember the prayer that the Lord taught His disciples? (Matt.6:9-13.) "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven".

3. THE SUPREME TEST OF MANKIND REQUIRES IT.

Since the Creator has made both the angels and mankind with the freedom of choice, rather than an instinctive nature, the choice is ours. "There is a way that seemeth right unto man, but the end thereof are the ways of death". Pr.16:25. "And it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgement". Heb.9:27. "For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgement unto the Son." Jn.5:22. Do these truths mean anything to you? Yes, we have a choice in the matter, BUT GOD desires to give us a way of escape through His Eternal Son. As the Master plan of God unfolds, it becomes necessary for God to test mankind under every condition. The final test will be a perfect environment, where poverty is eliminated, all diseases eradicated and a perfect righteous government. This can only be possible under God's sovereignty. The Satanic wickedness will be placed under guard in the bottomless pit and there will be a reign of righteousness and peace upon this planet earth for a period of one thousand years. Of course it will be necessary for the Eternal Son of God to rule with a rod of iron as predicted and we as the Saints of God in our glorified bodies will be sent throughout the world to maintain God's perfect justice. This will be the final supreme test of mankind, as there will be perfect living conditions for all.

This kingdom of righteousness under God will have an International purge as recorded in Matthew 25:31-46. (The sheep and goats separated and the goats destroyed.) Matthew 13:47-51. (Parable of the fisherman's net, and the bad fish destroyed). Matthew 13:24-30. (The wheat and the tares, with the tares being gathered first and then burned.) The kingdom will be thoroughly purged and mankind will prosper under the very best conditions. However, the human nature will have the choice but under the rod of iron will be controlled. Children will be born to the human subjects in their natural bodies, and they too will have to make a choice, as to whether to submit to the righteousness of God or desire the way of the flesh which will bring death. There will be a great population explosion under these perfect conditions, as the natural people of the earth will live hundreds of years as in the beginning of mankind. Those that rebel against God's righteousness will be ready to accept the revolutionary leaders under Satan and his demons. This will only come at the end of the thousand year rule, when Satan is released from the bottomless pit.

The reason for the coming kingdom is simply to give mankind another test under the most perfect conditions. All of the excuses that man has ever made will come to naught. Every mouth will be stopped before God with all of these excuses. This trial kingdom is not some addition which God has arranged, but rather is in the eternal plan of God, before the foundation of the world. With the trial and error of the history of mankind, one would suppose that the lessons of obedience to God would be established, but on the contrary, mankind in total depravity is not capable of resisting the wrong choices.

4. THE CHARACTER OF GOD WILL BE EXALTED THROUGH IT.

God is absolute and all sufficient as the Triune God, and is the same, yesterday, today, and forever. However in creation there is a process of learning by God's subjects. God's characteristics are made known through His revelation in nature, His Word, His Incarnate Son and through the coming kingdom of righteousness which will be ruled by the Eternal Son of God. This kingdom of righteousness which will extend for a thousand years,

will manifest God's eternal glory in every aspect. The Saints of all ages will be there to teach and judge the earthly people in the statutes of God. The reign of Christ upon this earth will be done in God's righteousness. "And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots; And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord". Isa.11:1-2. This final kingdom before the eternal rule of Christ is established is very important, as the final test that God proclaims to all of His creation. As Christ will rule with a rod of iron in perfect righteousness, the character of God will be exalted.

V. THE CONDITIONS AND DURATION OF THE KINGDOM OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.

The Bible clearly sets forth both the conditions and duration of the kingdom of righteousness. It will be the final test for human beings on the face of the earth. The conditions in which all human beings will find themselves will be the most favorable. The corrupt politics in the world will not exist during the Kingdom of righteousness, under the Lord Jesus Christ. The Saints of both the Old Testament times, the Bride of Christ, and the Tribulation Saints will police the whole world in perfect righteousness. I just want to list some of the conditions that will exist during this reign of Christ upon the planet earth.

1. ALL OF NATURE WILL BE RESTORED, WITH PERFECT CONDITIONS, AND NO DISEASE..

Isa. 11:6-9; Isa.35:1-2; Isa.65:25; Rom.8:19-22.

2. THERE WILL BE A PERFECT ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

Isa.11:3-7; Ps.72:12-14.

3. ALL UNBELIEVERS REMOVED AT THE BEGINNING OF CHRIST'S REIGN.

Ezek.20.; Matt.15.; Matt.3:11; Lk.3:16; Matt.13 & Matt.24.

4. MANY MILLIONS WILL BE BORN DURING THIS REIGN OF CHRIST WHO WILL REJECT THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD.

Rev.20:3b; Rev.20:7-9.

5. LIFE WILL BE GREATLY EXTENDED WITH PEOPLE LIVING HUNDREDS OF YEARS.

Isa.11:3-4; Isa.65:20.

6. THERE WILL BE A PERFECT RIGHTEOUS GOVERNMENT UNDER CHRIST.

Zech.14:9; Isa.11:1-2; Ps.72.

7. UNIVERSAL KNOWLEDGE OF GOD.

Isa.11:9.

8. THERE WILL BE UNIVERSAL PROSPERITY UNDER CHRIST.

Ps.72:7,16; Isa.65.

9. THERE WILL BE NO WAR BUT PERFECT PEACE DURING CHRIST'S REIGN.
Isa.2:4.

10. ISRAEL WILL BE FULLY RESTORED TO HER LAND IN GREAT PROSPERITY.
Isa.35:3-10; Isa.65:19; Zech.8:20-27.

11. THERE WILL BE GREAT SPIRITUALITY DURING THE REIGN OF CHRIST.
Joel 2:28; Isa.65:24; Zech.14:16-17.

12. THERE WILL BE NO RELIGIONS OR CULTS BUT A PERFECT RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST, AS THE BAPTISM OF FIRE BRINGS JUDGEMENT UPON THE WICKED AT THE BEGINNING OF CHRIST'S REIGN.
Rev.20:1-3.

13. THERE WILL BE NO SATANIC EVIL FORCES ACTIVE DURING THE KINGDOM OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.

During the complete reign of Christ, Satan will be bound with chains and cast into the bottomless pit for the duration of the kingdom of righteousness for the thousand years. "And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, 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." Rev.20:1-3.

During the kingdom age, all of mankind will now be free from the deception of Satan and will be on their own to prove whether man can make the right choice under the best conditions.

At this present time, we cannot fathom such conditions, and when they occur, we would certainly say, "How can anybody wish for anything better"? However, when the Lord begins His reign upon this earth, He will separate the goats from the sheep. (Matt.25: 31-46.) But, during this long reign, many children will be born to these Believers during the kingdom age, WHO will rebel both against their parents and against our Righteous Lord. If this were not the case, then Satan when he is loosed from the bottomless pit, would not be able to convince anybody to follow him. But, as we are told in the Word of God. "And when the thousand years are ended, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, and shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle; the number of whom is as the sands of the sea". Rev.20:7-8.

In concluding this particular subject, concerning the kingdom of righteousness upon the earth, we may ask, "Just how long will this kingdom last"? We read in the Bible, "And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever." Rev.11:15. This may infer that this particular Kingdom age would last forever and ever. That is not what is meant by such a statement from great voices in heaven. What is meant by such a statement is that now the Eternal reign of God is in sight and He will reign forever and ever. What do we conclude with this statement? We know that the

Kingdom of Righteousness which is recorded according to prophecy, will be for exactly 1,000 years. "And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgement 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 who had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed, and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection; on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years. And when the thousand years are ended, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison." Rev.20:4-7.

This brief interlude, when Satan is released for a season to deceive the nations does not mean that Almighty God's kingdom has come to an end. On the contrary, this information is given to us to behold the final battle that evil will have forever! Otherwise, God would not have locked up Satan in the bottomless pit, but cast him immediately into the lake of fire. There will be no interruption of the reign of righteousness as this final battle only lasts perhaps a few seconds. "And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the Saints about, and the Beloved City; and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them." Rev.20:9. It will not be much of a battle but will be the last of Satan who will be cast forever into the lake of fire with all of his demons. Those human beings that followed Satan will be burned to death and await the white throne Judgement. From here on, there shall be no end of the kingdom of God and all enemies will be put down forever and ever! Amen and Amen!

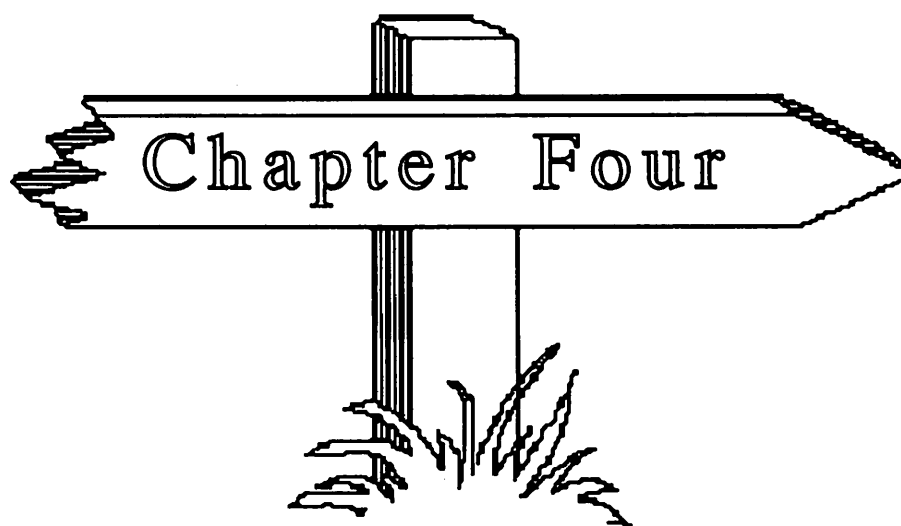
One must acknowledge the "Total Depravity" of man from the fall of man in the Garden of Eden until the end of the kingdom of righteousness. Every circumstance under which mankind lived, has been an utter failure apart from the power of God. That is why God the Father sent God the Eternal Son to fulfill the law of God. The best that we could do, only amounts to filthy rags, compared to the requirements by God. As human beings, we are not capable of pleasing God in our own human efforts. Christ's accomplishments for us are well pleasing in God the Father's sight. "How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard Him, God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with diverse miracles and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?" Heb.2:3-4. We have all sinned and come short of the glory of God, BUT GOD has provided the only escape route, through His Eternal Son. It is now, "Whosoever will" may come and be justified based upon the righteousness of Christ. Almighty God does not wish that one soul should perish and has provided so great salvation. I love that song which we will sing, when we get to heaven with all saints of all ages. "And they sang a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; for Thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by Thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And hast made us unto our God a kingdom of priests, and we shall reign on earth." Rev.5:9-10. What a glorious day that will be, when righteousness shall reign forever and ever!

Q U E S T I O N S.

- 1. Write a short essay on the prophecies of the Lord with references.**
- 2. Give 6 important factors in considering the kingdom of God.**
- 3. When will Christ set up His kingdom on earth?**
- 4. Write a short essay concerning the events which precede the Kingdom of righteousness.**
- 5. Explain your viewpoint as to the conditions on earth before the Kingdom comes upon this earth. Use Scriptures to prove your position.**
- 6. Why do we hold the "Pre-Tribulation" truth rather than any other theory? Cite Scripture.**
- 7. Name the four Biblical battles yet to be fought and explain.**
- 8. Give the Biblical lineage as to Messianic hope. Cite Scripture.**
- 9. Why will Israel have to suffer during the tribulation?**
- 10. Why was John the Baptist sent to herald Christ at His first coming rather than Elijah?**
- 11. Will Elijah eventually come to herald the King and His kingdom? Cite Scripture.**
- 12. What did God promise to King David unconditionally? Cite Scripture.**
- 13. Give the conditions of the world when the Kingdom of righteousness is established. Name seven or more conditions. Cite Scripture.**
- 14. Give a description of the coming of the Lord from heaven to establish His kingdom. Cite Scripture.**
- 15. Give as many reasons as possible for the coming of Christ to set up His kingdom.**
- 16. Name ten or more conditions which will exist during the kingdom and give the references from the Bible.**
- 17. Will there be any births of children during the kingdom? Give your reasons according to Bible truth.**
- 18. Explain why the Kingdom of righteousness will be the final proof that mankind is "Totally Depraved"?**
- 19. How long will this Kingdom of righteousness be? Where will Satan be? Cite Scripture?**

20. Explain the final deceptions by Satan and where do we find the final battle recorded in the Bible?

THE BATTLES AGAINST GOD



Rev 19 : 11 - 21
Rev 20 : 7 - 10

CHAPTER 4

"THE BATTLES AGAINST GOD"

INTRODUCTION.

These battles against God pertain to the end times alone. There has been a continual onslaught by Satan against his Creator down through the ages. We are told that these battles are of "Principalities" and "Powers" "Rulers of Darkness" and "Spiritual wickedness in High Places". The question often arises, "Since God is omniscient, why did He then create such a wicked angel like Lucifer, who became Satan?" Some would even infer that God must have created evil as well as good. This is entirely wrong, for the Bible tells us that God created Lucifer absolutely without blemish. "Moreover, the Word of the Lord came unto me, saying, Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyre, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord God: Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect beauty. Thou hast been in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold; the workmanship of thy timbrels and of thy flutes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth, and I have set thee so; thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou was created, till iniquity was found in thee." Ezek.28:11-15. These verses certainly show that God created Lucifer perfect in all of his ways. But, because Lucifer and all of the angels enjoyed a freedom of choice, rather than an animal instinct, they would be held responsible for their behavior. Lucifer was the greatest of all creatures which God created, and was given the charge of protecting God's holiness. He was ranked as number one in the heavenly realm.

What happened that Lucifer became Satan, the Devil, and the serpent? According to the Bible, he overstepped his authority and God had to remove him from his responsibility. He was replaced by four cherubim, who are sometimes called living creatures. Cherubim guarded the garden of Eden after Adam and Eve were expelled. (Gen.3:24;) Ezekiel 1:5-28. gives us a good picture of the capability of the Cherubim. Lucifer with all of his authority over the angelic hosts was ambitious and greedy for more power. Isaiah was allowed to see the future final removal of Lucifer, from heaven, which will take place during the Abomination of Desolation, spoken of by Daniel. Revelation chapter 9 and Revelation chapter 12:7-17; give us the actual defeat of Lucifer in heaven, by Michael the Arch Angel. What had happened? Let us see what the Word of God says. "How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How art thou cut down to the ground, who didst weaken the nations! For thou has said in thine heart, I Will ascend into heaven, I WILL exalt my throne above the stars of God; I WILL sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north, I WILL ascend above the heights of the clouds, I WILL be like the Most High." Isa.14:12-14. It is obvious that Lucifer sat upon a throne with great authority. His greatest ambition was to be like Almighty God. This is where the battle began and then brought down to man! The first statement from God concerning Satan is recorded in Gen.3:15. That battle has been raging all through the history of man.

It seems, according to history, as though God has been losing the battles for the souls of men and the defeat of Satan. God in His patience and desire to reclaim as many

souls as possible, knows the end from the beginning and is not frustrated in the least! God does not wish that one soul should perish (2 Pet.3:9.) The punishment in hell and the lake of fire was prepared for the Devil and his angels (demons). (Matt.25:41.) God has selected a certain lineage in humanity to achieve His purpose in defeating the evil forces. The lineage of Shem was chosen, then Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. A great nation is born in Egypt, and led in an exodus by Mighty God through Moses. Joshua led his people into the promised land with great victories. The Tribe of Judah became the Messianic hope. Isaiah was given the sign, whereby the Messiah would come. His Name was Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. In Daniel 9:24; there is a promise of everlasting righteousness, where sin would be no more. Christ has become our "Kinsman Redeemer", making possible the new birth by God the Holy Spirit.

The battle is the Lord's and faith is the victory, that overcomes, the world, the flesh, and the Devil. "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds, casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ." 2 Cor.10:4-5. "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Eph.6:12. God's Word prepares us for battle against God's enemies and reminds us that the final victory will be the Lord's.

Our aim at this point is to review with you the final battles against God. We will discuss the following final battles, knowing that the signs of the times are approaching the end times of this planet earth.

- I. RUSSIA AND HER ALLIES' SNEAK ATTACK ON ISRAEL.
- II. THE HEAVENLY BATTLE AGAINST SATAN.
- III. THE GREAT BATTLE OF THE KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.
- IV. THE CONSUMING FIRE FROM HEAVEN.

1. RUSSIA AND HER ALLIES' SNEAK ATTACK ON ISRAEL.

To differentiate and to set a specific time between the Battle of Armageddon and the armies coming down from the north is very difficult. Some of these events are given to us as facts, but do not always give us the specific time for them. It certainly shows that perhaps the Revival of the Roman empire has already taken place. Otherwise, why would Russia and her allies secretly enter the Middle East? We are also told that the Revival of the Roman Empire will make a seven year covenant with Israel. (Dan.9:27.) We are aware from previous studies that the revival of the Roman Empire will take place in the latter days. It will be the final world power, according to the image of Nebuchadnezzar of which Daniel received the interpretation. The prelude of this Revived Roman Empire can be seen in the formation of the Common market of Europe. It's final stage is arranged for 1992. With the limited war in the Middle East, now as a closed chapter, some have tried to link it with the battle of Armageddon, and others completely deny the coming of the

Armageddon battle. Both are wrong. The revived Roman Empire, as God's Word predicts must be in existence after the rapture of the true church takes place. Since the rapture hasn't taken place at the time of the writing of this book, so the battle of Armageddon is something in the future.

There are a few factors which we must consider in Russia's attack by land, by air and by sea. This past attack against Kuwait by Iraq was intensified by Russia, and Jordan, because all of these had one desire and that was to destroy Israel. God came to the rescue of Israel through the joint efforts of America, England, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and France and others. The defeat of Saddam Husein and his forces has been a tremendous blow to the intents of Russia. Let us examine a few factors which will be related to this future sneak attack by Russia and her allies.-

A. THE REVIVED ROMAN EMPIRE'S ARMIES ARE NOT INCLUDED.

B. THE RIVER EUPHRATES TO BE DRIED UP.

C. ISRAEL WILL BE DWELLING IN SAFETY.

D. A PROLONGED BURIAL AND CLEANUP AS AN AFTER MATH.

A. THE REVIVED ROMAN EMPIRE'S ARMIES ARE NOT INCLUDED.

As we read the account of Ezekiel chapter 38 and 39, we do not find any reference to the prophetic Revived Roman Empire. The closest that we come to Europe is "Gomer" (Ezek.38:6.) which is East Germany, and "Togarmah" which is Armenia. The Middle East was rocked by Iraq in it's bold attempt to take control of the oil fields and also destroy Israel which has been at constant war since April 1948. As to the timing of this attack by Russia, we cannot establish a definite time. The very fact that the Revived Roman Empire is not included to protect it's claims in the Middle East is God's secret. However we do have one possible clue to all of this and that is found in Revelation 16:10-11. "And the fifth angel poured out his bowl upon the throne of the Beast, and his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues with pain, and blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds." Perhaps this will be the reason why the armies of the north will be able to make this sneak attack on the Middle East. It is also of great importance that in this same chapter of Revelation 16 and verse 12 that we have mention of the drying up of the Euphrates. This coincides with what we have in Daniel 11:44. "But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him; therefore, he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to sweep away many." There seems to be a sequence of Russia's secret attack, such as the drying up of the Euphrates and the Beast of the revived Roman Empire, Israel dwelling in safety, and the darkness that will cover the Roman domain. The revived Roman Empire will be the most powerful in the hands of the Beast and his war machinery. However the battle of Armageddon does not take place until the Lord Himself returns from heaven to set up His kingdom of righteousness.

B. THE RIVER EUPHRATES TO BE DRIED UP.

The Euphrates river is the extreme border line of Israel's promised land and it extends as far as the river Egypt. (Gen.15:18.) It is also the river under which the four demons are bound and waiting to be released, to destroy one third of all of the men upon earth. The number in the armies of these four demons is two hundred thousand thousand. (Rev.9:13-21.) So we see the importance of this river Euphrates. It was also important in Daniel's time when King Cyrus took Babylon. (Dan.5:1-31; Isa.44:28; Isa.45:1.) King Cyrus was able to re-direct the river Euphrates during his campaign against Babylon, and we just wonder, whether this will happen again.

C. ISRAEL WILL BE DWELLING IN SAFETY.

Now we turn back to the Book of Ezekiel, chapters 38 and 39. As we said before, Israel has been constantly at war since she was re-instated as a nation in 1948. However, there will be a period in Israel's history when a short time of peace and safety will exist. Here are the references to this safety, mentioned in Ezekiel 38:8,11,14. It will be a false peace and only short lived, but God will eventually restore Israel to His safe keeping. "After they have borne their shame, and all their trespasses by which they have trespassed against me, when they dwelt safely in their land, and none made them afraid." Ezek.39:26.

This temporary safety mentioned in Ezekiel 38,, will probably be based upon the 7 year covenant that the Beast of the Roman Empire will make with Israel. "And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week, (7 years); and in the midst of the week (3 1/2 years) he shall cause the sacrifice and oblation to cease, and for the over spreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate." Dan.9:27. This is also mentioned in Daniel 11:36.

As to when this covenant with Israel will be made, we can assume it will be made at the beginning of the tribulation and terminate when the Abomination of Desolation begins. The second Beast or the false prophet will no doubt have something to do with this arrangement, as he will betray his people into the hands of this first Beast. (Rev.13:11-18.) This second Beast will no doubt be of the tribe of Dan, who is not listed among the 144,000. (Note Gen.49:17; Jud.18:30-31.)

So, we can conclude that Russia will make an attack against Israel before the Abomination of Desolation, unless there would be a similar safety period for Israel at some other time. However, we do not have any Biblical reference to another time that Israel will dwell in safety. The important factor in all of this is a time safety for Israel as a prophetic sign.

D. A PROLONGED BURIAL AND CLEAN UP AS AN AFTER MATH.

This sneak attack by Russia and her allies is but another indication that the Middle East is an important landmark on this planet earth. The Devil is using the greed of the nations to try to destroy Israel. The monopoly of oil and other minerals are commodities of great importance in world economy. This attitude of that Dragon, the Devil will be seen when Michael the Arch Angel casts him and all of his demons out of heaven. It will be the beginning of the Abomination of Desolation, as the fifth angel sounds the trumpet. (Rev.9:1-12.) The devil has been going to and fro upon this earth seeking whom he may devour. (1 Pet.5:8.) This fifth trumpet will trigger off the Abomination of Desolation" spoken of by Daniel and confirmed by the Lord. (Matt.24:15,21.) When Satan is thrown out of heaven with his demons, there will now be a full scale destruction upon this earth and Israel will be the main target. (Rev.12:13-17.)

Sometime when Israel is dwelling in safety, Russia will make her attack upon Israel, and the massive destruction of lives and equipment will be so extensive that the firewood supply alone will last for seven years, and the burial of all of the corpses will take 7 months. (Ezek.39:9-24.) Somehow Israel will be spared from another attack from the armies of the north. God will again prove to the nations that His Hand is upon Israel.

II. THE HEAVENLY BATTLE AGAINST SATAN.

There are many Bible students who are of the opinion that Satan has been thrown out of heaven already. This is absolutely a false idea, as the Bible teaches contrary to such beliefs. In the first place some may think that Isaiah 14:12-17; refers to a past act of God, but on the contrary Isaiah had a preview of what will eventually happen to Satan and his demons. The Book of Job clearly states that although Satan goes to and fro upon this earth, seeking whom he may devour, he still has to give an account before our Sovereign God. As Satan challenged God with Job, so he continues to accuse the saints in the presence of God. That is why it is necessary that we have an advocate, Jesus Christ the Righteous to plead our case. "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. And He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world" 1 Jn.2:1-2. Yes, we all have fallen short of the glory of God. "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." Rom.3:23. It is imperative that we have both an Advocate and Mediator while we remain in this temporal life. Satan accuses the Saints, day and night, and God the Father has provided us with His own Son to plead our case.. Praise God, Christ is our representative and righteousness. "For there is one God and One Mediator between God and men, the Man, Christ Jesus." 1 Tim.2:5. He is the Mediator of the new covenant with God the Father. Heb.8:6; Heb.9:15; Heb.12:24. For these reasons, we are aware that Satan is still in heaven accusing the brethren. Rev.12:10b.

One important factor that we must constantly face and that is, Satan is the prince of the power of the air, (Eph.2:2.) and although he has to give an account to Almighty God,

he is still powerful. Note what the Bible says concerning Satan. "Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyre, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord God: Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect beauty. Thou hast been in Eden, the garden of God;Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth, and I have set thee so; thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee." Ezek.28:12-15. We also have a record of that continued power, when Michael came for the body of Moses. "Yet Michael, the archangel, when contending with the Devil he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee". Jude 9. God the Holy Spirit revealed to Isaiah the prophet this future battle in heaven, as Satan and his demons will be thrown out of heaven forever. "How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How art thou cut down to the ground, who didst weaken the nations!" Isa.14:12-13.

We are also told as to when this battle in heaven will take place. It is a very crucial time, and the Saints of all ages will be in their glorified bodies and will behold this battle against Satan and his demons. It will occur in the middle of that great tribulation, as it is very clearly spelled out for us. It will be during the time when Moses and Elijah prophesy for one thousand two hundred and sixty days, or three and one half years. This is exactly the time of the Abomination of Desolation, spoken of by Daniel (Dan.9:27.), which will be for forty two months. (Rev.11:2.) It will be at the same time when the Beast of the Revived Roman Empire breaks the 7 year covenant with Israel. (Dan.9:27.)

The rapture will take place, prior to this great spiritual battle in the heavenlies. Three and a half years in heaven, we will be well established in our glorified bodies with the Saints of all ages. Our commissions will be granted to us for the coming kingdom on earth. The marriage will be established with all glory to the Lord and our place in the mansions of God the Father will be fully enjoyed. We shall remain in the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Bridegroom for ever and ever. The tribulation on earth will be going on for these three and one half years under the Dictator of the revived Roman Empire. Israel will have enjoyed those three and one half years with special protection from the two beasts. We will be alerted in our heavenly home, by the start of a spiritual warfare with all of its intensity.

"And there was war in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not, neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil and Satan, who deceiveth the whole world; he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ; for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, who accused them before our God day and night." Rev.12:7-10. You and I as Believers will be joining together with that loud voice in heaven, praising Almighty God.

Now let us go back to Revelation 9:1-12. "And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth; and to him was given the key to the bottomless pit." Rev.9:1. Remember this is all a future battle that will be fought during the middle of the tribulation, allowing three and one half years for the duration of the Abomination of desolation, confirmed by Christ, (Matt.24:15.) Within the bottomless pit at this very time is a complete army of Demons, with a king over them by the name of "Destroyer". Now Satan will have another army of demons to take over the united government of the world. As Satan will be given the key to open the bottomless pit, these mighty armies of demons

will come forth to destroy. However in the sovereignty of God, these terrible demons were not permitted to touch those with the seal of God. Read what the Word says about those sealed by the Living God. "And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God; and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom was given to hurt the earth and sea, saying, Hurt not the earth neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads." Rev.7:2-3. This is the special protection that God will give to His witnesses during the tribulation. This same warning is repeated again as this terrible army of demons from the bottomless pit goes forth for 5 months of destruction. "And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any tree, but only those men who have not the seal of God in their foreheads." Rev.9:4. This of course will anger Satan as he will lead his wicked demons against the earthly people.

SATAN'S OBJECTIVE.

There will be a terrible display of satanic anger against the tribulation saints, and they will suffer greatly by Satan, and from the Destroyer and his army. However these 144,000 and others will not value their lives, for the sake of witnessing for the Messiah, who will be coming immediately after the great tribulation. Israel will continue to be persecuted for the duration of the tribulation, time, and times, and half a time, from Satan.(Rev.12:14) This will be a period of three and one half years during the last half of the tribulation, which is called the Abomination of Desolation. A flood will be used by Satan to destroy Israel, but the earth will open and absorb the water as Israel "flees to the hills". The Lord foretold this in Matthew 24:15-20. A place of refuge will be prepared for Israel against the onslaughts of Satan and the beasts. This will be when the seven year covenant made with Israel will be broken by the Dictator of the revived Roman Empire. Satan will be in charge of this terrible campaign and the Beast of the Roman Empire will be indwelt by the demon from the bottomless pit. (Rev.11:7.) Biblical history reveals the countless attempts that Satan has made against Israel because of the Messianic hope bestowed upon her. He knows that the seed of the woman will bruise his head. (Gen.3:15.)

In all of this, God always has His perfect timing, as His Master plan unfolds in ways past our understanding. Time is no issue in God's economy for His existence is timeless. Satan's condemnation as well as the complete sin question was dealt with on Calvary. The various stages of judgement which God releases are all calculated for His glory and honor and eventually expelling sin and death, once and forever. As the great tribulation will run its course upon this earth, so all of the raptured Saints will be prepared for the great event of the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ to rule and reign upon the face of the earth in righteousness.

III. THE GREAT BATTLE OF THE KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

Rev.19:11-20:

- A. PREPARATIONS FOR HIS COMING.**
- B. THE HEAVENS OPEN.**
- C. THE KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS APPEARS.**
- D. VICTORY BY THE WORD OF THE LORD.**
- E. THE FINAL JUDGEMENT AGAINST THE BEAST AND FALSE PROPHET.**
- F. SATAN RESTRICTED TO THE BOTTOMLESS PIT.**
- G. THE GREAT FURY OF THE ETERNAL SON OF GOD.**
- H. THE COMPLETION OF THE FIRST RESURRECTION.**
- I. RULING AND REIGNING WITH CHRIST.**

A. PREPARATIONS FOR HIS COMING.

The Saints of all ages will be safely in the presence of the Lord in the Father's heavenly mansions. This will be a period of seven years as the great tribulation is in progress. The Satanic onslaught will be accomplishing its desired wickedness, regardless of the results of the judgments of God. The Saints of God will be in great preparation with heavenly instructions as to their responsibilities during the coming kingdom of righteousness upon the whole world. The judgement seat of Christ will determine the responsibility and authority that each will have, according to their past faithfulness upon the earth. We will behold the Heavens of heaven and the glories of Almighty God. The Believer's fellowship will be beyond description, as we meet those of like faith of all ages. What a day of rejoicing that will be!

The mighty power of God and His angels will be seen, as Michael the archangel defeats Satan and his demons, casting them forever out of the realm of heaven. The joys of the Lord will resound throughout all of heaven. If ever there will be a time to sing the Hallelujah chorus, it will be then. Heaven will be cleared of all evil forces as the first step toward eradicating sin and death forever.

B. THE HEAVENS OPEN.

As the tribulation will come to its close, suddenly the heavens will open as a great curtain is opened and the spotlight will be upon the Eternal Son of God seated upon the

most beautiful white horse of heavenly making! Our eyes will be fixed upon the rider and that with great amazement as we see Him dressed for battle.

C. THE KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS APPEARS.

We will then see the Bridegroom dressed for war, and He is called "Faithful" and "True" and rightfully ready to make war against His enemies. In God's grace, we as the Saints of God will behold His going forth to war to judge the nations in battle. God the Father will declare His Eternal Son to have complete authority as the living Word. The armies of heaven will also appear, but without the armament for battle. God in His omnipotent power does not need armies to fight His battle, if He so chooses. As observers, the armies of heaven will follow the Lord into battle, but clothed in fine linen, pure and white.

D. VICTORY BY THE WORD OF THE LORD.

"For the Word of God is alive, 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 discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Heb.4:12. We are reminded as to what happened in the garden of Gethsemane, when the Son of God was being betrayed. "Jesus, therefore, knowing all things that should come upon Him, went forth, and said unto them, Whom seek ye?" They answered Him, Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus saith unto them, I am He. And Judas also, who betrayed Him, stood with them. As soon, then, as He had said unto them, I am He, they went backward, and fell to the ground." John 18:4-6. What Christ really said was the word "Jehovah" and they fell backward. So, as the Son of God goes forth to war, the fierceness of His wrath will be summed up in "Thus saith the Lord"!

Prophetically we have a revelation given to Daniel concerning the Stone which will destroy the nations. "Thou sawest until a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon its feet that were of iron and clay, and broke them to pieces." Dan.2:34. Then Daniel explained this to king Nebuchadnezzar. "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 forever. Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold, the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter; and the dream is certain, and the interpretation is sure." Dan.2:44-45.

The weapons of God's warfare are mighty to the pulling down of all strongholds, by His Word alone! As the Lord goes forth to battle in that great and final battle, we will behold the power of the Word of God. The creation of heaven and earth were brought into existence, by the Word of God. Salvation of our souls was made possible, by the Word of God becoming flesh and blood to become the Redeemer of our souls. We do not know how many thousands upon thousands of armies will be waiting in an attempt to blast the Son

of God out of the air. Regardless of their weapons, they will all be in vain as the Lord speaks the Word!

E. THE FINAL JUDGEMENT AGAINST THE BEAST AND FALSE PROPHET.

This will be an amazing sight for the Saints of all ages to see. They will no doubt see these great armies pointing their missiles etc. up in the sky as they behold this great army of souls approaching, being led by a mysterious rider, all dressed in battle array. When they think that they have the range of these on coming creatures, the guns will rattle and the planes will soar with great intent to destroy. However all will be of no effect as we descend in our glorified bodies. They will no doubt see the flame of fire go forth from the eyes of the Almighty and Eternal Son of God. "And out of His mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it He should smite the nations, and He treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He hath on His vesture and on His thigh a Name written, King of kings and Lord of Lords." Rev.19:15-16.

The terrible slaughter of the armies of all nations will be so great that all the vultures and wild animals will not be able to finish all of the dead creatures. This challenge against God will be led by the Beast of the Revived Roman Empire. He will lead all nations into battle against the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. "And I saw the Beast, and the kings of the earth and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him that sat on the horse, and against His army." Rev.19:19.

All of these men of war will be destroyed and their souls will depart into sheol to await the white throne judgement. But the Beast and his false prophet will be taken alive and cast immediately into the Lake of fire. "And the Beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into the lake of fire burning brimstone." Rev.19:20. This will be the eternal punishment of the Beast and the false prophet. Their punishment will be an eternal living death in torment forever and ever!

F. SATAN RESTRICTED TO THE BOTTOMLESS PIT.

Since this was planned by Satan, using human beings, as well as his demons, all of these nations will be deceived into thinking themselves part of a new world order. Many of our world leaders have the aspiration of a "New Society", "New world Order", hoping to make a name for themselves, as they tried, in the building of the Tower of Babel. It always ends up in a false utopia! It all amounts to counterfeit desires by Satan. The spiritual realm in which Satan dwells will be brought to judgement in God's time, but now Satan will be "House Bound" in the bottomless pit for the duration of the Kingdom of righteousness for a thousand years. "And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him a thousand years. 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." Rev.20:1-3.

The duration of that "Season" is God's secret, but it will be long enough to gather the evil nations together for the last attempt against God.

G. THE GREAT FURY OF THE ETERNAL SON OF GOD.

Here we have recorded in brief statements the fury that will be manifested, when the Son of God comes forth to crush the ungodly, who are led by the Beast, the false prophet and Satan. Perhaps the nuclear weapons and gases which the nations will attempt to use against God will be turned against the nations, to their own destruction. The Eternal Son of God, Who created Heaven and Earth will have no difficulty in defeating these armies of all nations with a single word! The mass destruction will be terrible and in the shortest of time. It will be an awesome sight to behold. "And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God, That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and enslaved, both small and great." Rev.19:17-18.

H. THE COMPLETION OF THE FIRST RESURRECTION.

Christ became the first fruit of the first resurrection, when He rose from the grave after the crucifixion. "And behold there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. His countenance was like lightening, and his raiment white as snow.....He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay." Matt.28:2-6. The stone did not have to be rolled away for the Lord to come forth, but rather that His disciples could look in! "Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen! Lk.24:5b-6a.

The next great resurrection will take place when the rapture occurs. The graves will be opened and there will be an outstanding meeting in the air. Christ promised to return to receive His own unto Himself. (John 14:1-6.) Then we read in 1 Cor.15:51-57; of that great event of exchanging these mortal bodies for the glorified immortality from God. "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 who 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 Thess.4:16-17.

The final completion of the first resurrection, will take place when Christ returns to rule and reign upon the earth for a thousand years. "And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgement 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 who had not worshiped the Beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection; on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be called priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years." Rev.20:4-6. These resurrected Saints will be those who will be killed during the Great tribulation and are called "Tribulation Saints".

The first resurrection is classified as follows. 1. Christ is the first fruit of the resurrection. 2. The Saints of all ages, when the rapture takes place. The tribulation Saints, when Christ returns to rule and reign upon the earth for the thousand years. Those raised from the grave are called "Blessed". "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." Rev.20:6.

I. RULING AND REIGNING WITH CHRIST.

"Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done" is the desire of every true Believer and in God's time, "The kingdoms of this world will become the Kingdom of God". Religious leaders down through the ages have tried their best to bring in the kingdom by all sorts of methods, but they have always failed and always will fail, until the Son of God comes in person to rule with a rod of iron in perfect righteousness. Those who become part and parcel of the first resurrection shall reign with the Lord upon this earth for those momentous years, called "The Kingdom of Righteousness". "But unto the Son He saith, Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever; a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Thy kingdom." Heb.1:8.

According to God's blue print and master plan for all ages, we are approaching the culmination of the final struggle against sin. The Saints of all ages will rule and reign upon earth with the Lord, teaching perfect righteousness to the human beings. This Kingdom age will start out with the separating of the goats from the sheep, according to Matthew 25:31-46. The Saints of all ages will come and rule with the Lord during the thousand year reign upon earth. The goats and the sheep refer to earthly people who have lived through the tribulation. They will be normal human beings still maintaining the sin nature. The goats represent the unbelievers who come out of the tribulation. They must be separated from the Believers who come out of the tribulation. "And when the Son of Man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory. And before Him shall be gathered all the nations; and He shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats. And He shall set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on His right hand, Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world Then shall He say also unto them on the left hand,

Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels;" Matt.25:31-41. These sheep and goats are those who will come out of the great tribulation and will be from all nations. Now the sheep are earthly Believers who were not killed during the tribulation. They will still have the Adamic nature and will also reproduce, being fruitful and multiplying. There will be perfect conditions existing during the Kingdom of righteousness, which I will list. The sheep will be loyal to the King of Kings throughout the whole world, and as they bear children, some of their children will believe as their parents and others will reject and become rebellious. Nevertheless they will have to submit to the righteous rule of Christ. The human beings will multiply upon the face of the earth under the most favorable conditions. The Devil will remain in the bottomless pit for the duration of the thousand years. Here is a partial list of conditions for the kingdom age.

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- 1. NATURE WILL BE RESTORED IN ITS FULLNESS.**
Isa.11:6-9; Isa.35:1-2; Isa.65:25. Rom.8:19-22.
 - 2. NO NEED OF RELIGION WITH CHRIST PRESENT.**
Rev.20:1-3.
 - 3. GREAT SPIRITUALITY DURING THE KINGDOM.**
Joel 2:28; Isa.65:24; Zech.14:16-17.
 - 4. ISRAEL FULLY RESTORED TO HER LAND.**
Isa.35:3-10; Isa.65:19; Zech.8:20-27.
 - 5. THERE WILL BE UNIVERSAL PEACE AND NO WAR.**
Isa.2:4.
 - 6. WORLD WIDE PROSPERITY AND NO POVERTY.**
Ps.72:7,16; Isa.65.
 - 7. WORLD WIDE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD.**
Isa.11:9.
 - 8. THERE WILL BE PERFECT GOVERNMENT UNDER CHRIST.**
Zech.14:9; Isa.11:1-2; Ps.72.
 - 9. PERFECT ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN ALL COURTS.**
Isa.11:3,7; Ps.72:12-14.
 - 10. UNBELIEVERS REMOVED FROM THE KINGDOM.**
Ezek.20; Matt.25; Matt.3:11; Lk.3:16; Matt.13 & 24.
 - 11. HUMAN BIRTH WILL CONTINUE AND SOME WILL BELIEVE AND OTHERS REFUSE.**
Rev.20:8.

12. THE SPAN OF LIFE WILL BE EXTENDED.

Isa.65:20; Isa.11:3-4.

The thousand year reign of righteousness with Christ will be a very busy time for the Saints of all ages. There will be Bible classes every where with a great hunger for the Word of God. Our capacity will be enlarged by the Lord, as all of this will be done by the glorified Saints. There will be those children born to the earthly people who will rebel against the righteousness of the Lord, but will be unable to prevent Biblical teachings. The Bible will be read in all of the schools, and prayer will be a daily communion with God the Father. Christ will be ruling and reigning in Jerusalem which will be the World Capital. There will be great knowledge of God, and we will be His witnesses.

Since nature will be restored, and all diseases eradicated, all mankind will experience tremendous health. The longevity of life will be extended to hundreds of years. The environmentalists will be out of business and the purity of life will be manifested everywhere. The Lord Jesus Christ will rule with a rod of iron, and there will be no room for opposition. There will be the possibility of accidents and death but hospitals will be available. Food will be plentiful for all and poverty will be a thing of the past.

The courts of justice will produce perfect decisions, under the ruling Saints of God in their glorified bodies. Politics as we know it today will be a thing of the past. International relationship will be on the highest level. Traveling will be available for all, as they will then see a magnificent earth with perfect beauty.

The wild life will be gone, as the lion and the lamb lie down together. This would infer that the carnivorous animals will have their nature changed. It will all be as in the Garden of Eden, except that mankind will still be totally depraved apart from God. It will therefore be very important that the human beings submit themselves to the righteousness of God. They will not be able to rebel during the thousand year reign of Christ. However, if they resent God's control over their lives, they will be easy prey for Satan, when he is released for a season at the end of the Millennium.

IV. THE CONSUMING FIRE FROM HEAVEN.

With the completion of a thousand year reign of Christ in perfect righteousness, mankind will face it's final test as to whether it wants God's righteousness or Satan's wickedness for eternity. If ever there will be a utopia on earth, it will be during the righteous reign of Christ, during the thousand years. There will be a great division among all earth dwellers who will be upon the earth at the end of this period. The earth dwellers could not blame any of their short comings on Satan and the demons, nor even the world order.

"And when the thousand years are ended, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, and shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle; the number of whom is as the sand of the

sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the Saints about, and the Beloved City;" Rev.20:7-9a. This is hard to imagine and the details are not given to us. But, we can understand that Satan's influence will be great, and he will be able to deceive the nations and gather a tremendous army, numbering "as the sands of the sea"! Did you also note in the Scripture that Gog and Magog are again mentioned? It should relate to us the fact that Russia and her satellites will again turn to godlessness.

As these nations will be deceived by Satan, we can suspect that we as the Saints of God will be called back to Jerusalem, where Christ rules and reigns. Christ will be aware of the final thrust of Satan and we will all be with Him in the Beloved City of Jerusalem. Since we will be aware of the prophetic Scriptures, we will understand this final assault by Satan. How long that season will be, we do not know. It will take time for Satan to order his great army of demons to deceive the nations. It will also take time for these armies to be trained for the ground war against the Lord. The type of weapons will no doubt be very devastating, convincing the rulers of certain victory. Their intent will be to utterly destroy the ruling Saints and the Lord Jesus Christ. As these great armies approach Jerusalem, by land, sea and air, the tension will mount up! There will be no need of planting land mines, defense positions or war implements, as we wait upon the Lord.

"And fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them." Rev.20:9b. That will be one of the shortest battles in the entire history of world wars! We will surely be able to sing, "To God be the glory, great things He hath done"! "For the Lord thy God is a consuming fire, even a jealous God" Deut.4:24. "Understand, therefore, this day, that the Lord thy God is He Who goeth over before thee; as a consuming fire He shall destroy them, and He shall bring them down before thy face. So shalt thou drive them out, and destroy them quickly, as the Lord hath said unto thee." Deut.9:3. "Wherefore, receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear; For our God is a consuming fire". Heb.12:28-29. This will be the final battle that will ever be fought and God's righteousness will prevail forever and ever.

Since Satan and his demons were judged at the cross, their doom is sealed as we read. "And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night forever and ever." The sum total of evil will be sealed up forever in the lake of fire, as we will see when the second resurrection takes place. It will be a place, separated from God's love forever. There will be no escape route from this living tormented death. There will be no second chance given to all who will be cast into it! That is why it is of great importance that we speed the Gospel light to the ends of the world, while there is time.

QUESTIONS.

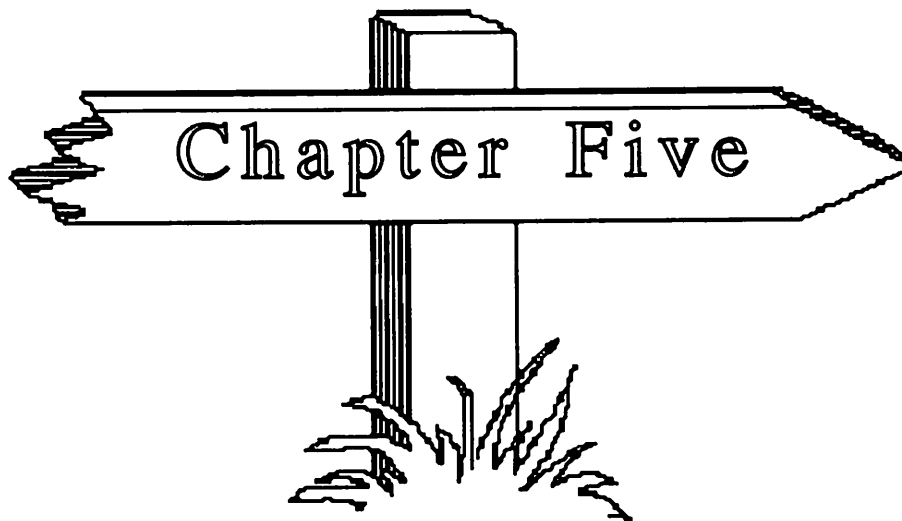
1. Name the 4 battles against God for the end times. Cite Scripture.
2. Explain the creation of Lucifer. Cite proof with Scripture.
3. In what realm does Satan battle according to Ephesians 6:12?

- 4. Name a few factors regarding Russia's future attack in the Middle East.**
- 5. Why do you think that the armies of the Revived Roman Empire are not mentioned at the time of Russia's sneak attack?**
- 6. What are some of the conditions existing when Russia attacks? Cite Scripture.**
- 7. What significance as to time, is there in Ezekiel 39:9-15?**
- 8. Explain why Satan is still in heaven. When will Satan be thrown out of heaven? Cite Scripture.**
- 9. Why is it necessary that the true church is "Caught Up" before the tribulation begins? Use Bible verses to prove your point.**
- 10. Give some of the events that take place in heaven during the great tribulation. Cite Scripture.**
- 11. Why is Satan given the key to the bottomless pit? Cite Scripture.**
- 12. What is Satan's objective when thrown out of heaven? Cite Scripture.**
- 13. When will the main battle of Armageddon take place? Cite Scripture.**
- 14. Give some details of the coming of the Lord to set up His kingdom on earth. Cite Scripture.**
- 15. Do the two Beasts stand before the white throne for judgement? Explain and cite Scripture.**
- 16. What happens to Satan during the millennium? Cite Scripture.**
- 17. When is the first resurrection completed? Cite Scripture.**
- 18. Write a brief essay on the millennium and give some characteristics of it.**
- 19. How many armies does God use to defeat Satan's armies? Cite Scripture.**
- 20. Explain the first resurrection. Cite Scripture.**
- 21. Explain briefly the Kingdom of Righteousness.**
- 22. Give 10 highlights of the kingdom of righteousness.**
- 23. Write briefly of what happens when Satan is released from the bottomless pit. Cite Scripture.**

24. Explain Revelation 20:7-10.

25. Will there ever be a second chance for anyone to accept Christ after they die? Give your reasons according to the Bible.

THE JUDGEMENTS THROUGH GOD



Rev 19 : 15 - 21
Rev 20 : 10

CHAPTER 5.

THE JUDGMENTS THROUGH GOD.

INTRODUCTION.

As Believers study the Word of God, they become aware that God's judgments are always based upon His justice, righteousness, and holiness. The character of God is absolute and supreme and nothing can be hidden from Him. God's judgments of the past, help us to understand His dealings with us today. God can never be bribed to overlook our short comings and excuses. There would be nothing that God would want from us, as He is all sufficient in Himself. His judgments are also based upon His eternal character, which never changes. Sometimes judgments may be made, and the punishments are postponed, for a later time. With man's volition, we are apt to think our way is right, but the Word of God warns against such. "There is a way which seemeth right unto man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." Prov. 14:12. "And it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgement." Heb.9:27. We need to realize that the final judgments are in the Hands of God. Our relation with God the Father is dependent upon our relationship with God the Son. Why is this so? "For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgement unto the Son; That all men should honor the Son, even as they honor the Father. He that honoreth not the Son honoreth not the Father, Who has sent Him. Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that heareth My Word, and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into judgement, but is passed from death unto life." Jn. 5:22-24. Since all judgments are placed in the hands of the Lord Jesus Christ, it is obvious that He is our Mediator before God the Father. (1 Tim.2:5.) That is also why we are admonished to pray to God the Father in the Name of God the Son. (Jn.14:13-14.)

As we study the judgments through God, may we realize that all of these judgments are in the Hands of the Lord Jesus Christ. God the Holy Spirit has been sent into this world for the purpose of reproving the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgement. "And when He is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgement. Of sin, because they believe not on Me; Of righteousness, because I go to My Father, and ye see me no more; of judgement, because the prince of this world is judged." Jn.16:8-11. God the Holy Spirit did come on the day of Pentecost and has been here ever since. We who have accepted Christ, have been born again by the Holy Spirit, Who dwells within us forever. (Jn.14:16-17; 1 Cor.12:13.)

The judgments through God are of great importance to us, as Believers. God is always patient and long suffering, especially toward those who acknowledge Him. "In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths." Prov.3:6. "It is a fearful thing to fall into the Hands of the Living God." Heb.10:31. So as we study the judgments, may we do so prayerfully and with reverence, desiring to understand more about our loving Lord and His mighty power.

As we study the future judgments of God, it is also necessary that we understand the past judgments of God. As we examine these past judgments of God, we may think that God was very severe at times, but we must also remember that God sees more than what appears on the surface. He knows the thoughts and intents of every person. God knows the end from the beginning of all things and His master plan is absolutely perfect and never

needs to be altered or changed. We will refer to some of the past judgments as we discuss the following characteristics of God's judgments.

I. GOD'S JUDGMENTS ARE SURE.

II. GOD'S JUDGMENTS ARE JUST AND TRUE.

III. GOD'S JUDGMENTS ARE RIGHT.

IV. GOD'S JUDGMENTS EXALT AND GLORIFY.

V. GOD'S JUDGMENTS TO COME.

I. GOD'S JUDGMENTS ARE SURE.

There are no escape routes from the penalty of sin, apart from the Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord will judge and establish His authority in His own time. "The adversaries of the Lord shall be broken to pieces, out of heaven shall come forth the mighty power of God thundering down upon them. The Lord shall judge the ends of the earth; and He shall give strength unto His King, and exalt the horn of His Anointed." 1 Sam. 2:10. We also read, "He cometh to judge the earth" 1 Chron.16:33b. The natural man spends very little time, pondering on things to come, but is content to, "Eat, Drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die". It is not quite as simple as this, according to the Bible. There is a day of reckoning coming to all, both the living and the dead. We have God's Word to verify this statement. "Let the floods clap their hands, let the hills be joyful together before the Lord; for He cometh to judge the earth; with righteousness shall He judge the world, and the peoples with equity. Ps.98:8-9. God always has His appointed time in judgments. As Believers, we should constantly judge ourselves and make things right with God, before the Lord Himself will bring judgement upon us. Our sins have been paid for at the cross, but our daily walk in fellowship with the Lord, depends upon our walking in the light as He is in the light and maintaining fellowship as we confess our sins. (1 Cor.11:31; 1 Jn.1:7-9.)

The Holy Spirit was sent to this world on the day of Pentecost, to provide newness of life to the Believers, and to restrain the evil forces in this world. God the Holy Spirit is a great comfort and protection to all who have been born again. We have God the Holy Spirit to protect us against the evil forces. The Holy Spirit was also sent to bring convictions which leads to repentance. The evil forces are restrained by Him and he convicts this world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgement. God's judgement is sure, though some think that they are getting away with evil deeds. There is a time set for the final judgement of God, whether they believe it or not. Though these unbelievers do not bow their knees before the Lord Jesus Christ now, the day of reckoning will come. "Wherefore, God hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a Name which is above every name, that at the Name

of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Phil.2:9-11. All unbelievers will be raised from the grave, and come before the great white throne in judgement. They will be judged out of their own works and fall short of the requirements of God, and be cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, remaining in constant torment forever. But as they stand before Christ at the white throne judgement, they will fall before Him and bow their knees before the King of kings and Lord of Lords. (Rev.20:11-15.)

From the beginning of time, God has been bringing judgments against sin. We need to consider some of these judgments and realize that those past judgments were not the final judgments. They are but partial judgments with the final yet to come. Here are a few of the many judgments of God, which demanded immediate dealings by God.

Past Judgments.

1. Expelled from the Garden of Eden. Gen.3:23-24.
2. The flood. Gen.6:1-24.
3. The tower of Babel. Gen.11:1-9.
4. The judgments against Egypt. The Book of Exodus.
5. Israel's disobedience in the wilderness. The Book of Exodus.
6. The golden calf judgement. Exod.32:1-35.
7. Judgments against Israel because of the wicked kings.
8. The many captivities because the Sabbath and God's ordinances were not observed nor obeyed.
9. The Seventy years captivity in Babylon. Jer.25.
10. The seventy times seven or 490 years, for failure to keep the Sabbatic and Jubilee years. (483 of these years have been fulfilled with 7 years to be judged during the Tribulation.)
11. Judgments against cities and nations because of idol worship and wickedness. (Example, Sodom and Gomorrah)

All of these judgments which have been listed are but few of the many, and they were limited and controlled as preliminary judgments. The Lord Jesus Christ has been appointed

to give the final judgments, either before the Judgement seat of Christ, or the Great White Throne judgement. God the Father has given God the Son all authority. "For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgement unto the Son." Jn.5:22. "Because He hath appointed a day, in which He will judge that world in righteousness by the Man whom He hath ordained; Concerning which He hath given assurance unto all men, in that He hath raised Him from the dead." Acts 17:31. No one will escape God's judgement, therefore it is very important that we accept the Lord Jesus Christ as our personal Saviour, who has been sent as our "Kinsman Redeemer", to deliver us out from the bondage of sin. God has given His very own eternal Son that, "Whosoever Believeth," may be forgiven.

II. GOD'S JUDGMENTS ARE JUST AND TRUE.

Since God is not a respecter of persons, (Acts 10:34.) we can be assured that all of His judgments will be absolute just and true. We are admonished by the Word, "Judge not according to the appearance", (Jn.7:24.) which is God's law, so we know that the Lord is just in all of His judgments. I am glad that, "The Lord is Our Judge". (Isa.33:22.) Every human being that will ever be born into this world is under the penalty of sin, which is death, (Rom.6:23.) but God has provided His Son to pay the wages of death for the sins of the whole world. "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom He 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; To declare, I say, at this time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of him who believeth in Jesus." Rom.3:23-26. God's Word is true, and just for all. It cost God the Father, His Only Begotten Son to make salvation available to "Whosoever Will". Although billions of souls will perish without Christ, God does not wish that one soul should perish. (2 Pet.3:9.) God the Father has made a way of escape through His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. We are reminded that hell and the lake of fire were prepared for the devil and his angels. (Matt.25:41.)

No one will escape the judgments of God, for they are set and will judge all wickedness throughout all ages. There is but one escape route from the penalty of sin. God's provision of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. "How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard Him, God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with diverse miracles and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?" Heb.2:3-4. The Lord Jesus Christ took upon Himself the sins of the whole world, to make redemption possible for every person, past, present, and future. God is just and true and wants to share His eternal forgiveness and peace with us. "And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue and if there be any praise, think on these things." Phil.4:7-8.

Since the Lord Jesus Christ paid the supreme penalty of sin in our stead, He needs no other witness but His own. "Jesus answered, and said unto them, Though I bear witness of Myself, yet my witness is true; for I know from where I came, and where I go; but ye cannot tell from where I come, and where I go. Ye judge after the flesh; I judge no man. And yet if I judge, My judgement is true; for I am not alone, but I and the Father that sent

Me." Jn.8:14-16. It will be Christ who will judge the living and the dead. "And He commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God to be the judge of the living and the dead. To Him give all the prophets witness, that through His Name whosoever believeth in Him shall receive remission of sins." Acts 10:42-43. As Paul wrote to Timothy he reminded him of this very fact. "I charge thee, therefore, before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: Preach the Word; be diligent in season, and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine." 2 Tim.4:1-2.

III. GOD'S JUDGMENTS ARE RIGHT.

God has appointed a specific time to make His final judgement upon all wickedness, applying His perfect righteousness to all of His judgments. God the Father has entrusted all judgments to be accomplished by His Eternal Son. "For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgement unto the Son." Jn.5:22. "Because He hath appointed a day, in which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He hath ordained; concerning which He hath given assurance unto all men, in that He hath raised Him from the dead." Acts 17:31. The Lord Jesus Christ will be seated on the great white throne as the final convicting power of God against all the unbelievers of all ages. They will behold the One who could have redeemed them from the penalty of sin, whom they rejected. They continually reject the Lord Jesus Christ and desire to go their own way, hoping to establish their own righteousness or rebel completely against God. They refuse to acknowledge Christ as the Eternal Son of God, but as they will stand in judgement, they will fall down before the King of Kings and Lord of Lords and recognize Him as the Eternal Son of God. "That at the Name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Phil.2:10-11. No one will be able to deny that Christ is their rightful judge, as He will pronounce the penalty of eternal death in the lake of fire and brimstone.

Mankind of all generations will be rightfully judged by the Lord Jesus Christ. They will be forced to face the absolute truth of God. "Now we know that whatsoever things the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God." Rom.3:19. The Lord shall judge all of the people. (Ps.7:8.) " And He shall judge the world in righteousness; He shall minister judgement to the peoples in uprightness." Ps.9:8. "For God is the judge; He putteth down one, and setteth up another." Ps.75:7. The Lord Jesus Christ is the rightful judge, who was appointed by God the Father. "Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God; and they that hear shall live. For the Father hath life in Himself, so hath He given to the Son to have life in Himself; and hath given Him authority to execute judgement also, because He is the Son of Man. Marvel not at this; for the hour is coming, in which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice, and shall come forth: they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation. I can of mine own self do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgement is just, because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father who hath sent Me." Jn.5:25-30.

IV. GOD'S JUDGMENTS EXALT AND GLORIFY.

The Lord's prayer made directly to the Father by the Son of God, should be very precious to every Christian. Christ was about to lay down His life for the remission of sins. Here is what He prayed to the Father. "Father the hour is come; glorify Thy Son, that Thy Son also may glorify Thee. As Thou hast given Him power over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as Thou hast given Him. And this is life eternal that they might know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom Thou hast sent. I have glorified Thee on the earth; I have finished the work which Thou gavest me to do. And now, O Father glorify Thou Me with Thine own self, with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was." Jn.17:1-5. As you read and study the complete prayer of the Lord Jesus Christ, you will realize the importance of the crucifixion. It exalted and glorified the Triune God and made possible a complete and everlasting judgement from God upon all in godliness. As Enoch walked with God during many of his 365 years upon earth, God revealed unto him the coming of the Messiah to judge the world. "And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of His saints, To execute judgement upon all, and to convict all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him." Jude 14-15. It is amazing how quickly the descendants of Adam followed the way of Cain. "But the Lord of hosts shall be exalted in justice, and God, who is holy, shall be sanctified in righteousness." Isa.5:16. "And therefore will the Lord wait, that he may be gracious unto you, and therefore will he be exalted, that he may have mercy upon you; for the Lord is a God of justice; blessed are all they that wait for him." Isa.30:18.

There will be nothing hidden from the Lord in those final judgments. "In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my Gospel." Rom.2:6. God will take vengeance against all who discredited God's glory and exaltation. "For what if some did not believe? Shall their unbelief make the faithfulness of God without effect? God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That Thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when Thou art judged. But if our righteousness commend the righteousness of God, what shall we say? Is God unrighteous who taketh vengeance? (I speak as a man.) God forbid; for then how shall God judge the world?". Rom.3:3-6. God has his perfect standards, based upon his perfect character and they must be perfectly kept. That is why God the Father sent his eternal Son to fulfill his requirements, making possible the remission of sins. If anyone refuses God's provision, that one will suffer the consequences. At this present time, God is allowing the cup of iniquity to be filled and to run it's evil course, and then the final judgement will come, putting away sin once and forever, bringing glory and honor to God forever. Sin and all evil forces will be removed forever. (Dan.9:24.)

THE JUDGMENTS THROUGH GOD.

V. GOD'S JUDGMENTS TO COME.

A. THE JUDGEMENT SEAT OF CHRIST. 2 Cor.5:10; 1 Cor.3:9-17.

- B. THE JUDGMENTS OF THE NATIONS. Rev.6-16.**
- C. THE JUDGMENTS BY WAR IN HEAVEN. Rev.9:1-12; Rev.12:7-17.**
- D. THE JUDGMENTS AGAINST ISRAEL. Rev.12:1-6; Rev.12:13-17.**
- E. THE JUDGEMENT OF RELIGION. Rev.17:1-18:24.**
- F. THE JUDGEMENT OF ARMAGEDDON. Rev.19:1-20:6.**
- G. THE JUDGEMENT OF THE BEAST AND FALSE PROPHET. Rev.19:19-20.**
- H. THE JUDGEMENT BETWEEN THE SHEEP AND THE GOATS. Matt.25:31-41.**
- I. THE JUDGEMENT AGAINST SATAN'S FINAL STAND. Rev.20:7-10.**
- J. THE JUDGEMENT AT THE GREAT WHITE THRONE. Rev.20:11-15.**

A. THE JUDGEMENT SEAT OF CHRIST. 2 Cor.5:10; 1 Cor.3:9-17.

As we read the fifth chapter of second Corinthians, we must keep it in context and realize that this message is for the Believers. The Holy Spirit is revealing what is in store for the Believers, after we depart from this world. Our great expectation is to be clothed upon with our glorified bodies. "Therefore, we are always confident, knowing that, while we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord." 2 Cor.5:6. The issue in this chapter is, "Wherefore, we labor that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of Him". 2 Cor.5:9. In other words, we should desire that our labor in the Lord is accepted by the Lord. This judgement is within the family of God among the Believers. Salvation is not the issue, but rather rewards for being faithful to the Lord while on earth. Since salvation is not the issue, the judgement will deal with our good works, as to whether they are as wood, hay, and stubble, or gold silver, and precious stones. "For we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ, that everyone may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad" 2 Cor.5:10. Believers are often confused about the "good or bad", and one can understand this. However, the good and the bad do not represent sin in either case. Why is this so? Because Christ died for the sins of the whole world. What it does refer to, is whether the good works were of wood, hay, or stubble, or of gold, silver, and precious stones. "For other foundation can no man lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood hay, stubble - Every man's work shall be made manifest; for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall test every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built upon it, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss; but he himself shall be saved, yet as by fire. Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?" 1 Cor.3:11-16.

We go back to the beginning of this chapter and we find that the letter to the Corinthians deals with Christian service, among the Believers who have been born again, by the Holy Spirit. If you are serving the Lord as a Christian and do it for the sake of what you can get out of it, in wealth, prestige, self glory, fame or advantage, then you can mark all of this up to "Wood, Hay, and Stubble", only to be burned at the judgement seat of Christ. If you desire to serve the Lord, regardless of your personal benefits, then you are storing up in heaven for yourself, Gold, Silver, and Precious Stones. If you desire to dominate, and officiate as lord over others, your works will be burned. God is looking for faithful followers who will be willing to take up their cross and follow the Lord, regardless of circumstances. Your motive for doing good is an important issue.

Can we get this wood, hay, and stubble removed, before the judgement seat of Christ? Of course we can, and that by confessing to the Lord your evil intents and have Him remove it, and make room for a better service. (1 Jn.1:7-9.) We are all guilty of trying to be the great one in the service of the Lord, and need to mend our ways. Keep short accounts with the Lord and get rid of all of that self glory through your service to the Lord. God is waiting for you to acknowledge these short comings, for He already knows your every thought and intent. When you confess, then those false services will not be brought up before the judgement seat of Christ.

When can we expect this judgement seat of Christ to take place? It certainly will not take place, when we go to be with the Lord when we die! According to my knowledge of the Word of God, it will take place when we are raptured home to glory, whether living or dying. (Jn.14:1-6; 1 Thess.4:13-18; 1 Cor.15:51-58; 1 Thess.1:10; 1 Thess.2:19; 1 Thess.5:9-10; 2 Thess.1:10; 2 Thess.2:1-2.) We will receive our glorified bodies, when this rapture takes place. Those who have gone on before us are waiting to return with the Lord when the graves will open and their bodies changed and glorified, to be like the Lord Jesus Christ. We which are alive at the coming of the Lord will receive a glorified body as well and be like unto the Lord's body. (1 Jn.3:1-3.) Then, we return with the Lord to those prepared mansions in heaven and a time will be set for the judgement seat of Christ for all Believers. As faithful Believers, we will get our rewards and then be assigned special responsibilities in God's kingdom, when we are caught up, and delivered out from the wrath to come. (1 Thess.1:10.)

B. THE JUDGMENTS OF THE NATIONS. Rev. 6-16.

The judgments of the nations will take place during the Tribulation, while the Old Testament Saints and the body of Christ have safely arrived in heaven. Before the tribulation begins, we will experience what is written in Revelation chapters 4 and 5. As the **first seal** will be opened by the Lamb of God, then this planet earth will experience the outpouring of the wrath of God. A false peace will be internationally accepted, being led by the Dictator from the revived Roman Empire. He will be Satan's counterfeit, deceiving the multitudes, desiring peace at all cost. Then the **second seal** will be opened, and peace is replaced with terrible universal war. There will be a great slaughtering of each other. The effect of this terrible killing will be experienced as the **third seal** will be opened, and universal famine with a great scarcity of food every where will exist. The **fourth seal** will be opened with over a billion people tasting of death and hades. The **fifth seal** will reveal

the martyrs, "I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the Word of God, and for the testimony which they held." Rev.6:9. These will be given special white robes as they await their resurrection, along with their fellow brethren who will be killed during the tribulation. The **sixth seal** will be opened and there will be great disturbances upon the earth and in the skies, with earthquakes and the falling of meteors upon the earth, causing great destruction. As all of this destruction is continuing, John has a preview of the end times, when the heavens and earth will be destroyed as recorded in 2 Peter 3:10-12. But during the great destruction through the earthquakes, people will try to hide and be covered over by the upheaval of the rocks. The **seventh seal** will be opened and the calm before the storm will take place with an outstanding silence before the seven trumpeters appear.

The wrath of God will continue as each of the seven trumpeters sound forth, as they usher in the terrible judgments of God upon this planet earth. There will be no escape, and God will have to give special protection for the tribulation saints with His personal mark. (Rev.7:2-3.) The **first trumpet** will sound, and hail and fire with blood will fall upon the earth, destroying one third of the trees and one third of the vegetation. This will be world wide with great devastation. The **second trumpet** will sound and a third part of the seas will turn to blood, killing a third part of the creatures of the sea and a third of all the ships will sink. This will cause the greatest pollution that this world will experience up to this point. The **third trumpet** will sound and a third part of the rivers and streams will turn to bitterness, when a great star falls upon the earth. The **fourth trumpet** will sound and a third part of the sun will fade away, causing darkness, as well as a change in the temperature upon the earth. All of this is terrible enough, but an angel will then declare, **Woe, Woe, Woe**, unto the inhabitants of the earth. This will usher in the "**Abomination of Desolation**" spoken of by Daniel and confirmed by Christ. The **fifth trumpet** will sound and Satan will be cast out of heaven by Michael the Archangel. (Rev.9:1-12; Rev.12:7-17.) This will take place in the middle of the tribulation and is spelled out by 1,260 days, also 42 months, which amounts to three and one half years. There will be another army of demons released from the bottomless pit, by Satan and their leader's name is "Destroyer". The **sixth trumpet** will sound and a great army of demons will be released from under the Euphrates river. These will go forth to slay one third of the men upon this planet earth. They will number two hundred thousand thousand. Those that survive will not repent, but will continue to worship idols and live in wickedness. The **seventh trumpet** will sound and will preview the coming of the kingdom of righteousness upon the earth, and the temple in heaven will be opened. It then goes on to describe the satanic attacks especially upon Israel which we will describe later on. Satan will take over the complete control of the two beasts and will perform many miracles before the people, causing them to worship the Dictator.

As the judgments of God continue against the nations of the world, there will appear a great sign in the heavens, as the seven angels appear with the seven bowls of the wrath of God. The **first bowl** will be poured out upon the earth, causing foul and painful sores upon all who had taken the mark of the beast. The **second bowl** will be poured out upon the sea and every living creature died that was found in the sea, due to the water turning to blood. This will cause the greatest pollution that the world has ever experienced. The **third bowl** will be poured out upon the rivers and streams causing them to turn to blood. It will be in judgement against those who continually shed blood in their wicked deeds. The **fourth bowl** of wrath will be poured out upon the sun, causing it's heat to scorch men with fire. One can imagine the forest and grass fires that will burn world wide. The occupants of this earth will then blaspheme the Name of the Lord, rather than repent. The **fifth bowl**

of the wrath of God will be poured out upon the kingdom of the revived Roman empire, and will cause great penetrating darkness and pain. This may be the time that Russia will attack Israel, since all activity will come to a stand still in the Beast's kingdom, not allowing him to protect the Middle East. The **sixth bowl** will be poured out and the river Euphrates will dry up, causing the great hordes of the Orient to enter the Middle East. (Dan. 11:44.) The **seventh bowl** will then be poured out, finishing this series of judgments against the nations. Great earthquakes will occur, and the Holy City will be split open in three parts, as well as many of the great cities of the nations will fall. These sky scrapers which man has built will be thrown down. The islands of the sea will disappear, and the mountains will not be found. Hail stones will fall, with weights up to one hundred pounds. All of this is but part of the judgments against the nations.

C. THE JUDGEMENT BY WAR IN HEAVEN. Rev.9:1-12; Rev.12:7-17; Isa.14:12-17.

"And there was war in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not, neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil and Satan, who deceiveth the whole world; he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of Christ; for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, who accused them before our God day and night." Rev.12:7-10. ~~And~~ the fifth angel sounded, (**The fifth Trumpet**) and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth; and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit." Rev.9:1.

Regardless of the opinions of some theologians, Satan still must appear in heaven to give an account of what he is doing. The sovereignty of God demands that this takes place periodically. The case of Job is a good example. We are also reminded that Satan continually accuses the brethren, day and night. (Rev.12:10.) This also necessitates that the Believers have an advocate and Mediator in the Heavens. (1 Jn.2:1; 1 Tim.2:5; Heb.8:6; Heb.9:15; Heb.12:24.) In Revelation chapter 9, the fifth trumpet will sound and Satan, as that star, will fall from heaven to earth. An angel will give him the key to the bottomless pit, where an army of demons has been locked up since Satan caused one third of God's angels to fall. This great army of demons, will be led by a 5 star general by the name of Destroyer. They will torment the people for 5 months. (Rev.9:10.) Now let us turn to Revelation chapter 12, beginning with verse 7. It will be Michael the archangel and his army that will fight with Satan and his demons in heaven and cast them all out with no place to go but upon the planet earth. This will be the beginning of the "Abomination of Desolation" spoken of by Daniel and confirmed by Christ. Now the fierceness of Satan and his demons will increase, as they will know that their time of wicked activity will soon be over. This satanic terrorism will continue for three and one half years. (Rev.13:5.)

D. THE JUDGEMENT AGAINST ISRAEL. Rev.12:1-6; Rev.12,13-17.

The anger of Satan will be kindled, when he is cast out of heaven, never to return. His fury will be taken out upon all earthly people, but especially against Israel. "And there appeared a great wonder in heaven - a woman clothed with the sun and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars. And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered." Rev.12:1-2. This seems like a strange

interlude, but very important. When Satan is cast out of heaven, he remembers that "Seed of the woman" of Gen.3:15. Jacob and "The seed of the Woman" is revealed here. Jacob represents all of Israel, with the 12 sons or tribes of Jacob, whose name was changed to Israel. The Messianic birth is also referred to in this prophetic record. The following verses describe how Satan tried to destroy her child, which is recorded in the Gospels. "And she brought forth a male child, who will rule all nations with a rod of iron; and her child was caught up unto God, and to His throne" Rev.12:5. This portion definitely reveals who the child is, and now is in heaven after the crucifixion and resurrection, awaiting His return to set up His kingdom, after the rapture of the Saints. (Ps.2:9; Rev.2:27; Rev.19:15.) "And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days." The number of days included in this revelation, helps us to place the flight of Israel, and relates it to what the Lord said. "When ye, therefore, shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place (whosoever readeth, let him understand). Then let them who are in Judea flee into the mountains; Let him who is on the housetop not come down to take anything out of his house; Neither let him who is in the field return back to take his clothes." Matt.24:15-18. God has a place already prepared for Israel, as the satanic power will attempt her total destruction. The most obvious place from Judea would be that old stone city called Petra. God will place a hedge of protection around those mountains and feed Israel as He did the children of Israel in the wilderness. "And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman who brought forth the male child. And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for time, and times; and half a time, from the face of the serpent. And the serpent cast out of his mouth water like a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood. And the earth helped the woman and the earth opened her mouth and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth. And the dragon was angry with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, who keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." Rev.12:13-17. Israel has rejected the Lord Jesus Christ as her Messiah for almost 2,000 years, and for this has been scattered around the world. Now, God is regathering her under terrible pressure and persecution, especially from the Arabs, but she is re-occupying her land as promised by God. Israel has been at war since 1948 and this will continue until the rapture of the true church takes place, ushering in the tribulation. This portion of Scripture clearly states that Satan will be at war with Israel just as long as he possibly can. There will be many Jews who will not flee to the hills, but will remain under the power of the two beasts and so be tormented, killed and persecuted. The 144,000 Jewish youth will witness among the Gentiles caring nothing for their life, knowing that the time will be but three and one half years before the Messiah returns to set up His glorious kingdom of righteousness.

E. THE JUDGEMENT OF RELIGION. Rev.17:1-18:24.

Religion started with Babylon at the tower of Babel, and God will pass His final judgement upon religion with Mystery Babylon. The ecumenical movement of religion is gaining momentum, attempting to unite all types of religion under one great organization. Any heathen god is acceptable to their religious organization as they are attempting to repeat what was attempted at the tower of Babel. "And they said, Come, let us build us a

city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth." Gen.11:4. The ecumenical movement is trying to by-pass God's living Word and substitute their condemned organization, attempting to make a name for themselves. They have various forms of godliness but deny the truth of God's Word. (2 Tim.3:5.) This apostate organization with their false saintly robes and regalia, will be judged severely by God during the latter part of the tribulation.

Let us go back to the Word of God and examine how the Beast and the false prophet were voted into power. "And there came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come here; I will show unto thee the judgement of the great harlot that sitteth upon many waters; With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication. So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet colored beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet color, and bedecked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand, full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication; And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. And I saw the woman drunk with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus; and when I saw her, I wondered with great wonder." Rev.17:1-6. This religious order can only refer to the sum total of the ecumenical religious organization, which will have a combined power that the Beast will have to recognize as the organization that will help him to become the Dictator of the World. He will have to tolerate her religious gimmicks. There is no greater political power than through religion.

We now must identify this mystery Babylon. "And the angel said unto me, Why didst thou wonder? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns. The beast that thou sawest was, and is not, and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition; and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is. And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth. And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space. And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition. And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, who have received no kingdom as yet, but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast." Rev.17:7-13.

1. The mystery of the Woman who will ride the Beast into power.

The Woman has been described in previous Scripture as a symbol of a religious order of ecumenical stature. This religious group will have great power and influence over her subjects and she will convince the multitude to accept the Beast as the Dictator of the Revived Roman Empire. If we are familiar with past history, we will be aware of the part that religion plays in politics. A pragmatic approach is made during elections to make full use of great religious blocs. So when the Roman Empire is being revived, religious groups will play an important part in their coming to power. Politics will have to tolerate these religious authorities and grant many concessions, until complete control is established.

2. The Beast that has seven heads and ten horns.

This Beast is the Dictator who will become the head of the Revived Roman Empire. The seven heads will be the seven divisions of the Beast's empire, after three of them are dissolved and combined with the seven. This also has a reference to the seven kings that dominated Israel, namely Philistines, Egypt, Syria, Babylon, Medo-Persians, Greece, and Rome. The seven and the ten, takes us back to Daniel 7:24. "And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise; and another shall rise after them, and he shall be diverse from the first, (The Beast) and he shall subdue three kings." (note also Dan.7:19 - 20.) The phrase, "The other is not yet come" refers to the Revival of the Roman Empire. The ten horns are the original ten kingdoms of the Revived Roman Empire. These ten horns or kingdoms have not come into being as yet. Special attention should be given to the tenses in Revelation 17:8; **The Beast that was** = is in the bottomless pit with his army of demons, being a fallen angel who will eventually indwell the Beast. **The Beast that is not** = The future Dictator of the Revived Roman Empire, who is yet to be. **The Beast that yet is** = The fallen angel in the Bottomless Pit, who will indwell the Beast. (Rev.11:7.) **The ten kings, who have received no kingdom as yet, but receive power as kings one hour with the beast** = The Revival of the Roman Empire will take place when the Beast comes to power and these kings shall rule with the beast for one hour, or a short time of three and one half years. (Dan.7:25; Rev.13:5; Dan.12:11-12.)

This prepares us for the final destruction of Mystery Babylon, or the ecumenical religious organization in the world. After the Beast gets established with great power, he then does not need the help of religion. He can openly make war against the Lamb, which is his main target, unhindered by religious groups. The Lamb will eventually have the Victory over the Beast. The woman and the great City of Rome will be attacked by the Revival of the Roman Empire. (Rev.17:16.)

This Mystery Babylon will be destroyed as recorded in Revelation Chapter 18:1-8. The demons will take over the ecumenical religious organization and the Revived Roman Empire will take the wealth which has been collected from many nations around the world. The self glory of religious leaders will be taken away forever. The Word of God also gives warning to those who are in the ecumenical movement to "Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues; for her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities. Rev.18:4-5.

The merchants from around the world will weep for this great religious system, as they had much gain through her luxuries. But in heaven there will be great rejoicing with the death of this false religious system. A mighty angel in heaven will demonstrate by casting a great millstone into the sea, indicating that there will be great violence as that great city is thrown down forever. This great religious organization was responsible for the death of many of God's prophets and Saints. "And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth". Rev.18:24., There will be great rejoicing in heaven as the great harlot comes to her end. "And after these things I heard a great voice of many people in heaven, saying, Hallelujah! Salvation, and glory, and honor, and power, unto the Lord, our God; For true and righteous are his judgments; for He hath judged the great harlot, who did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of His servants at her hand. And again they said, Hallelujah! and her smoke rose up forever and ever." Rev.19:1-3.

F. THE JUDGEMENT OF ARMAGEDDON. Rev.19:1-20:6.

It is not an easy task to pin point all that is included in the battle of Armageddon and differentiate it from the sneak attack of Russia against the Middle East. My personal observation as I study the Word of God, is that Russia and her Satellites will make their secret attack against Israel when she is dwelling in safety. (Ezekiel 38-39.) The Battle of Armageddon will be fought when the Lord returns to set up His kingdom of righteousness. The Revived Roman Empire seems to be absent when this attack by Russia occurs. It may be during the time when total darkness is over the headquarters of the Revived roman Empire. (Rev.16:10-11.) However, as we examine the Battle of Armageddon, the heavens will open and the Lord Himself will come forth in battle array against the united nations led by the Beast of the revived Roman Empire. Their missiles will be pointing skyward, thinking that they can blast the Lord out of existence and give Satan the victory. The Lord will be followed by an army of angels, as well as the Saints of all ages, but they will only be observers. The Lord will accomplish His mission alone as He destroys them with His Word. "And out of His mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it He should smite the nations, and He shall rule them with a rod of iron; and He treadeth the wine-press of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He hath on His vesture and on His thigh a Name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS." Rev.19:15-16. The slaughter will be terrible as the armies of the nations around the world try to destroy our eternal God. The vultures and other birds of prey will all be called in for a feast but will not be able to cope with all of the corpses.

G. THE JUDGEMENT OF THE BEAST AND THE FALSE PROPHET. Rev.19:19-20;

"And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him that sat on the horse, and against His army. And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshiped his image, These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone." Rev.19:19-20. The beast and the false prophet, who is often called the anti-Christ, will both be thrown into the Lake of Fire and Brimstone and be tormented day and night forever and ever. These two will be the first occupants of the Lake of Fire and Brimstone. They will pass from their physical life, into a living death and remain there for eternity.

H. THE JUDGEMENT BETWEEN THE SHEEP AND THE GOATS. Matt.25:31-46.

We have gone to great lengths in presenting the Kingdom of Righteousness which will follow these previous judgments. The kingdoms of this world will become the Kingdom of God, and the Lord Jesus Christ will rule and reign with a perfect government for the duration of a thousand years. Although many unregenerate will be killed during the battle of Armageddon, there will be many more unregenerate throughout the world. "When the Son of Man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory. And before Him shall be gathered all nations; and He shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats." Matt.25:31-32. The sheep will be those from out of the tribulation, who remained faithful to the Lord and are called "Tribulation Saints". Many of these will have been among those who will flee to the hills for refuge according to Matt.24:15-20. There will be others who

gave supplies of food and water to those Saints who were destitute and sought after by the Beast to be killed. These will enter into Christ's kingdom of righteousness as earthly people who will continue life as always, bearing children under perfect conditions. They will still be earthly people to be taught by the kingdom of glorified Saints.

The goats will consist of the unregenerate and wicked people from all nations around the world. "Then shall He say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels;And these shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal." Rev.25:41 - 46. The goats will be destroyed for the duration of the thousand year Kingdom of righteousness and afterward they will be raised from the dead to be judged at the great white throne judgement before they are cast into the lake of fire and brimstone for ever and ever. The sheep will be prepared to enter the Kingdom of righteousness and will be the earthly people for the kingdom, bearing children and living hundreds of years upon the earth. This truth is very important in our understanding the people of this kingdom who will be earth dwellers in their natural bodies, saved by Christ the Redeemer.

I.THE JUDGEMENT AGAINST SATAN'S FINAL STAND. Rev.20:7-10.

"And when the thousand years are ended, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, and shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle; the number of whom is as the sand of the sea." Rev.20:7-8. We are told that Satan will be loosed a little season. (Rev.20:3b.) No matter how long that period may be, Satan and his demons will compass the whole earth, looking for those who reject God's perfect righteousness. All of these will be offspring from the sheep which will inherit the earth. There will be many of the children from godly parents who will rebel against God and desire to do as they please, rejecting God's holiness. It again reminds us of the total depravity of man, rebelling against the perfect law of God. Satan will find easy prey as he sends forth the billions of demons at his command, to gather armies as the sands of the sea, so great in number.

When these armies are trained and ready to revolt against Jerusalem, that Holy City, they will completely surround the Lord with His kingdom of priests, which will include the Saints of all ages. "And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the Beloved City; and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them." Rev.20:9. God doesn't spend much time in describing the destruction of armies in the millions. Mighty and powerful is our God! Who is able to stand against Him?

This will be the final stand that the Devil and his demons make before God's final judgement. "And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night forever and ever." Rev.20:10. The devil and his demons were judged at Calvary and this final sentence will come in God's time. To God be the glory, great things He hath done!

J. THE JUDGEMENT AT THE GREAT WHITE THRONE. Rev.20:11-15.

"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." Rev.20:11. As John views the Great White Throne, He sees the one seated on the throne as the Eternal Son of God, who will cause the heavens and earth to pass away with fervent heat. (2 Pet.3:10.)

As the Lord Jesus Christ will sit upon that great glittering throne, we as the Saints of God will behold our Bridegroom in all of His majesty and glory. "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." Rev.20:12. I am sure that God has the best set of computers available and all the Saints are registered in the book of life, and all of the works of the unregenerate are kept in their individual book of good works. They will be brought into this great court room prepared to bring just sentence to each individual.

"And the sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and hades delivered up the dead that were in them; and they were judged every man according to their works." Rev.20:13. As this second resurrection takes place, the death line from Cain onward becomes alive. I am sure that their first sight will be the Lord Jesus Christ seated upon the White Throne. Everyone will immediately bow their knee before the Eternal Son of God and confess that He is Lord over all. "Wherefore, God also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name, That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth, And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God, the father." Phil.2:9-11. Praise God, we who have accepted Christ as our personal Saviour have gladly bowed our knee to our Blessed Saviour and confessed Him as the Lord of glory.

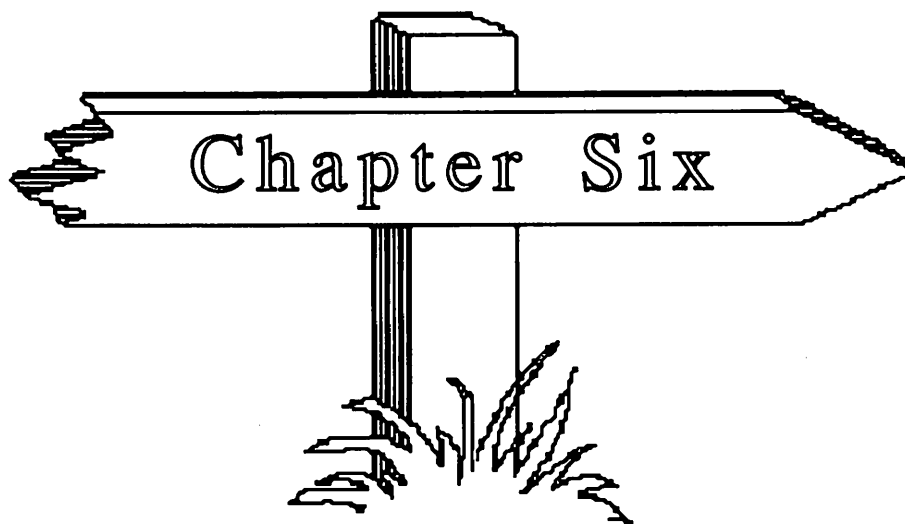
After all of those of the second resurrection have acknowledged the Lord Jesus Christ as the eternal Son of God, they now will be judged, according to what good they have done in the world. All of these good deeds will then be placed and compared along side of what God requires, and all will fall short of the glory of God. These poor souls have trusted in their own righteousness which is as filthy rags in comparison to God's perfect righteousness, and as a consequence will be cast into the Lake of Fire and Brimstone and remain there forever and ever. "And death and hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." Rev.20:14-15. It will be a sad day for billions of souls that have lived upon planet earth and refused the eternal Son of God. "But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through His Name." Jn.20:31.

Q U E S T I O N S

1. Name the judgments through God and give reference.
2. Explain who will stand before the Judgement seat of Christ? Cite Scripture.
3. When will the judgement seat of Christ take place? Give reasons for your statement.
4. Where do we find the complete record of the judgement of the nations?
5. Give reasons why Satan is still in heaven. Cite Scripture.
6. When during the great Tribulation is Satan cast down to earth? Cite Scripture.

- 7. Explain Rev.12:1-6. Explain who the various characters are.**
- 8. Why does Satan hate both Christians and Jews? Write briefly.**
- 9. Why is God going to allow Israel to go through the tribulation?**
- 10. Explain Rev.17:1-18:24.**
- 11. Why should Believers have nothing to do with this world-wide ecumenical system?**
- 12. As God judges the nations, how does Ezekiel chapter 38 and 39 fit in?**
- 13. Explain, Rev.17:7-13. Especially "Who was, and is not, and yet is."**
- 14. When does the battle of Armageddon take place? Cite Scripture.**
- 15. Who are the first creatures to be cast into the Lake of Fire and Brimstone?**
- 16. Explain Matthew 25:31-46.**
- 17. What temporary judgement does Satan and his demons get during the kingdom age? Cite Scripture.**
- 18. Will there be people who will not like perfect righteousness during the Kingdom of Christ?**
- 19. Explain Rev. 20:7-10.**
- 20. Write an essay on Rev.20:11-15.**

ALL THINGS MADE NEW TO THE GLORY OF GOD



Rev 21 : 1 - 27

CHAPTER 6.

ALL THINGS MADE NEW TO THE GLORY OF GOD.

INTRODUCTION

The question may come to you, "Why is it necessary to destroy all of the original heaven and earth"? In our sense of economy, we would probably renovate the old and preserve the very best. But in the economy of God, His character is absolute and eternal and desires to put away every trace of the sin cursed heaven and earth. It is nothing for the Lord God Almighty to create a new heavens and a new earth, and destroy for ever the old. God doesn't want any of the former tainted creations to exist in that glorious new beginning. The traces of Satan and his demons must be removed, as well as all foot prints of the unbelieving world. There will also be changes made in His new creation, which will accommodate the glorified Old Testament Saints, the Bride of Christ and the Tribulation Saints. There will be many surprises for us in this new creation. Here is what the Word of God states. "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him. But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit; for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God." 1 Cor.2:9-10. In our mortal bodies we have been limited to a span of life and time, but in the coming new creation, "Time will be no more"! That is difficult for us to understand, and we are reminded. "For now we see in a mirror, darkly; but then, face to face; now I know in part, but then shall I know even as also I am known." 1 Cor.13:12.

I. THE OLD TO BE DESTROYED TO MAKE ROOM FOR THE NEW.

II. TIME WILL BE NO MORE.

III. THE SUM TOTAL OF SIN TO BE JUDGED AND SEALED OFF FOREVER.

IV. ALL THINGS NEWLY CREATED.

I. THE OLD TO BE DESTROYED TO MAKE ROOM FOR THE NEW. 2 Pet.3:4-12.

In the economy of God, there is no room for renovating or improving on the old. God in His mighty creative power needs but say the word and what He wants will come to pass. The skeptics of God question even the return of the Lord to rule and reign upon the earth. "And saying, Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the Word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water, by which the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished. But the heavens and the earth which are now, by the same Word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgement and perdition of ungodly men. But beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand

years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness, but is long suffering toward us, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat; the earth also, and the works that are in it, shall be burned up. Seeing, then, that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of person ought ye to be in all holy living and godliness." 2 Pet.4-11.

This is a very important passage from the Bible and needs our careful observation. There are several truths revealed in this passage so let us name some of the outstanding facts.

1. The promise of the return of the Lord is certain by God.
2. The earth has changed since the flood.
3. The present planet earth is being judged.
4. God is not subject to time.
5. Heaven and earth is to pass away.

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1. The promise of the return of the Lord is certain by God.

The Rapture

Jn.14:1-6; 1 Thess.4:13-18; 1 Thess.1:10; Acts 1:10-11; 1 Cor.15:51-58; 1 Cor.13:12; 1 Thess.2:19; 2 Thess.1:10; 2 Thess.2:1; 2 Thess.3:5; Titus 2:13; 2 Pet.1:16; 1 Jn.3:2; James 5:7-8.

God is calling out a bride for His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. From the day of pentecost until the rapture takes place, all believers become members of the body of Christ. Through the new birth by God the Holy Spirit, we become members of the royal family of God. We will have no part in the Tribulation that will follow the rapture. The tribulation is part and parcel of "Jacob's Trouble", in completing the 70 times 7 of the prophecy of Daniel. The Lord is going to return in the clouds as He promised in John 14:1-6. This is great comfort to the church, "and to wait for His Son from heaven, Whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus, Who delivered us from the wrath to come." 1 Thess.1:10. "For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming?" 1 Thess.2:19. "For God hath not appointed us to wrath but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, Who died for us that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him." 1 Thess. 5:9-10.

The imminent return of the Lord should constantly be our attitude, ever witnessing, but always watching for the soon return of the Lord Jesus Christ. We cannot set a date as some try to set, by saying that He will come in the middle of the tribulation, or at the end of the tribulation. They are wrong in their theology, for no one but God the Father knows when the Lord will return. "But that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the

angels of heaven, but My Father only." Matt.24:36. "Therefore be ye also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." Matt.24:44. One of these great days, that trumpet is going to sound, the heavens will open and the Lord Himself will descend in the clouds, and the dead in Christ will rise first, and then we who are alive will be "Caught Up" together with those who died as Believers. We have been promised to go with the Lord to heaven for the duration of the great tribulation. 1 Thess. 4:13-18; John 14:1-6. We have already studied this great truth, which should be a mighty comfort to every member of the body of Christ.

The second coming of the Lord.

Jude 14,15; Isa.2:1-5; Isa.9:6-7; Isa.11:1-10; Isa.65:18-25; Isa.66:15-21; Dan.2:14-15; Mic.4:1-7; Zech.8:1-8; Matt.24:29-31; Matt.25:31-46; 1 Thess.3:13; 2 Thess.1:7; Ps.2:1-9; Rev.11:15; Rev.19:11-20:3.

The Bible clearly presents the return of the Lord to set up His kingdom of righteousness upon the earth as indicated by the Scripture references above. I have separated the first phase of His coming from the setting up of His kingdom upon this earth. Study all of these references very carefully, for there is a vast difference in the setting of the two events. The Kingdom on earth cannot start until the rapture takes place, and may we be established in the promises of God. "To the end He may establish your hearts unblamable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all of His saints." There will be no partial rapture or partial bride of Christ. We will all be in heaven, in order that we all return to earth as the Lord sets up His Kingdom of righteousness with a rod of iron.

Some cults are so confused about this kingdom, that they claim that we are already in the kingdom. We as Believers are looking for that Kingdom of Christ, where righteousness will reign throughout the whole world. Where the lion and the lamb will lay down together, where nature is restored, and wars will be no more. "And He shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." Mic.4:3. There are many references in the Bible concerning the Kingdom, which we have already reviewed.

That will be a glorious sight for all the earth to observe, when the King of Kings and Lord of Lords breaks forth into our hemisphere riding upon the white horse of victory. Praise God, we shall be with Him to behold His mighty power. The armies of heaven will also be present to witness the great victory of the Lord as He faces countless men of war. A Word from the Lord is all that is necessary to defeat the raging armies. "Why do the nations rage, and the peoples imagine a vain thing? The kings of earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord, and against His anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. He Who sitteth in the heavens shall laugh; the Lord shall have them in derision. Then shall He speak unto them in His wrath, and vex them in His great displeasure. Yet have I set My King upon My holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree: The Lord hath said unto Me, Thou art My Son; this day have I begotten thee. Ask of Me and I shall give Thee the nations for Thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for Thy possession. Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; Thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel. Be wise now, therefore, O ye kings; be instructed, ye judges of the earth. Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling." Ps.2:1-11.

2. The earth has changed since the flood.

The Bible says, that when God created the birds, the fish, the animals and all vegetation, all was created for mankind to rule over it. There was no need of rain, as the land was moistened by the mist. "These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, and every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew; for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was not a man to till the ground. But there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground." Gen.2:4-6. From such information, we learn that God did the first planting of all the vegetation, besides creating the birds, the fish and the animals.

The garden of Eden must have been a beautiful sight for Adam and Eve to behold as they were made care-takers over a garden that flourished. It was not until after sin entered mankind that the task became a labor by the sweat of the brow. The land was only cursed after the fall of man. "And unto Adam He said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it; cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; in the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken; for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return." Gen.3:16-19.

The earth has been cursed, and it waits for that day, when the Lord God Almighty restores nature to what it was in the beginning. When Noah arrived on the scene, he was told that God was going to cause it to rain. He may have asked God, "What is rain?" This was a great act of faith to prepare for the flood of rain, and no doubt it caused a great commotion among the wicked people. They surely must have thought Noah was insane. At any rate, the earth made a tremendous change from the first rains upon the earth until our present time.

3. The present planet earth is being judged.

God has cursed the earth as recorded in Genesis 3:17-19, and no one needs to question that. By hard labor the ground is tilled, and there is a constant fight against drought, excess rains, weeds, and insects and vermin that destroy crops. As mankind multiplies, so do the problems of distribution, diseases, plagues and favorable climatic conditions. Hunger and starvation exist in many lands due to various reasons, including political confusion. Pollution also becomes a problem and our Ozone layer is being destroyed through industry, nuclear tests and man's exploitation for personal gain. As civilization becomes more and more demanding, so our environment is faced with many problems. However, what we are facing today is nothing, compared to what is coming. It will be the out pouring of God's wrath upon this earth, during the great tribulation. Here are but a few judgments from God during the out pouring of His anger.

a. Destruction through world wide war by the Beast.

Rev.6:3-4.

b. World wide famine and death by the millions.

Rev.6:5-8.

- c. **Meteors from outer space will fall upon the earth.**
Rev.6:12-17.
- d. **Hail and fire will destroy one third of vegetation and trees.**
Rev.8:7.
- e. **A third part of seas will turn to blood, and a third part of the fish die, and a third part of the ships sink,**
Rev.8:8-9.
- f. **A great star will fall upon a third of all of the rivers in the world, causing the water to become bitter.**
Rev.8:10-11.
- g. **The sun, moon, and stars lose one third of their light.**
Rev.8:12.
- h. **Demonic activity will be increased with over a billion men being killed.**
Rev.9:1-21.
- i. **Millions of people will break out with terrible and painful sores.**
Rev.16:1-2.
- j. **The seas shall turn to blood with all the sea creatures dying.**
Rev.16:3.
- k. **All the rivers will turn into blood.**
Rev.16:4-7.
- l. **The sun will scorch the whole earth with great heat.**
Rev.16:8-9.
- m. **There will be great darkness over all of the Dictator's empire.**
Rev.16:10-11.
- n. **The Euphrates river will dry up.**
Rev.16:12.
- o. **The islands will disappear and 100 lb. hail stones will fall upon the earth.**
Rev.16:17-21.

These are the terrible conditions that will occur upon the whole earth during the tribulation. With the wrath of God being poured out upon mankind, the question arises, "What will be left of all the nations through out this world"? These judgments are the final and all inclusive punishment upon this earth. You would think that those who are left upon this earth would repent and turn to the Lord, but on the contrary, they will blaspheme and curse God without repenting. (Rev.16:21; Rev.9:21.)

There will be plenty of evidence, world wide, of the great tribulation which is recorded in the Bible. Skeptics may laugh and reject such revelations, as they also do concerning a place called "Hell" and "The Lake of Fire". God makes it absolutely clear to all as to what they can expect, if they reject the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour, Who came to deliver us from the wrath to come. What the world will experience during the tribulation is for a very short time, when compared to an eternity in the Lake of fire. "But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through His Name." Jn.20:31.

4. God is not subject to time.

In our present finite existence, we gear most everything by time. Time causes many tense moments with stress and strain as we attempt to keep a certain schedule and dead

line. "But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day". 2 Pet.3:8. This does not mean that God changes His time table as to fullness of time, but rather that God is eternal and not dependent upon time. God uses time with a purpose, and has set the heavens on a time period. A day with the Lord is no different than a thousand years and a thousand years is as a day in God's existence. What would take mortal beings a thousand years to accomplish, God could do in a second, if He so chose.

God is the sum total of life and is the same yesterday, today and forever. (Heb.13:8.) Time can never change the Triune God in any way. This is very important to us as mortals, as corruption sets in after a period of time. However, God promises us immortality. "For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality." 1 Cor.15:53. God is the only one Who can make this possible because He is not subject to time.

5. Heaven and earth to pass away.

It is amazing how the Creator of all separates between the vast heavens and the mere pin point of this small planet earth. As the present heaven was the testing ground for the billions of angels, so the earth became the testing ground for the billions of human beings. In both, heaven and this planet earth, sin will have run its course and God's judgement will fall. At this present time the cup of iniquity is being filled and in the fullness of time, the final judgement will be meted out to all demons and unregenerate mankind. The godless scientists have been trying to prove that somehow a great explosion occurred and the heavens and the earth just formed out of something, without a Creator. Their greatest evidence is their calculations of billions of years, so if we do not have evidence of a change in one generation, it doesn't matter, for they claim the process is very gradual. They have a way of relating the birds, the beasts and the fish as various stages and man is the most advanced stage of all. They need to read, "But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased Him, and to every seed its own body. All flesh is not the same flesh, but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fish, and another of birds. There are also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial; but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another. There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for one star differeth from another star in glory." 1 Cor.15:38-41.

The Word of God clearly states that God created the heavens and the earth. (Gen.1:1.) This creation came forth from nothing but God's Word. God said, "I have made the earth, the man and the beast that are upon the ground, by my great power and by my outstretched arm, and have given it unto whom it seemed right unto me." Jer.27:5. It will be in God's good pleasure to destroy both heaven and earth in His own time. Why would God want to destroy both heaven and earth? Perhaps there are two reasons understood to the Bible student, and they are.

- 1. Sin has polluted both Heaven and Earth.**
- 2. God has the best yet to come.**

Sin has polluted both heaven and earth, and therefore God will in His own time destroy both with fervent heat. "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat; the earth also, and the works that are in it, shall be burned up." 2 Pet.3:10. That

certainly is clear and concise enough. God destroyed the inhabitants upon the earth with a great flood. Cities and nations have been destroyed by various means and the great tribulation will be the final limited destruction by God. God in His final judgement upon both heaven and earth will wipe out forever the contamination of sin. The sin issue will be dealt with once and forever. It is important for us as Believers to realize how much God hates sin.

God has reserved His very best for the new creation. "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him. But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit; for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea the deep things of God." 1 Cor.2:9-10. If you want to understand more about the wonders of wonders yet to come, you must keep in close fellowship with God the Holy Spirit Who dwells within you. If you grieve Him in your life pattern, then you are the loser. You will never understand the deep things of God, but live a defeated life, existing only on the skim milk of God's Word.

This old order of both heaven and earth must pass away, as God said, to make room for an eternity where sin will never again show it's ugly head. The lake of fire will continue to burn throughout eternity and all the demons and all of unregenerate mankind will forever be separated from God, living in painful torment, never able to escape. The choice is yours, you cannot be neutral, but must decide in this present lifetime, what you will do with the Lord Jesus Christ.

II. TIME WILL BE NO MORE.

Since God is not limited to time, and all Believers are destined to be in the very presence of God, then time will no longer affect us. We have experienced the limitations of time, and the aging effect it has upon us mortals. We have accepted Christ as our personal Saviour and have already been granted everlasting life. (Jn.3:16, 18, 36; Jn.20:31.) The Lord Jesus Christ has entered into time and paid the entire penalty of our sins, bringing newness of life to all who believe. We are destined to be citizens, in glorified bodies, in a land where we shall never grow old.

Since God has adopted us into His royal family, we will be partakers of all eternity to come. There will be great and glorious fellowship with both the angels and Saints of all ages. Since time will be no more, there will be no stress and strain but peace and everlasting joy. God will have many projects for us to do, which will not be burdensome, but rather enlightening and stimulating as we continue to live and move and have our being in the Lord Jesus Christ. The beauty of the Lord Jesus Christ will be seen in us for eternity. All pain and sorrow will be removed forever! There will be no more death and separation in our heavenly home. "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things are passed away." Rev.21:4.

III.THE SUM TOTAL OF SIN TO BE JUDGED AND SEALED OFF FOREVER.

As we have described before, Hades or sheol is the present place of all who die, unregenerate, or those who have rejected the Lord Jesus Christ as the eternal Son of God and the one who died on the cross for the sins of the whole world. The Lord described that place very clearly in Luke 16:19-31. This was not a parable, but rather actual

circumstances. The rich man was certain and Lazarus was certain. All of those in Hades are destined for the second resurrection. Abraham and all of the old Testament saints who were in the place of the Believers, were removed from that abode and taken to paradise as the Lord led them. (Ps.68:18.) That was why the Lord had to descend into Hades and bring forth the Old Testament Saints, so that they too could be with Him in paradise along with the thief on the cross. So all Believers from Pentecost onward who have died, are absent from the body and present with the Lord. (2 Cor.5:8.)

The lake of fire will be the final place of eternal torment and living death. It may exist now, or will exist when the beast and the false prophet are cast into it. "And the beast was taken, and the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshiped his image. These both were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone." Rev.19:20. Then the next occupants of the lake of fire will be the devil and his demons. "And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night forever and ever." Rev.20:10.

The remaining unregenerate of all ages will remain in Hades, until the Great white Throne Judgement. "And I saw a great white throne, and Him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and heaven fled away, and there was found no place for them. 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. And the sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and hades delivered up the dead that were in them; and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." Rev.20:11-15. These judgments will be the final judgments of all sin, both committed in heaven and on earth. There will be no end of torment and punishment, forever and ever! It cost God His very own Son, to pay the debt of sin, and whosoever rejects the Lord Jesus Christ, will have the eternal wrath of God pour out upon him forever and ever. (Jn.3:18,36.)

There will be no second chance after death and there will be no escape from the eternal lake of fire and brimstone. As we do not know where Sheol and Hades are at this present time, so we will not want to know where the Lake of Fire and brimstone will be located. We will have no desire to locate it, and I am sure that God will forever, keep that sum total of sin to be sealed off forever.

IV. ALL THINGS NEWLY CREATED.

INTRODUCTION.

God has never been in the renovating business, but rather desires to make new. During the dispensations of time, we observe the various ways in which God dealt with mankind, having one objective, making fallen man a new creature by accepting the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin barrier. Since sin has separated man from the Living God, there had to be someone in the form of man, who was as good as God to pay the debt of sin. There was no one found to pay the debt of sin, but God Himself. So before the foundations of the world, God prepared His Only Begotten Son to pay the debt. The Lord Jesus Christ took upon Himself this form of man, apart from, sin and became the Incarnate Redeemer.

"Wherefore, when He cometh into the world, He saith, Sacrifice and offering Thou wouldest not, but a body hast Thou prepared me." Heb.10:5. The Eternal Son of God was sent to earth by God the Father to become the supreme and only sacrifice for sin. "For verily He took not on Him the nature of angels, but He took on Him the seed of Abraham. Wherefore, in all things it behooved Him to be made like His brethren, that He might be merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. For in that He Himself hath suffered being tempted, He is able to help them that are tempted." Heb.2:16-18. "Seeing, then, that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. For we have not an high priest who cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities, but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin." Heb.4:14-15.

From the very beginning of fallen mankind to the very last person who will ever be born, there is only one way that God offers salvation, and that is through the shed blood of Christ on Calvary. By faith, all of the Old Testament Saints offered animal sacrifices, as a covering for their sins, until God sent forth His Eternal Son as the Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world. (Jn.1:29.) Those that merely had their sins covered during their lifetime, looked forward to the coming of the Messiah to bear away their sins. (Isa.53:5-12; Ps.22:1-31.) We who have the record that Christ died on the cross for our sins, look back to the finished work of Calvary.

Since God is not in the renovating business, but rather in mighty creative manifestation, He will demonstrate to His new creatures glory and honor and praise for eternity. As we mentioned before, we are looking at these future events with eyes and understanding that cannot fully comprehend all that God is preparing for them that love Him. (1 Cor.13:12; 1 Cor.2:9-10.) However, God has told us that He will some day destroy this old heaven and earth and make a new heaven and a new earth. John on the Isle of Patmos had a preview of some terrible things to come, as well as the beauty of the eternal future. "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away, and there was no more sea." Rev.21:1. That does not give us much information of all things becoming new, but it does tell us that it will happen. The Holy Spirit revealed this fact to Peter also. "Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, in which dwelleth righteousness." 2 Pet.3:13.

God's new creation will never be contaminated with sin, but God's perfect righteousness will reign forever. "Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy." Dan.9:24. God the Father has promised a complete new creation, glorifying His Son for enduring the cross. There will also be a perpetual remembrance of Jerusalem, where Christ suffered, bled, died and rose again. "And I John, saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband". Rev.21:2. That will be a glorious sight to behold. As we further study this marvelous City, there is also an important change to come in our new life style. "And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be with them, and be their God." Rev.21:3. Our Creator will dwell with us forever and ever and there never will be a parting, but praise God, we shall be with Him and all of the Saints of God, where sin will never occur again! "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there

be any more pain; for the former things are passed away." Rev.21:4. God has placed His seal of truth upon these facts. "And He that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And He said unto me, Write; for these words are true and faithful." Rev.21:5. As God places His seal of authority upon these statements, He guarantees that it will be done. (Rev.21:6.)

One of the seven angels came to John as he beheld all of these marvelous things to come, and proudly took him down the corridors of time and showed him the complete bride of the Lamb, and that Great and Holy City the new Jerusalem. The New Jerusalem is described for us in Rev.21:10-27. Here are some of the high lights recorded.

1. The shekinah glory of God will surround it.
2. The glistening will shine forth as the most precious stones.
3. The Angels will be stationed at the 12 gates named after the twelve tribes of Israel.
4. There will be 12 foundations with the names of the 12 Apostles written on them.
5. The City will measure approximately 1300 foursquare miles.
6. The walls and City will be made of the most precious gems, with pure clear gold.
7. The 12 gates will be made of solid pearl and will always be open.
8. There will be no need of churches or temples, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb will dwell in the City.
9. There will be no need of the sun nor the moon to give light as the light of God will be sufficient.
10. The New Jerusalem will be the capital of the world, and all the saved people shall come from all over the world as tourists to see this marvel of God.
11. All those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of life will inherit this glorious eternity.
12. No sin, filth, lies or wickedness shall ever be present throughout eternity.

THE NEW PARADISE. REV.22:1-5.

As we further study the Word of God, John also had a preview of a new paradise brought down from our heavenly Father. There will be no pollution and the waters will flow clear as crystal, with the water of life. It will come forth from the Throne of God and the Lamb. (Rev.22:1.) God's trees of life will be well watered and will have continual fruit each month and the leaves will be the healing of the nations. This poses the fact that nations will continue to exist throughout the new world. This will be vastly different from the new

world orders which our politicians hold before us as their utopia. Satan and the demons will be forever banned from all of God's new creation, being tormented in the lake of fire and brimstone forever.

- 1. The Throne of God and the Lamb.**
- 2. The river of life as clear as crystal.**
- 3. The trees of life with continual fruit.**
- 4. The leaves for the healing of the nations.**
- 5. The new creation shall never be cursed.**
- 6. The Lord of glory shall be seen.**
- 7. God's Name shall be implanted.**
- 8. There will be no night in the new paradise.**
- 9. An eternal reign with the Lord.**

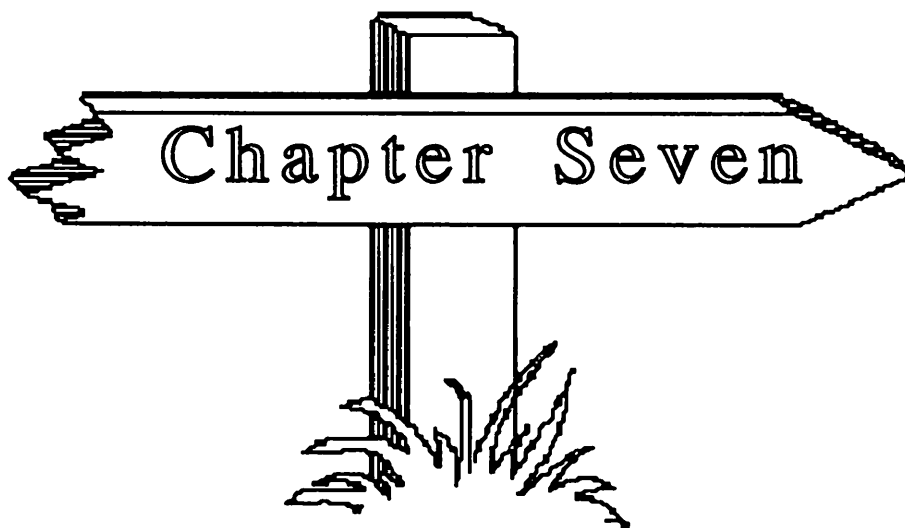
All things will be made new, to the glory of God. We now wish to enlarge upon this eternal Paradise, as we live eternally with Almighty God.

Q U E S T I O N S.

- 1. Why is it necessary to destroy all of the original heaven and earth?**
- 2. Since God is omniscient, why did He then create Lucifer?**
- 3. Why did God give a choice to both angels and mankind?**
- 4. Explain 2 Peter 3:4-12.**
- 5. What is the difference between the Old testament Saints and the Body of Christ? When in Scripture was the dividing line and when will it be completed? Give Scripture.**
- 6. What takes place before the second coming of the Lord to set up His Righteous kingdom?**
- 7. Where in the Scripture do we find the Saints in heaven?**

- 8. Give at least 5 Scriptures telling of the second coming of the Lord to establish His kingdom.**
- 9. Describe the earth before the flood and after the flood.**
- 10. Give seven judgments upon this earth during the great tribulation.**
- 11. Explain 2 Peter 3:8.**
- 12. Cite the Scripture which guarantees that sin will come to an end.**
- 13. Since the Triune God has always existed, does God depend upon the time element? Explain.**
- 14. Explain the difference between Hell, or Hades and the Lake of fire. Which will be the final judgement?**
- 15. What will be some of the differences, between this present earth and the New earth which God will create?**
- 16. Why was it that the one believing thief on the cross did not go to the place of the dead, but directly into paradise?**
- 17. Name seven or more of the changes that will take place in Revelation 21:10-27.**
- 18. Write a brief essay on all things to be made new.**
- 19. Write briefly on the subject, "What should be the goal of every true Christian".**
- 20. Write a brief essay on, "God creates, rather than renovates".**

THE ETERNAL PARADISE OF GOD



Rev 22 : 1 - 21

CHAPTER 7.

THE ETERNAL PARADISE IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD.

INTRODUCTION.

The Lord Jesus Christ related to us the existence of Sheol, and hades, the place of the dead. "There was a certain rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day. And there was a certain beggar, named Lazarus, who was laid at his gate, full of sores, and desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table; moreover, the dogs came and licked his sores. and it came to pass that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom; the rich man also died, and was buried; And in hades he lifted up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame. But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that they who would pass from here to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from there." Lk.16:19-26. This was not a parable but a reality, and we can learn much from it.

Until Christ came to earth and became the Redeemer for whosoever believeth, all of the dead went to sheol or hades, the place of the dead. But a great gulf existed between the Believers and the Unbelievers. When the Lord was crucified, one of the first accomplishments was to descend into Hades, and to lead the Old Testament Saints to Paradise. "Thou hast ascended on high, thou hast led captivity captive. Thou hast received gifts for men, yea, for the rebellious also, that the Lord God might dwell among them" Ps.68:8. This is also repeated in Eph.4:8. It was necessary for Christ to descend into Hades, so that He could bring forth the Old testament Saints and prepare them for their heavenly Paradise. You remember what Christ said to the thief on the cross? "And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise." Lk.23:43. This is a comforting truth to know that all of the Believers, when they leave this world, are absent from the body, but present with the Lord. (2 Cor.5:8.)

The Paradise to which all Believers go during this present time has been prepared for their soul and spirit, until the glorified body is received. John 14:1-6 tells us of the Mansions of God the Father, to which we will go and dwell in our glorified bodies. This will occur at the time of the Rapture. (Thess.4:13-18.) We will dwell in these heavenly mansions for seven years, while the tribulation takes place upon the earth. (1 Thess.1:10.)

There will be a new paradise which God will create, when all things become new. May we now turn to the Scripture and see what God has said concerning this New Paradise.

THE ETERNAL PARADISE IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD.

There are not many references to Paradise in the Scripture, however the Garden of Eden was considered such a paradise, and rightfully so. We certainly say, "Paradise Lost", when this earth was cursed along with the total depravity of man. The garden of Eden had everything that mankind needed from the Euphrates river, bordering along the Tigris river to the great sea. The weather was always perfect and man had dominion over the birds, the fish and the animals. Adam was the perfect glorified gardener and enjoyed the company of the Creator in the cool of the Evening. God also gave him a companion of his own kind as a help mate. The gardening was a delight with no weeds or destruction of any kind. The fruit and vegetables were ample for all creatures. God only had desired that the tree of life would be only for Him. Since Adam and Eve were not animals with a mere instinct, being made in the image of God, they did have a choice. The deception from the Devil caused them to make the wrong choice. In the omniscience of God, all preparations were made to cope with this wrong decision by man. Sin has contaminated both heaven and earth, as we have already studied, and from the entrance of sin into God's realm it made possible the grace of God and the judgement of sin.

May we consider this eternal Paradise, which brings us into the very presence of God, not as just wishful thinking, but rather as the absolute future reality. God has allowed us to look down the corridors of time and behold some of the glories which will be awaiting us, in the fullness of time. God the Holy Spirit is waiting to reveal many of these truths to Believers, if they are willing to listen to Him, as they study the Bible. There is plenty of evidence in the Word of God concerning the gloryland prepared by God for His own. Let us look at this evidence as follows.

I. GOD'S ETERNAL SCOPE OF PARADISE.

II. THE OLD TESTAMENT HOPE OF PARADISE.

III. THE NEW TESTAMENT PROOF OF SUCH A PARADISE.

IV. THE ETERNAL GLORY OF GOD'S PARADISE.

I. GOD'S ETERNAL SCOPE OF PARADISE.

God has given us a revelation through the Garden of Eden, which encourages Believers to look to the future, beyond the present difficulties. We do have trials of our faith as we pass through this present life, but they are not in vain. When we continue to walk by faith, amidst these trials, we are building our character for eternity and this becomes precious in the sight of God. (1 Pet.1:7.) We do this as we allow the love of the Lord Jesus to have the predominant place in our lives. "Whom having not seen, ye love; in Whom, though now ye see Him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory. receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls." 1 Pet.1:8-9. In the economy of our

Creator, He did not want robots or puppets as His subjects, but rather those who will choose Him and obey Him as the only wise God and Saviour.

For almost six thousand years, God has been drawing together precious souls from throughout the whole realm of His domain, to eventually pour out His love upon them with an eternal paradise beyond description. Man has been the instrument through which God has manifested His grace and at the same time judge sin once and forever. Yes, the Lord Jesus Christ died for the sins of the whole world, but He also died to remove the possibility of sin ever re-occurring again. This is an important factor for us to consider.

The Bible has been given to us to study and search out these precious promises of God. We have many examples from the progeny of Adam as to God's purpose and scope of blessings. Spend time in studying Hebrews chapter 11 and see men of God who were willing to step out by faith, accepting the promises of God. "And these all, having received witness through faith received not the promise, God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect." Heb.11:39-40. God has been trying the faith of mankind down through the ages, and eventually will reveal the marvels and beauty of things prepared for those who love Him. (1 Cor.2:9-10.)

If we diligently search out the Scripture, we will discover the ultimate goal of the Triune God. We will also learn that nothing will be able to separate us from the Love of God through Christ Jesus. "What shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creation, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord." Rom.8:35-39.

God's scope is eternal, bringing life unto life for those who put their trust in Him, and death unto death to those who reject His provision through Christ Jesus. "For we are unto God a sweet savor of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish. To the one we are the savor of death unto death; and to the other, the savor of life unto life. And who is sufficient for these things? For we are not as many, who corrupt the Word of God; but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ." 2 Cor.2:15-17. It was Christ Who laid down His life for us, therefore we ought to be ready to lay down our lives for Him. (Jn.13:37-38.) Christ made known unto us the way of life. (Acts 2:28.) Therefore we ought to walk in newness of life. (Rom.6:4.) Whatever the New Paradise will be like, we can be assured that it will give to us an abundant life that is beyond our comprehension.

II. THE OLD TESTAMENT HOPE OF PARADISE.

The out look of the Old Testament writings by God the Holy Spirit, is definitely pointing toward something better than this life can offer. God so wonderfully walked with Enoch for many of his 365 years and made him homesick for the perfect righteousness of God in those heavenly mansions. He bore record of the ungodly in this world, though being only the seventh generation from Adam. He also knew that God the Father was going to send the Lord Jesus Christ with ten thousands of His Saints to rule and reign upon this earth. (Jude 14,15.) Job also looked forward to seeing God face to face in the Paradise of God. "For I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon earth; And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God"

Job 19:25-26. The Psalms are full of hope that only God can provide and the elderly in this life usually turn to the Psalms for comfort and hope.

There is one man of great faith which I want to remind you of, and that man is Abraham. He left his well established home in Haran at the age of seventy five. This was an important step of faith by Abram and the pivotal point in the great plan of God. Abram became Abraham, the father of many nations and an unconditional covenant was made with him. A title deed was given to Abraham for his posterity from the Euphrates down to the river Egypt. God did not give him a foreknowledge of this land that he was to live in, and that in itself is remarkable faith. "By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing where he went. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God." Heb.11:8-10. In his own rights, Abraham was very wealthy and could have built a castle of his own, but preferred to dwell the rest of his life in a flimsy tent. Why did he live in such a manner? Simply because he knew that God had a better dwelling place than anything that this world could offer.

The prophets were also informed of a better hope than the immediate uncertainties in life. They were made aware of the changing conditions and God's punishments against disobedience to His laws and statutes. They were given various insights into the coming reign of the Messiah, and the ultimate utopia, which only God could provide. They had the earlier records of God's dealings and promises to Abraham and David, and were sent to proclaim the glories of God to their people. In the midst of God's punishment to the ten tribes of Israel and eventually the captivity of Judah and Benjamin in the land of Babylon, Isaiah was comforted with God's promises for the future. "And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots; and the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord," Isa.11:1-2. There is great stress upon the Spirit of the Lord, which is essential in preparing a people for God's Paradise. "I will pour my Spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring." Isa.44:3b This we can understand as we read Joel 2:28. "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions; and, also, upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out My Spirit". Joel 2:28-29. This has taken place according to Acts.2:16, making new creatures and giving a new birth to countless numbers, preparing them for God's Paradise.

In the Old Testament, the Saints were looking for a new creation of both heaven and earth as the prophet Isaiah declared. "For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind." Isa.65:17. Many of the conditions of the kingdom of God were also recorded in the Old Testament. Here are a few that we will mention, as recorded in the Old Testament.

- 1. Great spirituality.** Isa.65:24; Zech.14:16-17; Joel 2:28.
- 2. Israel restored and regathered in her land.** Isa.35:3-10; Isa.65:19; Zech.8:20-23.
- 3. No more war.** Isa.2:4.

4. **Universal prosperity.** Ps.72:7,16.
5. **Universal knowledge of God.** Isa.11:9.
6. **Perfect Government under Christ.** Zech.14:9; Isa.11:1-2; Ps.72.
7. **Restoration of nature and perfect conditions.** Isa.11:6-9; Isa.35:1-2; Isa.65:25.
8. **Perfect administration of justice under God.** Isa.11:3,7; Ps.72:12-14.
9. **Life extended tremendously.** Isa.65:20. Isa.11:3-4.

I recognize that these Scripture references refer to the coming Kingdom of God upon this present earth, but what they do indicate is a drastic change to take place, "under God". It is a revelation by God the Holy Spirit of a complete and absolute new creation by Almighty God. The future details of a heavenly and earthly Paradise were not clearly set forth in the Old Testament, but the rudiments are there as evidence of a kingdom of righteousness under Christ and a new order of creation with the supreme Paradise as mentioned in Revelation chapter 22.

III THE NEW TESTAMENT PROOF OF SUCH A PARADISE.

It is obvious from the Scriptures that the Lord spoke of the kingdom of righteousness, which was promised to David. This was also his message after the resurrection and during the 40 days with His Disciples. (Acts 1:3.) The coming of the Messiah to dwell among men had a two fold ministry.

1. **To present the kingdom to Israel.**
 2. **To become the Passover Lamb of God to take away the penalty of sin in this world.**
- Since Christ was rejected as the Messiah and the kingdom was postponed, He fulfilled only half of His mission. "But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons." Gal.4:4-5. A kingdom and a Paradise must have qualified occupants and they must be adopted into the Royal Family of God. The kingdom of righteousness was proclaimed, and Christ has already gone through the golden gate as predicted, but being rejected as the Messiah, that kingdom has been postponed, as has been confirmed before. Christ has fulfilled the commitment to become the Passover Lamb and removed the sin barrier. The Believers of the Old Testament have been removed from the place of the dead to the heavenly Paradise.

There are but three references to Paradise in the Scripture and we will deal with each separately. The first of these is found in Lk.23:39-43. "One of the malefactors who were hanged railed at Him, saying, If thou be the Christ, save thyself and us. But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? And we, indeed, justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds, but this man hath done nothing amiss. And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when Thou comest into Thy kingdom. And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt

thou be with me in Paradise." One could spend much time with this passage, for several important factors are present.

- 1. The first Malefactor was a tool in Satan's hands to tempt Christ.**
- 2. Both of the Malefactors were familiar with the teaching of Christ and His presentation of Himself as the Messiah.**
- 3. They both had been wicked men and rightfully deserved punishment.**
- 4. The second Malefactor admitted his sin.**
- 5. The second Malefactor recognized that Christ was sinless.**
- 6. The second Malefactor understood that Christ was destined to an eternal kingdom after death and desired to dwell in it.**
- 7. The second Malefactor called Christ, "Lord", rather than merely a Prophet or Priest.**

These two thieves on the cross were aware of the earthly ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ, according to these statements from them. They both had an equal chance in accepting Christ as the Passover Lamb. Both of these men were unable to make any sort of restitution for their sins and could not be identified with the coming kingdom heralded by John the Baptist. The thief on the cross who cried out, "Lord, remember me when Thou comest into Thy kingdom." The believing thief on the cross depended entirely upon the Grace of God, and was granted a place in paradise, based upon the finished work of Christ, as his Redeemer.

That was a definite statement from Christ as He promised the repentant thief an immediate entrance into Paradise. This is the first reference to Paradise, for as I had already pointed out, that the Old Testament Saints went to Hades, or the place of the dead. When Christ died on the cross, He went into Hades and brought out all of the Old Testament Saints and took them to the heavenly Paradise. With the great burden which the Lord was carrying and the terrible agony which He was passing through, yet He brought in another lost sheep before He breathed His last breath.

We don't have much detail of this present heavenly Paradise, but we are reminded, that "We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord." 2 Cor.5:8. We also read in the Bible, "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." Phil.1:21. From these statements from God's Word, we can be assured that the Paradise to which the thief on the cross went, is far better than anything that this present life may offer.

Paul the Apostle had an unusual experience of being "caught up", but was not aware as to whether it was bodily or merely by his spirit. "How he was caught up into Paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter." This may be a similar experience that the Apostle John on the Isle of Patmos experienced, when he was not to write about it. (Rev.10:4.) Some Saints of God as they leave their bodies and join the other Saints of God often report of hearing beautiful music, or seeing the purity of God's perfect light.

The final reference of "Paradise" is found in Rev.2:7. The Lord spoke of the Ephesians type of church and highly recommended their faithful stand against evil, but some had left their first love for the Lord. Then the Lord concludes, "He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches: To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of "The Paradise of God". This certainly should be convincing enough to all of the body of Christ or the true church of God, that our destination after death is the "Paradise of God".

IV. THE ETERNAL GLORY OF GOD'S PARADISE.

The most explicit portion of God's Word, concerning the "Eternal Paradise", is found in Revelation chapter 22:1-5. "And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the "Throne of God and the Lamb". In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there "The Tree of Life", which bore twelve kinds of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. And there shall be no more curse, but "The Throne of God and of The Lamb" shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him; And they shall see His face; and His Name shall be in their foreheads. And there shall be no night there; and they need no lamp, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light, and they shall reign forever and ever." There are several important truths inferred in these brief verses of Scripture.

1. The purity of our impeccable God is the source of the water of life.
2. The Lamb of God has made this living water available to the Saints.
3. The tree of life will always be in season.
 - a. Twelve months in the eternal years.
 - b. Twelve different fruits from the tree of life.
 - c. No mention of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, as evil will be banned from God's new creation forever. (Gen.2:17.)
 - d. The tree of life has healing power in the leaves, indicating that the Lord God will always provide us with good health as our Great Physician.
4. A perfect creation, without a possibility of a curse.
5. God's creatures shall have great pleasure in serving the Lord, being reminded that the penalty of sin has been removed forever, by the Lamb of God.
6. The Saints shall see the Lord face to face as promised. (1 Jn.3:1-3.)
7. The Saints shall be identified with the Lord forever with His Name upon their foreheads.

8. There will be no night in Paradise for our strength shall never diminish, or our glorified bodies shall never get tired, and the Lord shall be our constant strength and light.

9. The Saints shall reign with the Lord Jesus Christ forever and ever.

The important issue in all of this is, the Lord shall be our ever present help and we shall reign and be with Him forever and ever. The utilities for eternity will be supplied by Almighty God and life with the Lord will always bring satisfaction and joy with new discoveries and constant privileges as members of the royal family of God. Time will mean nothing in the land where we will never grow old. The new heavens and the new earth and the new Jerusalem will bring forth the glories of God which have never been seen before. John on the Isle of Patmos saw splendors which caused him to cry out, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus". (Rev.22:20b.)

God has given us a glimpse of things to come and we are given those precious promises over and over, again and again. It is very simple for us to take our eyes off of the things to come and place priorities on our present circumstances. The true values of God are in the spiritual, where Almighty God dwells. By faith, at this present time, we wait upon the Lord and serve Him diligently, knowing that the eternal best is yet to come. "Behold I show you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed. 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. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 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. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, Who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." 1 Cor.15:51-58.

Q U E S T I O N S.

- 1. Give a brief essay on Sheol, Hades, and Paradise.**
- 2. Explain briefly Luke 16:19-26.**
- 3. Why did the thief on the cross not go to Abraham's bosom?**
- 4. Compare and differentiate between the Garden of Eden and the eternal Paradise in the presence of the Lord.**
- 5. Give some evidence and cite Scripture from the Old Testament that there was an awareness of God's Paradise.**

- 6. Name some characteristics of the utopia that the Old Testament Saints looked forward to. Cite Scripture.**
- 7. How many times does the Word Paradise occur in the New Testament? Cite Scriptures.**
- 8. Give your opinion, based upon the Word of God, as to the two thieves knowledge concerning the Messiah.**
- 9. Why is it important that we have a record of both of these thieves attitudes and decisions made while hanging on the cross?**
- 10. Write briefly on Phil.1:21.**
- 11. Write briefly on 2 Corinthians 5:8.**
- 12. Write briefly on 2 Corinthians 12:1-4.**
- 13. Where do we find the most information about Paradise? Cite Scripture.**
- 14. Name at least 7 things about the eternal Paradise.**
- 15. What should our present attitude be in the light of Paradise to come?**
- 16. Give your opinion as to the difference between the tree of knowledge of good and evil and the tree of life in God's eternal Paradise.**
- 17. What benefits have you received from the study of these judgments and the eternal glory of God?**
- 18. Write briefly of Abraham and his faith in something better than the wealth of this world offered.**
- 19. What is the difference between the present Paradise in heaven and the Paradise of Revelation 22:1-5?**
- 20. Write a brief essay on Revelation 22:6-21.**

CONCLUSION.

This book has been written so that you might have a better understanding of future events. I believe that we are living at the close of the Grace era, or better known as the "Church Age". We have discussed the various reasons why I have come to that conclusion without setting any dates. However, there is much confusion over the day in which we are living. Some try to identify the Church as Israel and others attempt to classify the church as a remnant of Israel. Other groups have the church starting in the wilderness. Various cults say that we are in the kingdom already, and others say that we are passing through the first part of the tribulation. I do hope that this textbook has been instrumental in helping you to establish yourselves as members of the Body of Christ, looking for the blessed hope and return of the Lord for His Bride to be.

Our identification is in Abraham, rather than Jacob, and we are counted as the stars of heaven, rather than the sands of the sea. If we were identified in Jacob, then and then only would we pass through the tribulation, which is "Jacob's trouble. Abraham was called out from among the Chaldeans, with his final exit from Haran, entering into the promised land. Abraham was God's choice through Whom He could bless all nations. The law was not given to Abraham, but God waited until Moses was called for the giving of the law to Israel. It is marvelous in the way that God separated the family of Shem, then Abraham, the tribe of Judah and finally the root of Jesse to provide so great salvation.

The church began on the day of Pentecost, with the out pouring of God the Holy Spirit. Ever since that day, Christ has been building His church and will conclude and complete it with the rapture, when we are "Caught Up" to meet the Lord in the air, and travel on to heaven in our glorified bodies. There will be seven glorious years to remain in heaven in the beautiful mansions of God, where a place has been prepared for us, by the Lord Jesus Christ.

That heavenly home is waiting for the completion of the body of Christ and then the Lord Himself will descend and gather us home to glory. While we are enjoying ourselves in the presence of the Lord, and fellowshiping with the saints of all ages, the wrath of God will be poured out upon the face of the earth. As we have stated, the judgments will be throughout the whole world and billions of people will perish. The momentum of God's wrath will increase during the "Abomination of Desolation", when Satan and his demons are cast out of heaven. Satanic hell will break loose upon the earth and "Jacob's Trouble" will be activated.

At the close of these seven years of tribulation upon the face of the earth, the heavens will open, and the Lord Himself will descend upon the earth to face a hostile demonic crazed human army of great numbers. The battle will last, perhaps, but a few seconds as the King of Kings and Lord of Lords will destroy them completely. The Beast and the false prophet will be the first to be cast into the lake of fire. The Devil and his demons are then cast into the bottomless pit for the duration of the thousand year kingdom of righteousness. The Lord will then separate the sheep from the goats and have all of the rebellious people removed by death. A perfect rule shall continue over the whole world during those thousand years, and the Saints of God shall rule and reign with the Lord in our glorified bodies. The earthly people will continue to be fruitful and multiply, as they live many hundreds of years. The population will multiply tremendously, and with their free will to choose as they wish, many will resist the righteousness of God.

At the termination of the thousand years, Satan, that Devil, will be released from the bottomless pit and deceive the nations once again and especially will he gather the unregenerate from the land of Russia. These great armies under the command of Satan will surround Jerusalem to try to destroy the Lord Jesus Christ as well as the Saints, BUT GOD, will send fire from heaven and devour them. The Devil and his demons will then be cast into the Lake of fire and brimstone and remain there under severe torment for ever and ever.

Since the kingdom of righteousness will then continue forever and ever, the next great judgement will be at the White Throne, where the Lord Himself will sit and judge the unregenerate from all ages. This will be the second resurrection when the death line from Cain on down through time will then be resurrected and stand before the Lord as He sits upon the judgement seat. It will be at that time that every knee shall bow before the Lord, whom they rejected. Their names will be missing from the Book of life, and consequently they will be judged according to their own deeds, and fall short of the requirements of God. All of these, whose names are not written in the Lamb's Book of Life, will also be cast into the Lake of Fire and Brimstone, and remain there forever and ever.

This old world of ours as well as heaven, will then be burned with fervent heat and disappear as they melt away. We are not told as to where we will dwell as the old creation passes away, making room for the New Heavens and the New Earth. God may establish the new before He destroys the old. That is God's secret, but we know that all of the saints will be well taken care of.

The New Heavens and the New Earth will be marvelous, with the Holy City, the New Jerusalem becoming the world capital for eternity. Paradise will contain the presence of God and there never will be a time when we are separated one from another and from the Lord. "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things are passed away." Rev.21:4.

As the Bible concludes the message to all of us, may we take heed to what God has said and by faith wait upon the Lord, Who is the Author and finisher of our faith. Fulfill that great commission, "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the age. Amen." Matt.28:19-20.

In closing may I quote a few of the last verses in the Bible which are of great importance. "And he said unto me, These words are faithful and true; and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent His angel to show unto His servants the things which must shortly be done. Behold I come quickly, Blessed is he that keepeth the words of the prophecy of this book..... He that is unjust, let him be unjust still; and he that is filthy, let him be filthy still; and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still; and he that is holy, let him be holy still. And, behold, I come quickly, and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. Blessed are they that wash their robes, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. For outside are dogs, and sorcerers, and fornicators, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie. I, Jesus, have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and offspring of David, and the bright and morning star. And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And

whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, if any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book; And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the tree of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book. He who testifieth these things saith, Surely, I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come Lord Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen." Rev.22:6-21.

Q U E S T I O N S .

- 1. When did the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ start? Give Scripture and explain.**
- 2. Who all will be caught up to heaven with the Lord? Explain.**
- 3. What is "Jacob's Trouble"?**
- 4. Who will be the first to be cast into the Lake of Fire? Cite Scripture.**
- 5. Who all will be in their glorified bodies during the Kingdom of righteousness? Give details.**
- 6. Will the earthly people continue to have children during the kingdom of righteousness? Give reasons.**
- 7. Where does a great army come from, when Satan is released from the bottomless pit? Cite Scripture.**
- 8. When will Satan and his demons be cast into the lake of fire? Cite Scriptures.**
- 9. When shall every knee bow before the Lord Jesus Christ, according to Phil.2:10-11?**
- 10 . Give a survey of the last message in the Bible.**

NOTES

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NOTES

In the beginning

Was the Word, and the Word was with GOD
and the Word was GOD

JOHN 1:1

Eternity Past

THE ABSOLUTE GOD
THE ABSOLUTE PLAN
DAN 9:24

GOD - THE FATHER planned it,
JOHN 10:15-18 : HEB. 10:5b

GOD - THE SON provided it,
JOHN 10:17

GOD - THE HOLY SPIRIT proved it,
1 COR. 12:13

THE ABSOLUTE BLUEPRINT
to achieve a PERFECT
ETERNAL PARADISE-
FREE FROM EVIL
throughout Eternity to come,
based on the Word of GOD

GOD created the
Heaven and the
Earth
GEN 1:1 : PSALM 19:1

The creation of the Angels

and the realm of their habitation

LUCIFER (Highest Position) ISA. 14:12, EZEK. 28:12-15
MICHAEL (Arch Angel)
GABRIEL (Mighty Angel) well informed

CELESTIAL CREATURES
endowed with a choice

- CHERUBIM (Defenders)
- SERAPHIM (Worship)
- LIVING CREATURES
(Glorious Majesty)
- ANGELIC HOST
(Innumerable)

Restored Earth
Six day creation

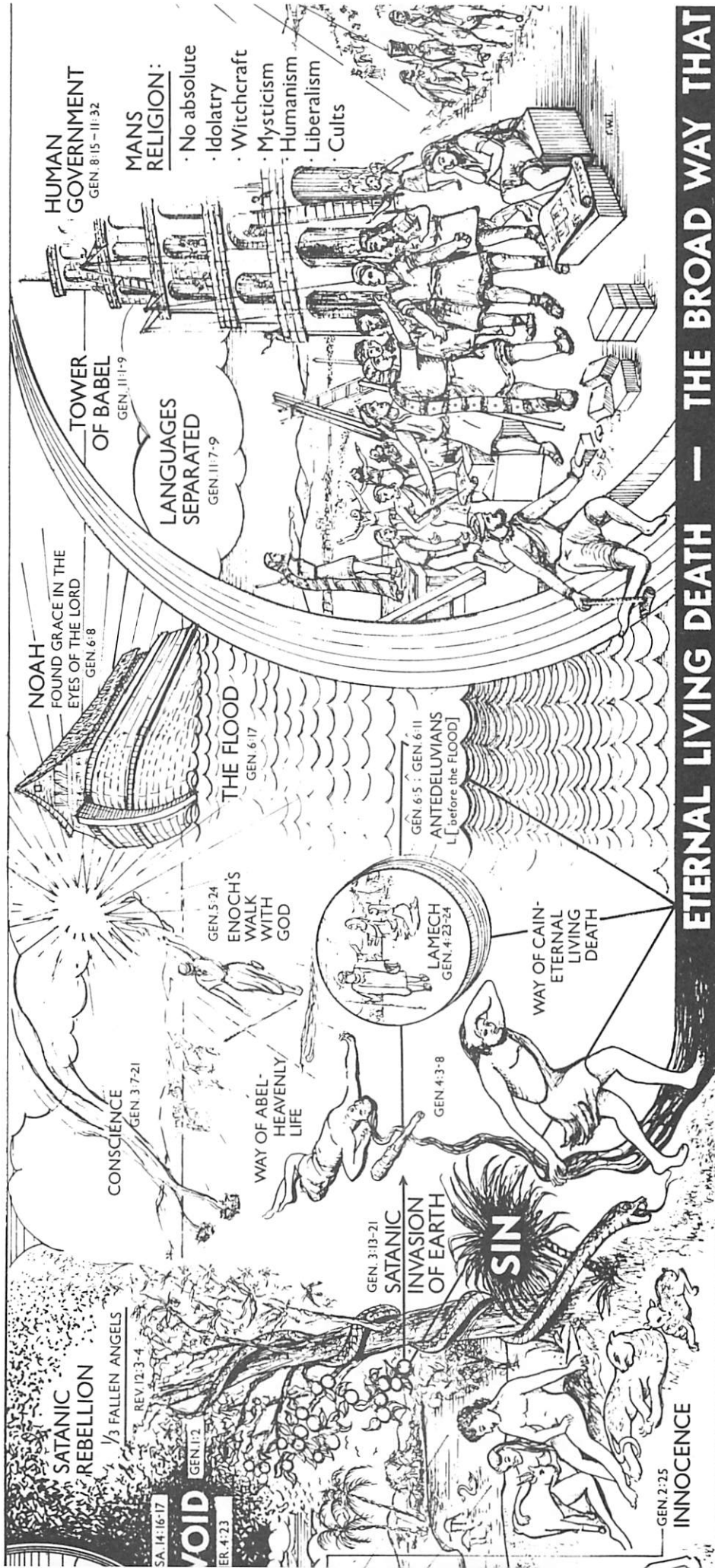
GARDEN
OF EDEN

GOD'S PLAN OF ALL AGES
by REV. DR. ANDREW J. LOSIER
Scroll Graphics and Illustrations by Raymond W. Losier — Copyright pending 1986

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The following pages have been perforated and printed on one side only for those who wish to remove the God's Plan of All Ages Chart and assemble it on a wall or into a scroll.

NOT TO BE SOLD



ETERNAL LIVING DEATH — THE BROAD WAY THAT

God
SCATTERED
MANKIND
GEN. 11:8

LINEAGE OF SHEM
GEN. 11:10-32

SHEM
Arphaxad
Salah
Eber
Peleg
Reu
Serug
Nahor
Terah
(Abram)
ABRAHAM

PROMISE:
UNCONDITIONAL
COVENANT
GEN. 12

ABRAHAM
OFFERS
ISAAC
GEN. 22:10

GOD SEPARATED MESSIANIC LINE



ISAAC
GEN. 24:63

JACOB
GEN. 28:12-15



JACOB'S prophetic declaration
to his sons. GEN. 49:3-28
REUBEN
SIMEON
LEVI
JUDAH*
ZEBULUN
ISSACHAR
BENJAMIN
(The twelve tribes of ISRAEL)

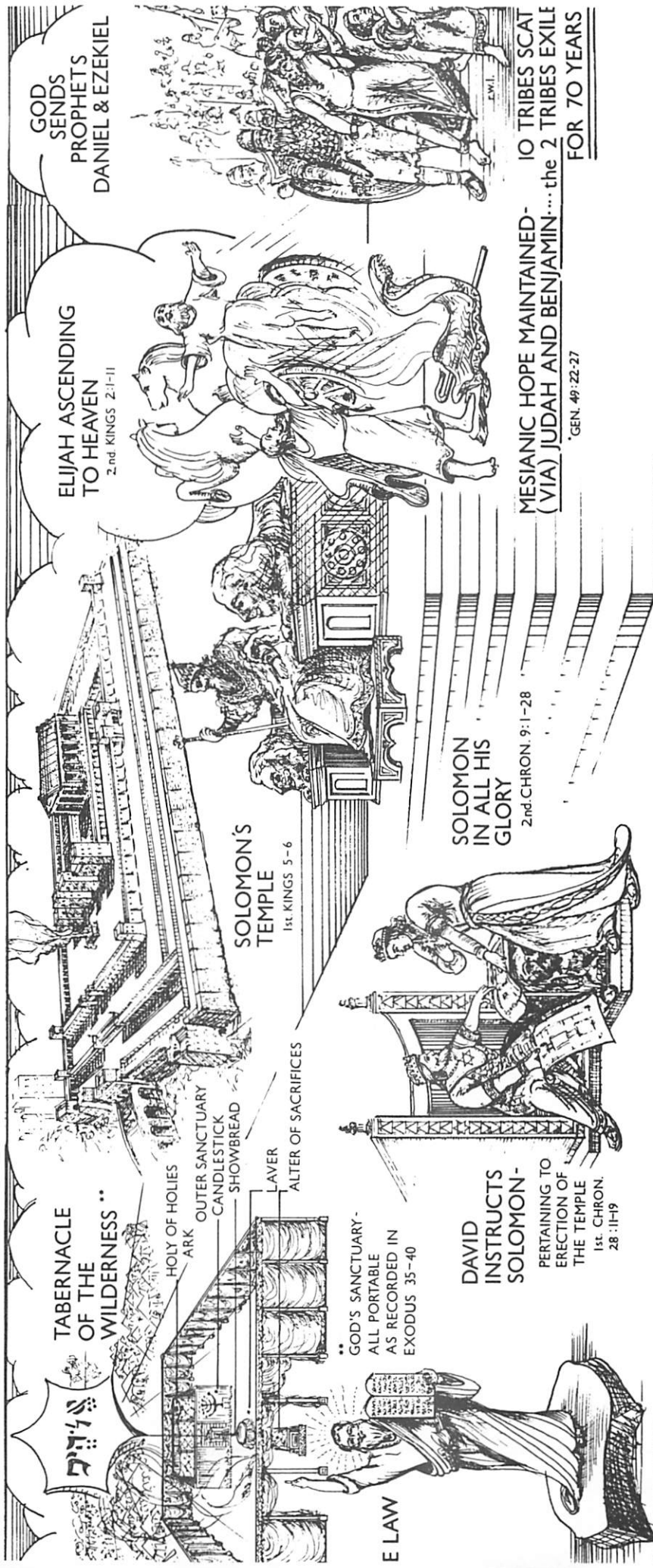
JACOB/ISRAEL
GEN. 32:28

MOSES
GIVING OF THE
EXODUS 35:1

MOSES CROSSES THE RED SEA
EXODUS 14:26-31



LEADS TO DESTRUCTION GAL. 5:19-21; ADULTERY, FORNICATION, UNCLEANNESS



TABERNACLE
OF THE
WILDERNESS **

HOLY OF HOLIES
ARK
OUTER SANCTUARY
CANDLESTICK
SHOWBREAD
LAVER
ALTER OF SACRIFICES

** GOD'S SANCTUARY -
ALL PORTABLE
AS RECORDED IN
EXODUS 35-40

E LAW

DAVID
INSTRUCTS
SOLOMON -

PERTAINING TO
ERECTION OF
THE TEMPLE
1st. CHRON.
28 : 11-19

SOLOMON'S
TEMPLE
1st KINGS 5-6

SOLOMON
IN ALL HIS
GLORY
2nd CHRON. 9: 1-28

ELIJAH ASCENDING
TO HEAVEN
2nd KINGS 2: 1-11

GOD
SENDS
PROPHETS
DANIEL & EZEKIEL

MESIANIC HOPE MAINTAINED -
(VIA) JUDAH AND BENJAMIN... the 2 TRIBES EXILE
FOR 70 YEARS
* GEN. 49: 22-27

10 TRIBES SCAT
FOR 70 YEARS

ESS, LASCIVIOUSNESS, IDOLATRY, SORCERY, HATRED, STRIFE, JEALOUSY,

NEBACHADNEZER'S DREAM
(THE FOUR GREAT KINGDOMS)

DANIEL INTERPRETS IT.....
DAN. 2

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| GOLD | BABYLONIAN EMPIRE | LION | DAN. 7:4 |
| SILVER | MEDO-PERSIAN EMPIRE | BEAR | DAN. 7:5 |
| BRASS | GRECIAN EMPIRE | LEOPARD | DAN. 7:6 |
| Alexander's Kingdom - four div. | | | |
| IRON | ROMAN EMPIRE | THE FOURTH BEAST | DAN. 8:8-12 |
| IRON & CLAY | REVIVAL OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE | | DAN. 2:34-35 & DAN. 2:45 |

"dreadful and terrible, and exceedingly STRONG."
DAN. 7:7-8

DANIEL'S PRAYER

The seventy weeks foretold to DANIEL by GABRIEL
DAN. 9:21-26
CYRUS DECREES 483 YEARS until MESSIAH IS CUT OFF - (CRUCIFIED)
FOR ALL OF THE SINS OF THE WHOLE WORLD

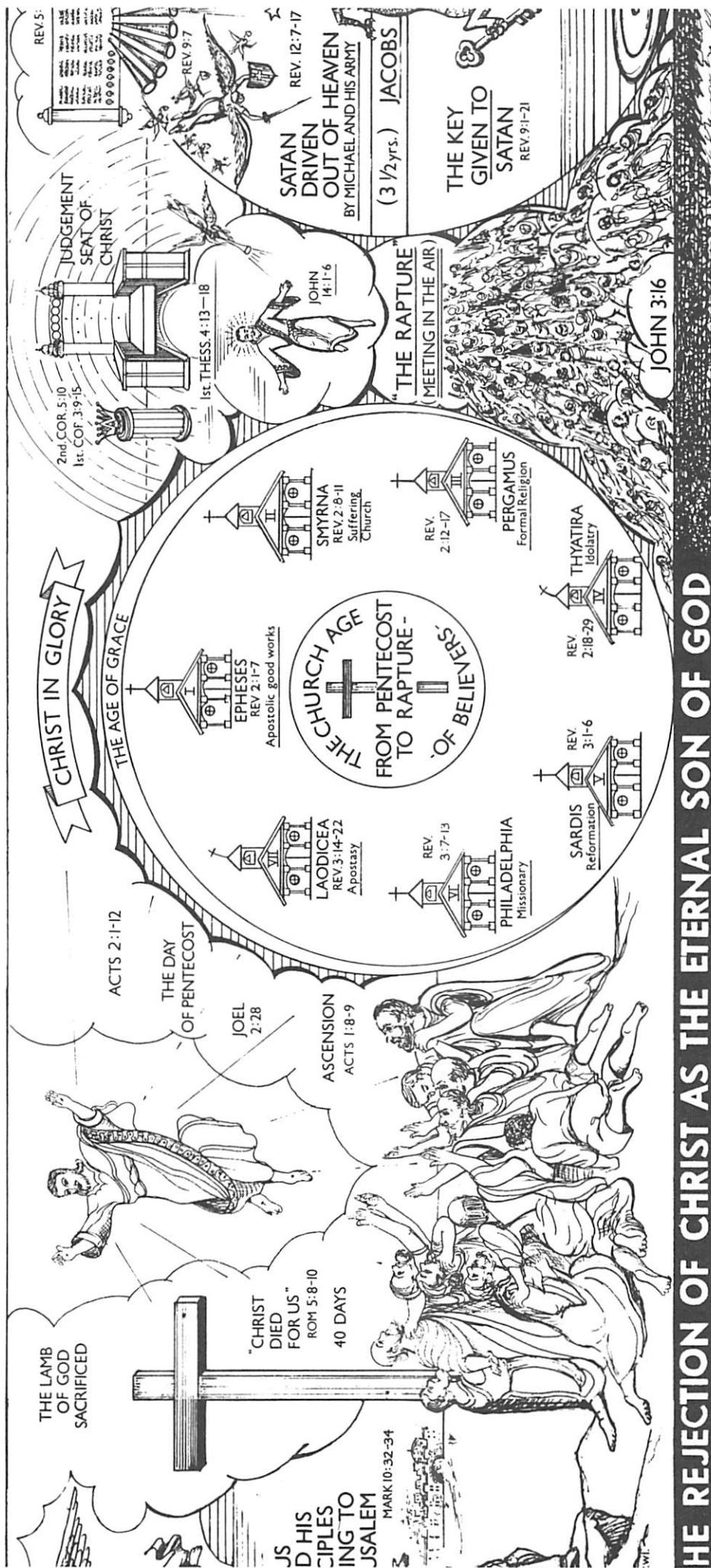
TERED & CAPTIVE D TO BABYLON
.....JER. 25

"BEHOLD, I BRING YOU GOOD TIDINGS OF GREAT JOY," — LUKE 2:10

JOHN THE BAPTIST
BORN TO HERALD THE COMING OF CHRIST
MATT. 3:1-12
MARK 1:1-8
LUKE 3:1-20
JOHN 1:6-8

JESI
AN
DEC
GO
JER

WRATH, FACTIONS, SEDITIONS, HERESIES, ENVYINGS, MURDERS, ETC. T



MARRIAGE OF THE LAMB OF GOD
REV. 19:7

THE MARRIAGE SUPPER
REV. 19:17

ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION
MATT. 24:15

MYSTERY BABYLON
REV. 17:1-18
REV. 18:1-24

TROUBLE (3 1/2 yrs.)

THE GREAT TRIBULATION
(70th. - Seven)

OF DANIEL
9:24
9:26, 27

THE BEAST & FALSE PROPHET

CAST INTO THE LAKE OF FIRE
REV. 19:20

THE LORD JESUS CHRIST RETURNS TO REIGN OVER HIS

(RIGHTEOUS) KINGDOM ON EARTH

1st THESS. 3:13 : REV. 11:15
REV. 19:11-21 : ISAIAH 40:10

HEAVENLY RIGHTEOUSNESS COMING DOWN UPON THE EARTH

"Thy Kingdom come,
Thy will be done
ON EARTH,
as it is in
HEAVEN"
MATT. 6:10

1000 YEAR KINGDOM OF RIGHTEOUSNESS ESTABLISHED
REV. 20:6

NATURE RESTORED
ISAIAH 11:6-9

THE SAINTS SHALL TEACH GOD'S RIGHTEOUSNESS
REV. 5:10
LIFE SPAN EXTENDED
ISA. 65:20

FIRE FROM HEAVEN
REV. 20:9



IS A CONSUMING FIRE
HEB. 12:29

SATAN'S LAST STAND
AS HE DECEIVES THE NATIONS

SATAN IS LOOSED
FOR A LITTLE SEASON
REV. 20:7-10

BC
OF
(REV. 20:5a)

ALL SHALL
PHIL. 2

Publications

by

Rev. Dr. Andrew J. Losier

A Study of the Book of Daniel

Amazing Grace

Analytical Theological Questionnaire Vol I and Vol II

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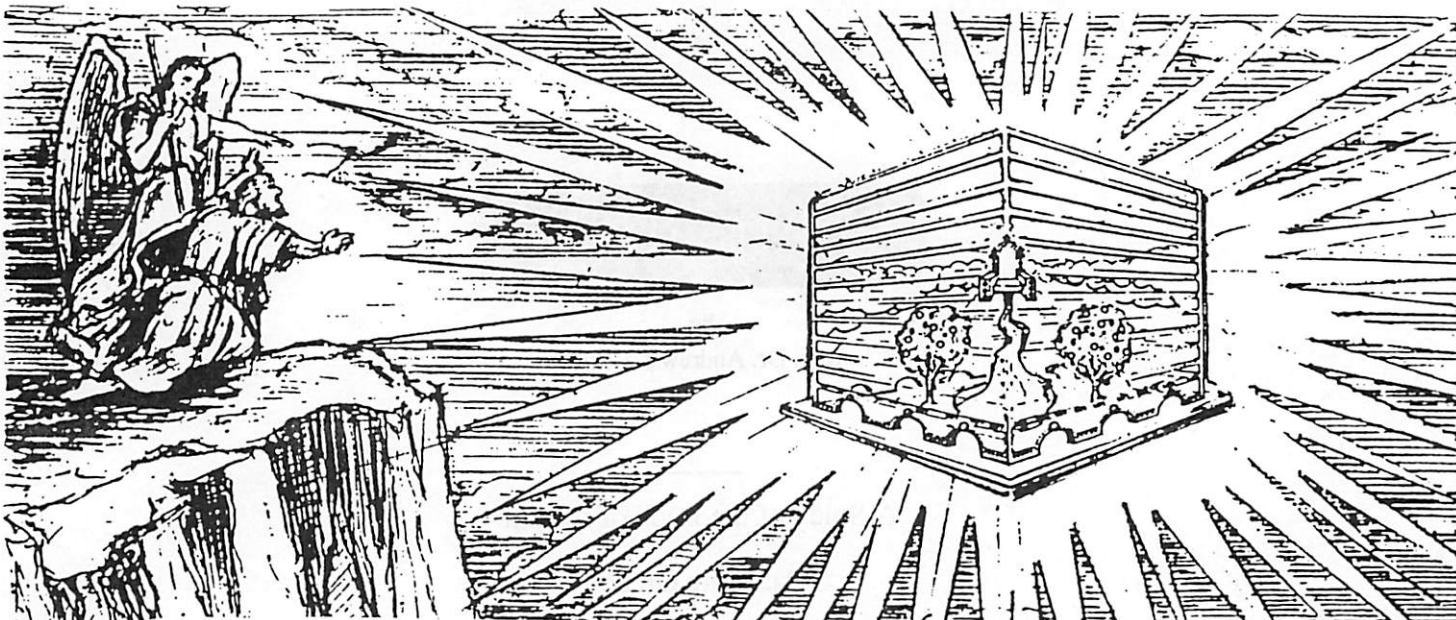
The Cross of Christ

The Holy Spirit

The Glory of God

Treasure Chest of Eternal Gems

What Does the Future Hold?



"And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain and showed me that great city, the Holy Jerusalem, descending out of Heaven from GOD" – Revelation 21 : 10

Author: Rev., Dr. Andrew J. Losier

Missionary in Africa since 1938, established the first of the Christian Literature and Bible Centers in Kenya, East Africa in 1952. Since then, over a billion pieces of FREE CHRISTIAN LITERATURE have been distributed throughout Africa in approximately 50 different languages. The overwhelming response of African Christian leaders to the WORD OF GOD, inspired Rev., Dr. Andrew J. Losier to write this book.

JESUS said "I am ALPHA and OMEGA"

Revelation 1:8

