

Revelation Chapter 19-22 Study

By

Dr. Maurice Alan Young

First Internet PDF printing

January 2016

Second Internet PDF printing

May 2017

This PDF document is not copyrighted.

It is the author's hope that the internet PDF Revelation Chapter 19-22 manuscript will be used by pastors, churches, Bible Institute's, and individuals, for teaching purposes or added as a website link.

To my missionary friends, if you would like translate this study into the language of your work; please feel free to do so.

Tai Tung, Taiwan
Republic of China

Other Titles by Dr. Maurice Young

The Pastoral Epistles
Chinese and English

First Thessalonians,
Chinese and English

Second Thessalonians
Chinese and English

Books authored by Dr. Young can be ordered from

taiwanvbc.com

Dr. Maurice Young
P.O. Box 302
Tai Tung, 950, Taiwan
Republic of China

Table of Contents

	Page
Foreword	5
Introduction	7
Revelation Chapter 19	9
Revelation 19:1-6 The Hallelujah Chorus	9
Revelation 19:7-10 The Marriage Supper of the Lamb	10
Revelation 19:11-16 KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS	13
The Rapture & the Revelation of Jesus' Coming Compared	14
Revelation chapter 4 & 5 The Throne & the Lamb	15
Revelation chapter 6-18 The Tribulation period or Time of Jacob's Trouble	15
Revelation 19:11-16 The Battle of Armageddon	15
Revelation 19:17-21 The Feast of the Fowls	18
Revelation Chapter 20	20
Revelation 20:1-3 Satan Bound	20
Revelation 20:4-6 The Millennial Reign of Christ	22
The Old Testament Covenants Fulfilled	24
The First Resurrection	26
The Order of the Harvest of the Saints	27
The Fulfillment of Ezekiel chapter 40-48	29
Revelation 20:7-10 The Final Battle of Gog and Magog	31
Revelation 20:11-15 The Great White Throne of Judgment	34
All the Dead 「天網恢恢」	36
Revelation Chapter 21	39
Revelation 21:1-8 New Heaven and the New Earth	39
Three Heavens	39
Alpha α and Omega Ω	43
Revelation 21:9-27 The Holy Jerusalem	44
The Twelve Apostles	47

False Apostles	48
Revelation Chapter 22	50
Revelation 22:1-5 Eternal Blessings from God	50
Eternal and Spiritual Facts	52
Revelation 22:6-11 Remain Faithful	54
A Sight Never Forgotten 「歎為觀止」	54
A Pre-Tribulation Rapture & Mid-Tribulation Rapture Comparison	55
The Restoration of the Nation of Israel	57
Revelation 22:12 & 13 Behold, I come quickly	58
The Judgment Seat of Christ	59
A Wise Saint	62
“Will There Be any Stars.”	62
Revelation 22:14 & 15 The Tree of Life	64
Dogs – False Teachers in the Church	65
Ecumenicalism – Spiritual Whoredom	68
Revelation 22:16 & 17 Come	72
Spiritual Darkness Concerning Prophetic Events	74
Revelation 22:18 & 19 A Solemn Warning	75
NIV readings in Revelation that take away prophecy	76
False Prophets	78
Three Warnings in the Scriptures	78
Perverting the Scriptures	78
The NIV is found to be a lying version of the scriptures	79
Severe Judgments	82
Revelation 22:20 and 21 Surely I come quickly	82
The Olivet Discourse	83
Bibliography	86
Personal Profile	87

All scripture references used in this study are taken from the Authorized Version of the Bible, commonly known as the King James Version of 1611.

Foreword

Second Internet PDF Printing

One of the great blessings of salvation is the knowledge of eternal life in heaven in the presence of God and His Son, the Lord Jesus. It is a joy in my heart in reading the book of Revelation: particularly chapters 19-22. Every time I read that section of scripture, I experience comfort and peace in this world of strife, turmoil, and heartache.

Another one the great blessings of salvation is that God has given us the scriptures for edification, knowledge, comfort, exhortation, and the blessing of knowing the future events of this world and the glories of the New Heaven and the New Earth.

Most saints, me included, find great comfort in the book of Revelation. The book of Revelation gives the saint the knowledge of future events, the fulfilling of the Covenants of the Old Testament, the fulfilling of the promises of the Old Testament, and the ultimate fulfilling of the prophecies of the Old Testament prophets.

It is my hope that this study will assist the reader, through the teaching of the Holy Spirit, to learn sound scriptural doctrine concerning future events. “But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any may teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.” 1 John 2:27

The Lord Jesus has enabled every saint, that is willing to accept the scriptures as the word of God, the Holy Spirit to guide us into the truth the prophecy of the Old Testament prophets and the fulfilling thereof as recorded in the book of Revelation. The Lord Jesus said, “Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.” John 16:13

It is the will of the Lord Jesus for the saints to know future events. It is a great encouragement to every saint to know that God has a plan for mankind, for eternity, for the eternal welfare of those who will walk by faith and trust in Him. It is also a great encouragement to be able to read the events leading up to the

new heaven and the new earth and the blessings of dwelling with God, the Lord Jesus, with the saints of all the ages.

May these lessons in the book of Revelation be a blessing, an encouragement, and a help in rightly dividing the word of truth in order to learn the exciting future events that God has planned. “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” 2 Timothy 2:15

“Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.” Revelation 1:3

In Christ,
Maurice Alan Young,
May 15, 2017

Introduction to Revelation Chapters 19-22

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

The Book of Revelation ‘reveals’ the proper fulfillment and sequence of the prophecies of the Old Testament prophets and the New Testament books up to the Book of Revelation. The Old Testament prophets, specifically Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Micah, Nahum, and Zechariah, did not necessarily write their prophecies in order; or, in the proper sequence. Nor do we find the prophecies of the Lord Jesus, specifically Matthew chapter 24 and 25, in sequential order. The proper sequence of the fulfillment of the prophets, the Lord Jesus, Paul the Apostle and the Apostle Peter is found in Revelation.

1 Corinthians 14:40, “Let all things be done decently and in order.” For a person to interpret the future events of the scriptures it is necessary to take the various prophecies of the Book of Revelation and place them in their proper order. God accomplishes all of His will in proper order.

If you want to have a scriptural, and proper, order of the prophetic events of the prophets, I would suggest the works of Clarence Larkin, Lehman Strauss, Oliver B. Greene, or any other independent Baptist author. A notable exception to this suggestion is that I cannot recommend two recent fundamentalists: Pastor Steven Anderson and Brother Kent Hovind. Both of these men, though claiming to be independent, fundamental, Baptists, have deviated not only from the scriptures, but also in traditional fundamental beliefs concerning prophecy and lack the proper knowledge of the nation of Israel and prophecy.

The commentaries of any Charismatic (Pentecostal), the Seventh Day Adventist, any, “Reformed Church,” Presbyterian author, or any author that believes in the A-millennial or Post-millennial interpretation of Revelation may be all be dismissed as heretical. The, “Preterist,” “Reformed Theology,” and any author that believes in, “Replacement Theology,” or “Covenant Theology,” or some form of “Covenant Theology,” may also be dismissed as heretical. The interpretations of the Preterist, Reformed Theologian, or Covenant Theologian, are inherently flawed and follow the mistaken doctrines of prophecy of the Roman Catholic Church.

Historically, starting with Ephraem the Syrian, ca. 306-373, the early church, and the recent vast majority of independent Baptist commentators, ministers, and laymen have traditionally accepted the literal pre-tribulation rapture of the church, the literal 7-Year Tribulation Period, and the literal 1000 Year Reign of the Lord Jesus in Jerusalem.

The allegorizing and ‘spiritualizing,’ of these doctrines by the A-millennialism, the postmillennialism, and the “preterist,” authors have caused untold Christians to disbelieve the literal promises of God to the sons of Jacob and the soon return of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Dr. Oliver B. Greene wrote:

There are those today who rob Israel of her promises and give them to the Church; but this is spiritual thievery. In the Old Testament, Israel is the adulterous wife of Jehovah. She will be restored (Isaiah 54:1-10; Hosea 2:1-17)... God have mercy on religionists and teachers who warp and twist the Word of God to fit their denominational beliefs and the traditions of their religious fathers.¹

Most independent Baptists also accept the proper relationship, division, and specific promises, to the nation of Israel, promises given to the true church comprised of true believers, and the fulfillment of the times of the Gentiles. 1 Corinthians 10:32, “Give none offence, neither to the Jews, not to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God.” Calvinists, the brethren who believe in A-Millennialism, ‘Post-Millennialism, and the ‘Replacement theology,’ cannot discern between the Jews, Gentiles, and the Church of God that Paul clearly told were not one of the same. And, these brethren find ‘offense’ to the Covenant promises expressly given to the sons of Israel: the Jews.

The confusion surrounding the events of Revelation Chapter 19-22 is due to heretics, the lack of spiritual discernment, allegorizing or spiritualizing scriptures that are literal, an incorrect dividing of the scriptures, and the confusion promulgated by the false prophets. 1 Corinthians 14:33, “For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.”

¹ Greene, Oliver B., Dr., *Revelation*. (The Gospel Hour, Inc.: Greenville, SC), 1963. Page 455.

Revelation Chapter 19

Revelation 19:1-6 “The Hallelujah Chorus.”

Verse 1-6, “And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God: For true and righteous are his judgments: for he hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand. And again they said, Alleluia. And her smoke rose up for ever and ever. And the four and twenty elders and the four beasts fell down and worshipped God that sat on the throne, saying, amen; Alleluia. And a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great. And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.”

“Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God:” Psalm 29 is one of the finest Psalms dealing with giving God the glory for all things: in this life and in eternity. Psalm 29:2 says, “Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.” There is going to be a lot of rejoicing and praise God in heaven! All, glory, praise, honour and power belongs to God Almighty!

“...true and righteous are his judgments...” All of God’s judgments are true, right, just and eternal. Psalm 119:160, “Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever.”

“... for he hath judged the great whore...” In Jeremiah 3, Ezekiel 16 and the prophet Hosea we understand that this is referring to spiritual adultery. When the nation of Israel departed from God, her husband, and committed idolatry, and forsook the commandments of God and defiled His Temple: they committed spiritual adultery.

In the Church Age, this is a reference to the Roman Catholic Church, and the various denominations of Christianity, that comprise the religious and political whore of Revelation chapter 17 and 18. “And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF

HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH” Revelation 17:5 The Roman Catholic Church has a mixture of true and false doctrines, pagan ceremonies and Christian works, it claims to be ‘Christian,’ and the, ‘only true church.’ But, it is full of corrupting doctrines and practices designed to fool the saint and the religious sinner.

“...which did corrupt the earth with her fornication...” The Roman Catholic Church, and the various other Christian denominations that have compromised the true doctrines of the scriptures, have corrupted the earth. Every new version of the scriptures from the Revised Version of 1881 is a corrupt bible. Every false doctrine in any church, cult, pagan temple, has a corrupting influence in the earth.

“...the blood of his servants at her hand.” Throughout the Church Age the Roman Catholic Church has martyred untold thousands of saints. Please study and read, “Fox’s Book of Martyrs.”

“...And her smoke rose up for ever and ever.” The result of the corrupt church, and her minions, is eternity in hell. Psalm 119:160, “Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever.”

“... amen; Alleluia.” Amen and Hallelujah! Heaven is place of eternal rejoicing.

“... for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.” God sits on His throne in heaven and He reigns forever! God is omnipotent. He will accomplish His will in His timing and His way.

Revelation 19: 7-10, “The Marriage Supper of the Lamb.”

Verse 7-10, “Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God. And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellow-servant, and of the brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”

At this point in our study of the prophetic events in the Book of Revelation, we need to make sure of four key points in the interpretation, and order of events, of prophecy:

1. “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” 2 Timothy 2:15 All of the various religions, cults, false prophets, et al, can ‘divide’ the scriptures; but they do not have the spiritual discernment to ‘rightly’ divide the scriptures. 1 Corinthians 2:13 & 14, “Which things also we speak, not in the words which man’s wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.” The confusion concerning the fulfillment of the prophetic prophecies of the prophets is due to corrupt doctrine in the churches, denominational bias, and of evil influences. “For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all of the saints.” 1 Corinthians 14:33
2. “Give none offense, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God.” 1 Corinthians 10:32. Concerning prophecy, there are specific promises and prophecies given to the elect sons of Israel; specific prophecies concerning the unbelieving Gentile nations, and specific promises to the elect in the church of God (believing Jews and Gentiles in the Church Age).
3. “... for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” Revelation 19:10
4. The prophetic prophecies by the prophets in the Old Testament concerning the restoration of Israel, the coming of the Messiah, and the times of ‘Jacob’s Trouble,’ Jeremiah 30:7, (the Tribulation Period) and the prophecies of the Lord Jesus, particularly Matthew chapter 24 & 25, the prophecies of Paul, Peter and John are not always written in the order of sequence. The proper order of sequences of the prophecies is ‘revealed’ in the Book of Revelation. Because God is the God of order, “Let all things be done decently and in order.” 1 Corinthians 14:10, God gave us the proper order of prophetic events clearly delineated in the Book of Revelation.

“...the marriage of the Lamb is come...” In the Old Testament, the wife of Jehovah is the Jewish nation of Israel. In the Church Age, the nation of Israel is pictured as an adulterous wife: Please study Jeremiah and Hosea. The Lamb is the Lord Jesus Christ. “The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.” John 1:29

In the New Testament, the wife of the Lord Jesus is the church. I must add; the church is comprised of born again Jews and Gentiles who are saved, not those necessarily belonging to some, ‘church.’ The

book of Ephesians gives us an in-depth description of the spiritual relationship between the church and the Saviour. Particularly: Ephesians 1:4, 22 & 23; 2:6 & 7, and 5:23-33

“...and his wife hath made herself ready.” The ‘wife’ is the church. The reason why the church is not mentioned during the events of the Great Tribulation Period, or the ‘Times of Jacob’s trouble,’ is due to the fact that the church has been in heaven since Revelation 4:1. The church, during the Tribulation Period, Revelation chapter 6-18, has been being made ‘ready’ for the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. Almost without exception, every bride, in every country, in every age, is secretly taken away to be made ‘ready’ for her marriage. In Revelation 4:1, the church was secretly taken out of the world at the ‘rapture,’ in order to be made ‘ready’ for her bridegroom.

This being made ‘ready’ is primarily a reference to the cleansing of heretical doctrine in the church and the giving of rewards to the Church Age saints at the, ‘Judgment Seat of Christ,’ as spoken by Paul in Romans 14:10-12, 1 Corinthians 3:8-15, and 2 Corinthians 5:10. Salvation and service are two different aspects in the Christian life. Paul wrote this testimony shortly before his death, “For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.” 2 Timothy 4:6

And, “That he [Christ] might sanctify and cleanse it [the church] with the washing by the word.” Ephesians 5:26. Brethren, please take this lesson as a friendly word of warning. If you are not going to be cleansed from your sins and from corrupt doctrine while you live on the earth by the word of God, the Lord Jesus will personally cleanse every Christian of the corrupt doctrines, corrupt Bibles, corrupt associations, and corrupt behavior, at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

The Lord Jesus performed one act at the Temple of God at the beginning of His earthly ministry and at the end of His earthly ministry that all of the saints need to take very careful heed. The Lord Jesus ‘cleansed’ the Temple of God. One day the Lord Jesus will again ‘cleanse’ the Temple of God. “What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?” 1 Corinthians 6:19

“...for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.” (1) Righteousness in Salvation. When a person believes on the Lord Jesus as Saviour he is made ‘righteous’ in the sight of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21 (2) righteousness in daily holiness. In our daily walk with the Lord Jesus we need to be ‘righteous’ in our thoughts, our behavior, our companionship, and relationship with our fellow man. 2 Corinthians 6: 11-18, 2 Timothy 2:19-21, and the rest of the writings of the Apostles in the New Testament. 1 Peter 1:16,

“Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.” Some of the saints on God’s green earth are not holy and therefore, not ‘ready.’ All of us though will be made ‘ready,’ or ‘holy,’ in preparation for our marriage with the Lamb. The Lord Jesus wants a ‘chaste virgin’ for His bride: 2 Corinthians 11:2

“...which are called...” Every person who has answered the, ‘call of salvation,’ will be ‘called,’ to the marriage supper of the Lamb. The ‘calling’ of the saints to the marriage supper was made when the Lord Jesus ‘called’ the saints into heaven. “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.” 1 Thessalonians 4:16 & 17

“...See thou do it not...” The Apostle John mistakenly fell down to worship this man of God. The man of God, as any true man of God, told him not to do it. If the Pope, the Cardinals, and the Priests of the Roman Catholic Church were true men of God (which they are not in any sense of the word), then they would not allow people to fall at their feet. It is Satanic for a man to allow another man to fall at his feet in worship and not to correct him for his error.

“...for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” The prophesies of the Old Testament and the prophesies of the New Testament, point to some aspect of the character, work, testimony, and person of the Lord Jesus as the Messiah and coming king over the nations of the world.

Revelation 19:11-16, “KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.”

Verse 11-16, “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. His eyes were as 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.”

The Lord Jesus is coming back to this earth to rule and reign. This return was foretold by the Lord Jesus, and depicted, in Revelation 1:7, “Behold he cometh with clouds, and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindred’s of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.”

The Rapture and the Revelation of Jesus’ Coming Compared

The Second Coming, the Revelation, of the Lord Jesus as, “KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS,” is not the secret coming of the Lord for the church, commonly, and hereafter called, “the Rapture.”

At the rapture, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, the Lord Jesus will come secretly (as a thief), without any armies. And He will come only to the clouds, and will come to take the church, His bride, into heaven in order for the church to escape the Tribulation Period. The Tribulation Period is a time of, “WRATH.” The wrath of God is poured out upon the face of the earth. And, in connection with the coming of the Lord Jesus to take away the church we have a precious promise that the church will not go through the time of the wrath of God upon this earth. 1 Thessalonians 5:9, “For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ.” The direct context, 1 Thessalonians 4:11 through chapter 5 verse 11, is the coming of the Lord Jesus. The context is not the salvation of the soul but salvation from ‘wrath.’

There are two types of tribulation in the scriptures. One type of tribulation is the persecution by the world to the saints, in every age, in every country, for following the Lord. The second type of tribulation is the ‘tribulation’ of the Jews, by the entire world, in Revelation chapter 6-18. In Revelation 2:9 and 10, for example, we see the first type of tribulation; persecution.

In Revelation 3:10, in a great promise given not only to the church at Philadelphia, but to all of the churches, the Lord Jesus personally said He would keep them from the, ‘...hour of temptation, which shall come upon the entire world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.’ Revelation 3:10 The ‘hour of temptation’ is the Tribulation Period. The Church Age ended in Revelation 3:22 and the ‘Rapture,’ occurred in Revelation 4:1

Revelation chapter 4 & 5, “The Throne & the Lamb.”

In Revelation chapter 4 and 5 we have the heavenly scene of the throne of God, the slain Lamb, the opening up of the book sealed with seven seals, and the casting down of the crowns by the 24 elders that were previously given at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

Revelation chapter 6-18, “The Tribulation Period or Time of Jacob’s Trouble.”

The prophet Jeremiah prophesied of the end times in Jeremiah chapter 30. Jeremiah 30:7 and 24 specifically states that this prophesy is for the end times. “Alas! for the day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob’s trouble; but he shall be saved out of it. The fierce anger of the LORD shall return, until he hath done it, and until he hath performed the intents of his heart: in the latter days ye shall consider it.”

During this time the prophecy of the Lord Jesus in Matthew 24:14, 15, 21 and 22 will be fulfilled. The ‘elect’ that the Lord Jesus refers to in Matthew 24:22 and 24 is clearly a direct reference to the nation of Israel.

Revelation 19:11-16, “The Battle of Armageddon.”

The Lord Jesus comes back to the earth to take possession as a conquering King. He takes possession of the earth by war. Joel 3:9-17 is a prophecy of this war. This is when the earth and the heavens will ‘shake’ as prophesied by Joel and Haggai. Joel 3:16, “The LORD shall also roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the LORD will be the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel.”

Haggai 2:6, “For thus saith the LORD of hosts; Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land.” The prophet Haggai continued his prophecy of shaking, or overthrowing, the nations.” Haggai 2:20-23 The events, people involved, nations involved, and time elements concerning the Battle of Armageddon that Haggai prophesied are all literal and not allegorical and are still yet future. The Apostle Paul, quoting Haggai, prophesied that the events are literal and yet future; past the church age. Hebrews 12:26 & 27, “Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven. And this

word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.”

The prophesy of the prophet Haggai, and confirmed by the Apostle Paul, clearly shows that the prophecy of Haggai is literal, has not come to pass, will not come to pass in the church age, and can only come to pass as depicted in Revelation 19:11-16, just preceding the millennial reign of Christ.

“...and on his head were many crowns; ...” During His ministry, the Lord Jesus was crowned with a, ‘crown of thorns.’ In Hebrews 2:7 and 9 the Lord Jesus was crowned with, ‘glory and honor,’ and in heaven He will be crowned, ‘KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS’

“And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood.” Isaiah 34:1-8 is a vivid description of this event. Isaiah 34:4 & 6, “And all the host of heaven shall be dissolved, and the heavens shall be rolled together as a scroll: and all the host shall fall down, as a leaf falleth off the vine, and as a falling fig from the fig tree. ... The sword of the LORD is filled with blood, it is made fat with fatness, and with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams: for the LORD hath a sacrifice in Bozrah, and a great slaughter in the land of Idumea.”

“And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen...” This is a direct reference to the Church Age saints, the Bride, as discussed in Revelation 19:7-9. It is also the fulfillment of the promise given to the church at Thyatira, and to all of the churches, in Revelation 2:27, “Revelation 2:27, “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.” Jude prophesied of the coming of Christ with His saints, “And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, To execute judgment upon all, and to convince 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 The prophesy of Jude has not been fulfilled in the dispensation of the church and will be fulfilled literally as the Apostle John recorded.

In 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 the Lord Jesus returns to the clouds, not to the earth, ‘for’ His saints. In Revelation 19:11-21 the Lord Jesus comes to the earth, not just the clouds, ‘with’ his saints. It is

obvious that the two comings are separate events and no amount of convoluted 'private,' interpretation can reconcile the two events into one event.

To be a soldier in this army (2 Timothy 2:3), you need to take up your cross and follow Jesus. 'No Cross – No Crown', 2 Timothy 2:12. For those saints who are not willing fight the fight of faith, to be a good soldier for Jesus, and are 'faint hearted,' you may be excused from the Lord's army. "And the officers shall speak further unto the people, and they shall say, What man is there that is fearful and fainthearted? let him go and return unto his house, lest his brethren's heart faint as well as his heart." Deuteronomy 20:8

"...and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: ..." Psalm 2:8 & 9 will be fulfilled at this juncture, "Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen 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."

Paul also prophesied of this time in Hebrews 10:13, "From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool." In Hebrews 10:16 this prophecy is part of the, 'covenant' with God. God will keep His covenant's; including the giving of the earth to the Lord Jesus as, 'KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS,' over the whole earth.

"...and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God." This is a fulfillment of Isaiah 11:4b and verse 5 and 63:1-6 "...and all kindred's of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen." Revelation 1:7. Due to the unbelief, hatred, sin, ungodliness, idolatry, wickedness of the nations of the earth, and the rejection of His Son, the wrath and fierceness of God is being poured out upon all of the nations of the earth by the Lord Jesus Christ. In Jude 14 & 15 we can know the thoughts of God concerning the filth of the deeds of mankind. This is also a fulfillment, among other prophesies, of Micah 4:11-13, Joel 3:9-16, Zechariah 14:1-4 and Psalm 149:6-9

"...KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS." The Lord Jesus is coming back to the earth as King. This is in fulfillment of the prophecy of Zechariah 14:9, "And the LORD shall be King over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one."

Revelation 19:17-21, “The Feast of the Fowls”

Verse 17-21, “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 bond, both small and great. And I saw the beast, and 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 worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.”

In verse 17 & 18 we see the call of the angel for war and a sacrifice of God for the fowls of the air. We see the fulfillment of Ezekiel 39:1-7, 17-29, Isaiah 34:1-8 and Zechariah 14:1-3 in this battle. Let us take note of a couple of prophecies in this section. Ezekiel 39:17, “And, thou son of man, thy saith the LORD GOD; Speak unto every feathered fowl, and to every beast of the field, Assemble yourselves, and come; gather yourselves on every side to my sacrifice that I do sacrifice for you, even a great sacrifice upon the mountains of Israel, that ye may eat flesh, and drink blood.”

“... upon the mountains of Israel...” the Tribulation period is primarily the time of Jacob’s Trouble to bring Israel back to the land of Israel. Why did God cause the Tribulation period? Why is the Lord Jesus leading this great army of saints to overcome the heathen (Ezekiel 39:23 & 28)? “Therefore thus saith the LORD God; Now will I bring again the captivity of Jacob, and have mercy upon the whole house of Israel, and will be jealous for my holy name;” ... “Then shall they [Israel] know that I am the LORD their God, which caused them to be led into captivity among the heathen: but I have gathered them unto their own land, and have left none of them any more there.” Ezekiel 39: 25 & 28

The events of the Tribulation Period, Revelation chapter 6 through 18, is primarily to fulfill the promises given to the nation of Israel. To bring the chosen sons of Jacob, the elect of the children of Israel, restored back to the land of Israel.

The prophecy of Amos 3:9-17 is also fulfilled at this time. The events of Revelation chapter 6-18 has nothing to do with the church of the redeemed as the church was taken out of the Tribulation period, secretly, as a thief, in Revelation 4:1. That is why the true church is not mentioned at all.

In verse 19 and 20 we see the end of the beast, the false prophet, and the deceived populace who took the mark of the beast. The prophet Joel prophesied of this time in Joel 2:11, “And the LORD shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp is very great: for he is strong that executeth his word: for the day of the Lord is great and very terrible; and who can abide it?” Nobody can, ‘abide it.’ The armies of the beast are destroyed; the beast and the false prophet are cast, ‘alive,’ into the ‘lake of fire.’ Hell, the lake of fire, is literal and eternal. The result of those taking the mark of the Beast is eternity in hell. The beast deceived the whole world through his lies, Revelation 12:9. The false prophet deceived the world through his ‘charismatic miracles,’ and religious doctrine: lies. All religious falsehood are lies. The Great Whore, Revelation 17:5, the Roman Catholic Church, and all other false religious denominations allied with her, is deceiving the earth through religious lies. False churches use false bibles, to teach false doctrine in order to deceive. False, or miss-guided, brethren teach erroneous doctrine through the improperly dividing of scripture, or twisting the scripture, in order to deceive.

The result of the false prophet, false teachers, and people: who are in a false church, and who have a false belief in the Lord Jesus, is eternity in the lake of fire. A close study of 1 Timothy 1:18-20, 4:1, 2 and 16 will help your understanding of the judgment on false prophets. Remember Balaam? Korah? Cain? Numbers and Jude 11, and Genesis 3:1-17

In verse 21 we see the feast of the fowls. Please re-read Ezekiel chapter 39 as previously mentioned.

This is the fulfillment of the prophecy the Lord Jesus in Matthew 24:28, “For wheresoever the carcass is, there will the eagles be gathered together.” The carcasses’ of the armies of the Beast and the False Prophet are where the eagles are going to gather as spoken by the Lord Jesus.

The companion passage of this prophecy is recorded in Luke 17:37, “And they answered and said unto him, Where, LORD? And he said unto them, wheresoever the body is, thither will the eagles be gathered together.” The prophecy of the Lord Jesus is fulfilled in, ‘the feast of the fowls.’

Revelation Chapter 20

Revelation 20:1-3, "Satan Bound."

Verse 1-3, "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, which 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."

"... an angel come down from heaven.' The angel is the Lord Jesus. Revelation 1:18, "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death." Only the Lord Jesus has the keys of hell and death. And, the Lord Jesus is the same angel in Revelation 9:1 and 2 that takes the key of the bottomless pit, and opens it, in order to set loose the demonic locusts upon the earth.

'...having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.' The Lord Jesus does not say a word in this passage of scripture. He takes the 'key,' to the bottomless pit, 'hell and death,' He takes a 'great chain.' in His hands. The 'great chain,' is not necessarily the, 'chains of darkness,' referred to 2 Peter 2:4 and Jude 6.

2 Peter 2:4, "For is God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment." 2 Peter 2:4 in conjunction with 2 Peter 2:4 please read Jude 6. These chains are, 'chains of darkness,' whereas the chain in the hands of the Lord Jesus, is a special, 'great chain.'

The Lord Jesus uses His own two hands to hold this, 'great chain,' in His own two hands. The Lord Jesus could use His mouth to speak the word: but the scriptures do not tell us that He said a word. The Lord Jesus is God in the flesh. He can use His hands to fulfill His will, or His feet like any other man uses the members of his body to accomplish a task.

In John 9:41 we see an example of how the Lord Jesus used His hands to accomplish a miracle. The Lord Jesus healed a blind man with clay made of spittle. The Lord Jesus spit on the ground, and then He stooped to the ground and made clay of the spittle, and then anointed the eyes of the blind man and

told the blind man to wash at the pool of Siloam. The Lord Jesus, like a man: spit, stooped, used His hands to make clay, and then used His hands to rub the clay on the man's eyes. All without saying a word, He healed the man. The only words that the Lord Jesus used was to tell the man where to wash.

'... the Devil,' The order of names is the same as written in Revelation 12:9. The names given the Devil are a definite reference to his character: Dragon is a reference to his cruelty, Serpent is a reference to his guile and cunning treachery, Devil is a reference to his deceptive abilities and the tempter of men, Satan means opponent; the enemy of God, Jesus, the Bible, righteousness, holiness, faithful preachers, and saints who walk with the Lord.

May we remember the admonition of King Solomon concerning our character, 'our name.' "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favor rather than silver and gold." Proverbs 22:1

'...cast him into the bottomless pit...' Please take special notice. The Lord Jesus does not speak a word. Although the Lord Jesus could just speak the word to bind Satan, He does not. The Lord Jesus takes the Devil in His own two hands, and bodily throws him into the bottomless pit. Again, the Lord Jesus, God in the flesh, uses His hands to fulfill a task as any other man would.

'... that he should deceive the nations no more...' The primary object of Satan is to deceive. Satan deceived Eve into eating the forbidden fruit in order to cause man to disobey God, die, and spend eternity in hell. Satan hates God and does not want man to obey Him. Satan, and his devils (demons), primary arena of deception is 'religion.' The ministers of the devil cause people not to get saved and then they denounce, slander, find fault with, and malign those true men of God who preach and teach the truth.

"But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that brought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of." 2 Peter 2:1. One of the duties of a man of God is to teach the truth and denounce heresy. Jude 3 & 4 are still applicable in these last days. These false teachers, in these last days, are now even among the independent Baptist churches. Satan deceives men through

religion. The various false religions, false doctrines, and false Bibles of the world are deceiving men and women about the literal one thousand year reign of the Lord Jesus as revealed in the scriptures.

‘... till the thousand years should be fulfilled...’ For a literal one thousand years, Satan will be sealed in the bottomless pit. The 1000 years is no way symbolic, figurative, or any other manner, not literal. God will fulfill His word as the Holy Spirit inspired the Apostle John to write.

“... after that...” This is a direct, and irrefutable, reference to the 1000 millennial reign of Christ in verse 4-6. At the completion of the one thousand year reign of the Lord Jesus on His throne in Jerusalem Satan will be let out of the bottomless pit, released of his chain, and deceive the nations once again with his deceitful religious lies.

Revelation 20:4-6, “The Millennial Reign of Christ.”

Verse 4-6, “And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had receive his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived with 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 priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.”

‘And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them...’ The Lord Jesus as, ‘KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS,’ begins His one thousand year reign on the face of the earth at Jerusalem with the establishment of the saints who served Him rewarded with, ‘thrones.’ These thrones are set in the different countries to rule and reign under, and with, the Lord Jesus; 2 Timothy 2:12, “If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us.”

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

The millennial reign of Christ is the fulfillment of Daniel 7:9 and 10, 13 and 14 “I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him before

him. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.” Daniel 7:13 and 14 The Kingdom is also the fulfillment of Daniel 2:44, “And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.

David will sit on his throne as king, and as prince, over all land promised to Abraham and Jacob. The Lord Jesus will be, ‘KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS,’ over all the earth with His throne will be placed in Jerusalem. “Afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the LORD their God, and David their king; and shall fear the LORD and his goodness in the latter days.” Hosea 3:5

The saints, both Old Testament and New Testament saints, including the Tribulation saints, who are rewarded with, ‘thrones,’ will rule over the various countries of the earth. This also fulfills the teaching of Paul the Apostle in 1 Corinthians 6:2 and 3, “Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? and it the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters? Know ye not that we shall judge angels? How much more things that pertain to this life?”

For some promises of the Lord Jesus, and the teaching of Paul concerning reigning with Christ in the Millennium, study Matthew 24:14-23; 25:14-30; 31:46, Romans 8:17, and Ephesians 1:18

The nations left after going through the Tribulation Period, and were not in the battle of Revelation 19:11-21, will be judged at this time, Matthew 25:31-46

‘... the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus and for the word of God...’ In Revelation 6:9-11 we read of how these Tribulation saints were martyred for not taking the mark of the Beast due to their testimony of faith in Christ. We need to note the verbal persecution that most saints receive in these last days is mild indeed compared to the persecution of the Tribulation saints. “Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin.” Hebrews 12: 4. The Tribulation saints resisted unto blood.”

‘... and they lived with and reigned with Christ a thousand years.’ This is fulfillment with the Covenants and promises of God in the Old Testament. Note: These covenants are not conditional and are fulfilled exactly as God promised in the Millennial Reign of Christ. The covenants are ‘everlasting’ due to the

fact that after the last, and extremely short, battle of Gog and Magog in Revelation 20:8-10, does not destroy the Jews, nor the Kingdom. The Millennial Kingdom extends into eternity; i.e. the New Heavens and New Earth where the New Jerusalem is placed on the earth and the tabernacle is with men; Revelation 21:1-3.

The Old Testament Covenants Fulfilled

1. Abraham. Genesis 12:1-3; 13:14-18; chapter 15: 17:1-14. The resurrected Abraham, and his saved, descendants, will at this time inherit the land that God promised Abraham, "... and to thy seed for ever." Genesis 15:18, "In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates."
2. David. "And I will ordain a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, and they shall dwell in their place, and shall be move no more; neither shall the children of wickedness waste them any more, as at the beginning." 1 Chronicles 17:9 Please note that David is asleep and that there are no conditions of this Covenant. It will be fulfilled by God whether or not the children of Israel follow the Law or not. It is an un-conditional covenant: 1 Chronicles 17: 3-15
Ezekiel 34:20-31; verse 23, "And I will set up one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them, even my servant David; he shall feed them, and he shall be their shepherd. And I the LORD will be their God [this is a direct reference to the Lord Jesus Christ as God], and my servant David a prince among them; I the LORD have spoken it." 2 Samuel 7:4-17 and Psalm 89:3 and 4
3. The Covenant of Ezekiel 37. This chapter gives the vision of the, 'Dry Bones,' (a picture of the future restoration of the nation of Israel in the Millennium), God gave this Covenant. Ezekiel 37:24-26, "And David my servant shall be king over them; and they shall all have one shepherd: they shall also walk in my judgments, and observe my statutes, and do them. And they shall dwell in the land that I have given unto Jacob my servant, wherein your fathers have dwelt; and they shall dwell therein, even they, and their children, and their children's children for ever: and my servant David shall be prince their prince for ever."
4. Confirmed to the Nation of Israel. Deuteronomy chapter 4-32
5. Confirmed by the Lord Jesus, as revealed to Paul the Apostle. "Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made to the fathers." Romans 15:8. This is a specific reference to Romans 9:4, "Who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises."

All of the Covenants and promises of God to the Jews in the Old Testament are literal and will be fulfilled in the Millennium and in eternity. The Apostle Paul taught, “Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace.” Romans 11:15 The nation of Israel is God’s elect. The church did not replace the Elect sons of Jacob nor do the promises to the Church in the New Testament negate the promises to Israel. The Lord Jesus confirmed all of the promises, which includes the covenants, as recorded by Paul the Apostle. “Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made unto the fathers.” Romans 15:8

We will briefly glance at some of these promises.

Isaiah 9:6 tells us there will be no end to the Kingdom. The Kingdom will continue throughout eternity.

Isaiah 11:6, “The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.” The animal kingdom will be changed.

After the horrific happenings in the 7 Year Tribulation Period that Isaiah prophesied in Isaiah 24:12 we read in Isaiah 24:23, the, “... LORD of hosts shall reign in Mt Zion, and in Jerusalem, and before his ancients gloriously.”

Isaiah 30:18-26 tells us of many blessings that will be wonderful to behold. Included in the many physical blessings in Isaiah chapter 35, we read of this blessing, “Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.” Isaiah 35:5

Isaiah chapter 60 tells us that the Lord will not only restore the nation of Israel but He will glorify the nation of Israel. Isaiah 60:12, “For the nation and kingdom that will not serve thee shall perish; yes, those nations shall be utterly wasted.” May I at this juncture remind the saved Gentiles that the church did not, ‘replace,’ Israel, but the Saved Gentiles are, ‘grafted,’ into the nation of Israel. Romans 11:14-25 The Apostle Paul taught in Romans 11:17, “And if some of the branches be broken off, and thou, being a wild olive tree, wert grafted in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree.”

Among numerous physical and spiritual blessings recorded in Isaiah chapter 65 we read this particular one, “There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed.”
Isaiah 65:20

Zechariah 8:1-8 and Ezekiel chapter 47 tells us further great physical changes and blessings. In Hosea 3:5 we learn that King David will be raised from the dead and will be King over Israel.

In Micah 4:1-7 we learn that all the nations will come to the Millennial Temple.

Zechariah chapter 3 the LORD will take away the filthy garments of the Joshua the High priest in order to serve, ‘... my servant the BRANCH.’ The, BRANCH,’ is the Lord Jesus as KING.

Zechariah 8:21-23 tells us of the restoration of the Jew to international prominence.

The above verses are just a portion of the many physical and spiritual promises that will be fulfilled during 1000 Millennial reign of Christ in Revelation 20:4-6 as prophesied by the Old Testament prophets.

God is going to restore the land promised to Jacob to the sons of Israel, ‘forever.’ The prophet Isaiah prophesied in Isaiah 1:25-27 that the nation of Israel would be restored. “And I will turn my hand upon thee, and purely purge away thy dross, and take away all thy tin: And I will restore thy judges as at the first, and thy counsellors as at the beginning: afterward thou shalt be called, The city of righteousness, the faithful city. Zion shall be redeemed with judgment, and her converts with righteousness.” Isaiah 1:25-27 None of these promises given by the prophet Isaiah has been fulfilled; including after the return of the Jews after the Babylonian Captivity. The books of Nehemiah and Ezra is very clear that this prophecy of Isaiah was not fulfilled after the Captivity. Nor, has any of these promises been given to the church in a spiritual way. These specific promises given by God will be fulfilled to the nation of Israel during the millennial reign of Christ.

The First Resurrection

‘This is the first resurrection.’ This is in fulfillment of Revelation 14:14-20. One harvest is the resurrected saints and the other harvest is the armies of the Beast that are destined to be destroyed in

Revelation 19:11-21 In Luke 14:14 Jesus refers to it as the "...resurrection of the just." In John 5:27-29 Jesus refers this to as the, "resurrection of life."

In the Old Testament, there are three harvests in most crops; whether from the ground or in a bush or tree. Before I continue, I must make the following qualifying statement. Until the modern advent (or Industrial Revolution), of harvesting wheat, grain crops or fruit by mechanical machines, the harvesting of fruit and crops were done by human hands wielding a sickle. The following is the normal Biblical picking of the harvest. It does not necessarily correspond to modern machine harvesting methods.

1. The first fruits; fruit that ripens early or that can be picked early.
2. The harvest. This would be the main body of the fruit of the harvest.
3. The gleanings. This is the part of the harvest that ripens late by the harvesters. In the Book of Ruth, we see this type of harvest where there were gleanings from the harvest of Boaz. In Leviticus 19:9 God commanded the Jews to leave a gleaning from every harvest. "And when ye reap the harvest of your land, thou shalt not wholly reap the corners of the field, neither shalt thou gather the gleanings of thy harvest." The resurrection, 'gleanings of the harvest,' is a type (or symbolic), of the third harvest of the, 'first resurrection.' This is the resurrection of the Tribulation saints; Revelation 14:14-16

The Order of the Harvest of the Saints

In the great resurrection Chapter, 1 Corinthians 15, we read in 15:23, "But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming." The resurrection of the saved is done in order.

1. 'Christ the firstfruits.' The Resurrection of Christ, Matthew 28:1-11 and of, 'many bodies of the saints,' Matthew 27:52 and 53. There was a portion, not all of, the Old Testament saints.
2. '... afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.' 1 Corinthians 15:51 and 52; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18. Church Age saints.
3. '...then cometh the end...' The gleanings are the Tribulation saints, and would include the saints that died in the Millennial Reign of Christ, but raised afterward.

‘... on such the second death hath no power...’ In John 5:27-29 Jesus refers to this as the, ‘...resurrection of damnation...’ The resurrection of the dead who went to hell, from Adam to Revelation 20:10 will be raised from hell and judged at the Great White Throne of Judgment, Revelation 20:11-15

There are two items not, ‘destroyed,’ or, ‘restored,’ during the Millennial Reign of Christ.

1. Sin. The nations that escaped the horrible conditions of the Tribulation Period and entered the Millennial Reign are not all saved. They are still sinners that need salvation. The children born in the Millennium need to be saved by faith as in earlier dispensations.
2. Death. Even though disease, war, famines, are for the most part, eliminated through the wise reign of Christ; the Law of God is still in effect and people still die.

Therefore, even though the Lord Jesus will reign for one thousand years, and the world will see untold peace, rest, safety, long life, and good health, the old sin nature of a lot of people have not been redeemed. The old nature is sinful and death is the result. Romans 6:6 and 23

The prophet Isaiah gave this prophetic warning concerning those who will live in the Millennium, but will reject eternal redemption of their soul through the one and eternal sacrifice of the Lord Jesus as payment for their sins. Isaiah 26:9 and 10, “With my soul have I desired thee in the night; yea, with my spirit within me will I seek thee early: for when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the earth will learn righteousness. Let thy favour be shewed to the wicked, yet will he not learn righteousness: in the land of uprightness will he deal unjustly, and will not behold the majesty of the LORD.”

‘...priests of God and of Christ...’ In the Church Age, every believer is a spiritual priest offering up spiritual sacrifices to God, 2 Peter 2:5. There will be priests in the Millennial Temple as prophesied by Ezekiel in Ezekiel chapter 40-48 the sacrifices will be for remembrance, and teaching, of the one and only effectual sacrifice for sins: the death of the Lord Jesus on the Cross of Calvary. Please study Hebrews chapter 9 and 10 and Galatians chapter 3-5. Ezekiel 44:23 says, “And they shall teach my people the difference between holy and profane, and cause them to discern between the clean and the unclean.” The sacrifices are not for salvation: but for teaching.

The Fulfillment of Ezekiel chapter 40-48

The prophecy of Ezekiel chapter 40-48 will be fulfilled (to the jot and tittle), during the Millennial reign of Christ. The one thousand years is literal, the Temple is literal, the sacrifices, the feast days, the Sabbath, et al, are literal.

The physical manifestation of the Glory of God will be in the Holy of Holies as in the days of Moses, King David, and King Solomon. Ezekiel 43:1-6. Ezekiel 43:4, "So the spirit took me up, and brought me into the inner court; and, behold, the glory of the LORD filled the house." At that time, the prophecy of Habakkuk 2:20 will also be fulfilled, "But the LORD is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him."

King David gives us the reason in Psalm 94:12, "Blessed is the man whom thou chastenest, O LORD, and teachest him out of thy law."

God Himself says, "Thou son of man, shew the house to the house of Israel, that they may be ashamed of their iniquities: and let them measure the pattern. And if they be ashamed of all that they have done, shew them the form of the house, and the fashion thereof, and the goings out thereof, and the comings in thereof, and all the ordinances thereof, and all the forms thereof, and all the laws thereof: and write it in their sight, that they may keep the whole form thereof, and all the ordinances thereof, and do them. This is the law of the house; Upon the top of the mountain the whole limit thereof round about shall be most holy. Behold, this is the law of the house." Ezekiel 43:10-12

The Temple is to show Israel, the inhabitants of the Millennial Kingdom, that they should be ashamed of their iniquities. And, in Ezekiel 48:11-14, God gives us the names of the priests: the sons of Zadok.

The sinner will be instructed by the priests in the Temple the salvation aspects of the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ. If the sinner accepts the Lord Jesus Christ as his sacrifice for sins then he is redeemed by the blood of the Lamb. Please study Leviticus chapter 1 and Ezekiel 44:7-9. Moses, and the spiritual Jews, realized that the sacrifices never could take away sins. The sacrifices, like the New Testament Lord's Supper (Communion), had been corrupted by false ministers as a means of salvation.

The sacrifices in the Millennial Temple are not for the salvation of the soul. The sacrifices of the new Temple will be a 'schoolmaster,' and, 'a remembrance,' (see Luke 22:19), of the Sacrifice of the Lord

Jesus Christ. Galatians 3:24 says, “Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.” This includes the burnt offering, meat offering, peace offerings, and the daily sacrifice as written in the Book of Leviticus. See Ezekiel chapter 46.

The Lord Jesus will also take away the pagan holidays of the nations of the world and re-institute, the Temple services, the Sabbath, and the feast days of the Book of Leviticus. See Ezekiel chapter 46 and 46:9-11

Zechariah chapter 14 prophesies of the Lord Jesus as King and the establishment of the feasts and sacrifices in the Book of Leviticus. Verse 9, “and the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one.” Verse 16, “and it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which come against Jerusalem [Revelation 19:11-21] shall even go up year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles.” Verse 21, “Yea, every pot in Jerusalem and in Judah shall be holiness unto the LORD of hosts: and all they that sacrifice shall come and take of them, and seethe therein: and in that day there shall be no more the Cananite in the house of the LORD of hosts.”

Also, notice Leviticus 25:8-17, Numbers 36:4 and Joel 3:18

‘... and shall reign with him a thousand years.’ This is the second time that God emphasized that the Reign of Christ as KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS will last one thousand years. The Lord Jesus will reign as KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS in the restored land of Israel as prophesied by the prophets.

None of the events, places, events, nations, et al, prophesied by the prophets, and fulfilled during the one thousand year reign of Christ, are not symbolic, or figurative. The doctrinal beliefs of the Jehovah’s Witnesses, the Mormons (The Church of the Latter Day Saints), the A-millennial and postmillennial of the Catholics, Presbyterians, and other denominations concerning the Millennium are in error. This includes the error of: ‘Preterist Theology,’ or, ‘Covenant Theology,’ or and form of, ‘Replacement Theology,’ currently being taught in some ‘Christian,’ or, ‘Baptist,’ churches. The aforementioned denominations, and or, brethren, are confusing and miss leading the lost religious people in churches and confusing the saints in the true churches.

Revelation 20:7-10, “The Final Battle of Gog and Magog.”

Verse 7-10, “And when the thousand years are expired, 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: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. 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 for ever and ever.”

‘And when the thousand years are expired...’ Again, the one thousand years are a literal one thousand years. From Revelation 20:1-7 we read very clearly the phrase, ‘one thousand years,’ six times. All of the persons, nations, and events in this passage of inspired scripture are literal and in no way symbolic, figurative, allegorical or some other manner not literal.

‘... Satan shall be loosed out of his prison...’ The bottomless pit, Hell, and the Lake of Fire, are all prisons. They house the, ‘the King’s prisoners.’ The prisons of men are incomparable to the prison of God.

‘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...’ Satan is a deceiver and has an intense hatred for God and for the souls of men. Even though Satan has been in the bottomless pit for one thousand years he is not repentant, he still is governed by a heart of hatred, and is as deceitful as before. The, ‘four quarters,’ of the earth are all the nations; East, West, North and South. The leaders of Gog and Magog, Ezekiel 38 and 39, are the leaders of this renewed battle between Satan and his armies and God in heaven.

In Ezekiel 38:1-3 we find out where we have the countries of the first and in the final battle. In Ezekiel 38:8-12 Ezekiel prophesied against the nations of the Second Battle. In Ezekiel 39:28 and 29 is a further prophecy concerning the end of the Second Battle.

During the Millennium, millions of people who were born, and lived in great health, safety, longevity, no war, and little sickness, were discontent with the Lord Jesus and never availed themselves of the freeness of salvation.

Satan once again deceives the nations of the world to rise up in rebellion against the Lord Jesus. Again, the leaders of this rebellion is Gog and Magog. In Ezekiel chapter 38 & 39, we read of Gog and Magog. In Ezekiel 38:1-7 the countries are listed that are allied with Gog and Magog (most likely Russia and her Northern allies); Persia, Ethiopia, Libya, Gomer (most likely Germany and their European allies), Togarmah (most likely Turkey), and other allied countries, Sheba, Dedan, Tarshish and their allies. The above listed countries are all in the continent of Europe and Asia Minor: Asia is mentioned in Revelation 16:12 the other continents of the world are not mentioned nor directly involved.

In Ezekiel 39:2, we read that one sixth of these countries involved in this battle is turned back to the North Country and escaped destruction. In Ezekiel 39:11-16 the land of Israel is cleansed from the slaughter of this battle.

1. Not all of the nations of the world are involved in the first battle, Ezekiel 38:1-6; as in Revelation 19:11-21.
2. Nor, is there a complete destruction of the armies involved in the first battle, Ezekiel 39:1-6; as in Revelation 19:11-21.
3. After this battle the land is cleansed for six months, Ezekiel 39:8-16, and then inhabited; as what happens in Revelation 20:4-6 during the Millennium.

Therefore, the obvious conclusion is that this is the first battle Gog and Magog, Revelation 19:11-21, when the Lord Jesus returns as KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. But, the scriptures plainly state that the battle after the one thousand years reign of Christ is ended with the battle of Gog and Magog.

Let us turn to three other battles in the Old Testament to discover why the battle in Revelation 19:11-21, immediately preceding the Millennium and Revelation 20:7-10, immediately after the Millennium, are referenced in Ezekiel 39 and 40 as the battle between God and the allies of Gog and Magog.

1. 2 Samuel 5:17-25 King David and the Philistines. Please note that both times King David, a type of Christ reigning in Jerusalem, is led by the direct command of God.
2. 1 Kings 20:1-30 Ben-hadad, King of Syria, and Israel. Please take careful note. A prophet, led by the direct command of God, told King Ahab exactly what to do. 1 Kings 30:13 and 22

3. Isaiah 36 and 37 Sennacherib, King of Assyria, and King Hezekiah. In both battles, we have King Hezekiah, also a type of Christ reigning in Israel, Isaiah, under the direct command from God in both battles, protecting Jerusalem. God plainly stated in Isaiah 37:35, “For I will defend this city to save it for my own sake, and for my servant David’s sake.” Please remember that David is ruling as King and prince in Jerusalem during the Millennial Reign of Christ.

In this second and final battle of Gog and Magog, instead of countries within the European and Asia Minor, and Asia, all of the nations of the world are involved. Gog and Magog are the leaders of this total worldwide battle. Satan uses the new leaders of the primary two nations, Gog and Magog, in the second and final battle as he used in the first battle. The main difference is that all of the nations of the world are involved and all of the participants are slain.

‘... and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city...’ The nations of the world under the leadership of Gog and Magog surround the saints in the nation of Israel and the capital city, ‘the beloved city,’ in preparation to annihilate them. When the Lord Jesus reigns in Jerusalem, the city becomes, ‘beloved.’

All of the saints in the Millennial Reign of Christ are protected from spiritual deception and physical harm. All of the sinners in the Millennial Reign of Christ who never got saved are slain.

‘... and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them...’ The end of this final battle of Gog and Magog is the total destruction of every person outside the camp of the saints. Every sinner not saved during the Millennial Reign of Christ is slain. Not one person, literally, is left alive.

As with the two battles with Gog and Magog, we have a similar situation, on a smaller scale, as an example in the Old Testament. In 2 Kings 1:9-12 we have the story of how the wicked King Ahaziah sent two different squadrons of 50 soldiers, with their captain, to capture Elijah. Both times the fifty men and their captains were slain by God using fire rained down from heaven. All of the men of war were slain by God to protect one man. “And Elijah answered and said unto them, If I be a man of God, let fire come down from heaven, and consume thee and thy fifty. And the fire of God came down from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty.” 1 Kings 1:12

‘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 for ever and ever.’ Satan, and every lost person,

will remain in hell for ever and ever. What a price to pay for the pleasures of sin for a season. Salvation is eternal and hell is eternal.

Revelation 20:11-15 “The Great White Throne of Judgment”

Verse 11-15, “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 which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”

‘And I saw a great white throne...’ God is Great, Psalm 48:1, “Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness.” And the, ‘White,’ throne is a literal pure, white throne that also speaks of the purity, holiness, and the righteousness of God. God sits on His throne and judges, ‘righteously.’ The throne of God is a Holy Throne. “God reigneth over the heathen: God sitteth upon the throne of his holiness.” Psalm 47:8

The prophecy of Daniel 7:9-11 is being fulfilled, “I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire. A fiery stream issued and came forth before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.”

God is righteous, and holy, in all of His thoughts; His deeds, His motives, and His character. The only thing that the Ancient of Days is interested in at the judgment at the Great White Throne is righteousness and the judgment of sin. The previous political connections, religious ceremonies, wealth of an individual, fame of an individual, social standing, and other worldly and fleshly considerations will not move, sway, or change the Judgment of God according to His righteousness and Law.

God, as King, has established His throne by righteousness. “It is an abomination to kings to commit wickedness: for the throne is established by righteousness.” Proverbs 16:12 and Psalm 9:4, “For thou

maintained my right and my cause; thou satest in the throne judging right.” The righteousness of God is exceedingly superior to the righteousness of men.

Every culture, every false religion every heathen (a person who has an idolatrous religion), that ever lived has their own set of righteousness. The Muslim religion has their own set of righteousness, the Buddhist, The Taoist, The Indian Guru, the American Indians, the Roman Catholic, the Mormons (the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints), the Jehovah’s Witnesses, and the Seventh Day Adventist, has their own set of righteousness. “For they being ignorant of God’s righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.” Romans 10:3

The righteous acts, motives, deeds, and thoughts of man are as, ‘filthy rags.’ “But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousness are as filthy rags; and we all do face as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.” Isaiah 64:6

‘... and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and heaven fled away...’ This judgment is not in heaven nor on earth. This very unique situation is unfathomable to the human mind. It is so unique that the scriptures do not even try to explain where it takes place.

‘And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God...’ This is the resurrection of the dead that is as spoken of in Revelation 20:6

‘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.’ Individuals that trusted in their own works, religious ceremony, merit, thoughts, or some priest, will be judged accordingly. Those who thought that God will overlook their sins, or, who thought that, ‘their good works will outweigh their bad deeds,’ or, who thought, ‘God is a loving God and will not cast men into hell,’ and considered themselves as righteous, or more righteous, than other men, will be sadly, and eternally, be mistaken. Those who trust in their own works for salvation, and not the grace of the Lord Jesus, are tragically mistaken.

In the sight of God, we are not righteous. “As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:” Romans 3:10 Salvation, in any era, and in any country, is by faith in the mercy of God. Ephesians 2: 8

and 9 Psalm 69:28 says, “Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous.” Please read the solemn words of Moses of God in Exodus 32:31 and 32

All the Dead – 「天網恢恢」

All of the cultures of the world, all of the religious denominations of the world, believe in some sort of final judgment. The Chinese have a saying, 「天網恢恢」, translated that means, “Nobody escapes the judgment of Heaven.”

At the Great White Throne, every individual that trusted in their own form of righteousness will be judged and condemned. Every sin that they committed, every filthy thought, every filthy joke, every lie, disobedience against the Law of God, and every deceit committed, will be judged. The Lord Jesus said, “But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.” Matthew 12:36 and 37

The eternal location of the lost, hell, the lake of fire, has already been determined. The judgment of God at this time will be for the degree of punishment in the lake of fire. The Lord Jesus refers to the degree of punishment as, ‘stripes.’ The Lord Jesus said, “And that servant, which knew his lord’s will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.” Luke 12:47 and 48.

Matthew 7:21-23 Throughout the Church Age there has been false prophets, false ministers, and false teachers. This includes the Roman Catholic Church priests who trust in the Catholic traditions instead of the Lord Jesus. It also includes the Seventh Day Adventist who trusts in their observance of the Sabbath instead of the Lord Jesus, the Charismatic Charlatans who trusted in deception, the Mormon, ‘elders,’ the Jehovah’s Witnesses ‘ministers,’ and every other cultist and lost minister, who preached in the name of Jesus, but was not saved. They will hear these tragic and solemn words spoken by the Lord Jesus Christ, “And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.” Matthew 7:23

At the Great white throne of Judgment, there will be one final act that will be performed by those who rejected God's plan of salvation. This includes Satan himself and every man from every nation and culture. Please study Romans 1:17-32

Every individual will bow the knee and confess before God, the Lord Jesus, the saints, and the rest of the lost, that Jesus Christ is Lord. "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." Philippians 2:10 and 11

This will be in fulfillment of the prophecy of Isaiah. "I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, That unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear." Isaiah 45:23

The angels that sinned against God will be judged at this time. Jude 6, "And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day." And, 2 Peter 2:4, "For if God spared not the angles that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment."

The angels that sinned with Lucifer have been held in everlasting chains, in hell, since the time they were cast out of heaven. The teaching that the angels that were cast down out of heaven and then cohabited with women is incorrect: a myth, and a fantasy. It is sad that this incorrect interpretation of scripture has infiltrated the ranks of the independent Baptist movement.

The multitude of people in the Millennial Reign of Christ, who died during the Millennium, or who lived until the Millennium ended, will be judged for rewards at this time. This is one reason, not all, of the reasons why the Book of Life will be opened at the great white Throne of Judgment. These saints are part of the, 'gleanings,' in the harvest of souls. "And I entreat thee also, true yoke-fellow, help those women which labored with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and with other fellow-laborers, whose names are in the book of life." Philippians 4:3

"The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God." Psalm 9:17 Job also said, "That the wicked is reserved to the day of destruction? They shall be brought forth to the day of wrath. Job 21:30 God is a merciful God; but He is also a God of Judgment against all sin. The Lord Jesus said,

“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.” John 3:36

God will not recognize the repentance of anybody after death nor at the Great White Throne of Judgment.

In the great prophecy of the resurrection of the saints, and how God will redeem those who trust in Him, see 1 Corinthians 15:55, God expressly said that He will not acceptance repentance after death. Hosea 13:14, “I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death: O Death, I will be thy plagues; O grave, I will be thy destruction: repentance shall be hid from mine eyes.” We need to remember what Abraham told the rich man in hell, “And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rose from the dead.” Luke 16:31

At the end of the great White Throne of Judgment, the lost from hell are cast into the lake of fire. The great White Throne of Judgment will be a solemn and tragic period in history. After the casting of the lost into the Lake of Fire, the universe will be cleansed of all sin, evil, and Satan; death will no more trouble the human race and God will lift the curse of Genesis 3. “The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.” 1 Corinthians 15:26 And, afterwards, the redeemed will enter into the new heavens and the new earth.

Revelation Chapter 21

Revelation 21:1-8, “New Heaven and the New Earth.”

Verse 1-8, “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. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 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. 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. 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. And he said unto me, It is done, I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.”

‘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.’ The heavens and the first earth are cleansed by fire.

Three Heavens

The first heaven, or firmament, is where the birds fly; we call this the atmosphere. Genesis 1:20, “And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven.”

The second heaven, or firmament, is where the Sun, planets, and stars occupy; we call this outer space. Genesis 1:14-18, “And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years: And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so. And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also.

And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth, And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was good.”

The third heaven is the abode of God. Psalm 11:4, “The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD’S throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men. Paul the Apostle wrote, “I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth ;) such an one caught up to the third heaven.” 2 Corinthians 12:2

2 Peter 3:7-13 “Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?” 2 Peter 3:12. The fiery dissolving of the elements will be a one-time historical event that is so huge in scope, intensity, and power, that it is hard to comprehend. Isaiah 51:6, “Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look upon the earth beneath: for the heavens shall vanish away like smoke, and the earth shall wax old like a garment, and they that dwell therein shall die in like manner: but my salvation shall be for ever, and my righteousness shall not be abolished.”

Both Isaiah and Peter wrote, ‘heavens:’ plural. This includes the atmospheric heaven and the outer space heaven where the planets are also dissolved. God is going to get rid of all the, ‘space junk,’ that mankind has been spewing out. Man not only corrupts the earth; but he corrupts the air we breathe, the water we drink, and even corrupts outer space and every planet he visits.

The third heaven, the abode of God, is where the saints are located, where New Jerusalem is located at this time, and will not be affected by the dissolving of the elements by fire. There is no corruption, physical or spiritual, in Heaven.

In the New Earth there will be no more sea. In the Millennium there are seas; but in the New Earth there are no more seas. The curse was not completely lifted during the Millennium but it will be lifted in the new earth. The seas were designed by God to separate the nations of the world. Since only God will rule on the new earth there will be no need for oceans to divide the nations.

‘... the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven...’ The Apostle Peter, as a prophet, prophesied, “Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.” 2 Peter 3:13 God is Holy and in the new Earth holiness and righteousness will reign in the Holy Jerusalem. The, ‘promise,’ that the Apostle Peter refers to is the

prophecy of Isaiah. “For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind.” Isaiah 55:17. Isaiah also gave a further prophesy of the time when the heavens will pass away, “Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look upon the earth beneath: for the heavens shall vanish away like smoke, and the earth shall wax old like a garment, and they that dwell therein shall die in like manner: but my salvation shall be for ever, and my righteousness shall not be abolished.” Isaiah 51:6

The words of Paul the Apostle come to my mind at this time. The Apostle Paul reminded us that the new man is created in righteousness and holiness in preparation for dwelling with a holy and righteous God. “And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.” Ephesians 4:24

Brethren, we will live in the New Jerusalem. The New Jerusalem is the place where the mansions are that the Lord Jesus has prepared for us, John 14:1-3, “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.”

“For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain.” Isaiah 66:22 Brethren, apart from the Lord Jesus Christ, no man saw God make the first heaven and the first earth. All of the saints will see God make the second Heaven and the second Earth!

‘Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them...’ In the Garden of Eden, God walked, and talked, and had fellowship on a personal basis with Adam and Eve. Adam was created for fellowship with God. Adam dwelled with God. The plan of God from Genesis 3:1 to Revelation 21:15 was to restore that fellowship with man. Due to the fall of men, along with the curse placed upon the earth, mankind cannot see, nor approach unto God. “Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.” 1 Timothy 6:6

Revelation 22:1-6 needs to be read in connection with Revelation 21:1-6. In Revelation 22:3 and 4, the curse that God placed upon the earth in Genesis 3:14-24, will be lifted and removed. “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.” Revelation 22:3 and 4 The division of the different tongues, or languages, that God placed on the human race in Genesis 11:1-9, will also be lifted.

As with the curse being lifted, the prohibition of seeing the face of God will be lifted. The Lord Jesus sated, “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.” Matthew 5:8 In 2 Corinthians 6:16 b Paul (quoting from Jeremiah 7:4), wrote, “... as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.” A close reading of Exodus 24:1-18 will show that in the Old Testament men, in heaven, saw God. Brethren, on the new earth, we will walk, and talk, and have fellowship with God as He intended. God will dwell with us. “Then went Moses, and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel: and they saw the God of Israel: and there was under his feet as it were a paved work of a sapphire stone, and as it were the body of heaven in his clearness. And upon the nobles of the children of Israel he laid not his hand: also they saw God, and did eat and drink.” Exodus 24:9-11

As with Job, every redeemed individual, in our risen and glorified bodies, has the hope of dwelling with God and seeing His face. “For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: and though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God. Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me.” Job 19:25-27

‘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.’ Glory, Glory Hallelujah! In this life, even though we are saved and have the promise of eternal life in heaven, we live in a sin cursed body in a sin cursed world, among people who dis-believe everything we hold dear. And, our bodies are corrupting as we travel this world of woe. Heartaches, sorrow, death, crying, pain are a daily occurrence for a lot of us. One day, soon I hope, my dear brethren, all of the above effects of sin will permanently cease. Come soon, Lord Jesus!

‘... for these words are true and faithful.’ All of the prophecies, the blessings, and the joys stated above, and throughout the scriptures, that are written, are true and faithful promises of God. Titus 1:2, “In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began.” In John 17:17 the Lord Jesus directly states that the word of God, the scriptures, are truth.

‘It is done, I am Alpha and Omega.’ The Plan of God of restoring His personal fellowship with man is ‘Finished.’ God has His own timetable and His plans will be finished according to His timing: not ours: Galatians 4:4, “But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law.” A careful reading of Ecclesiastes 3:1-17 is always a blessing to those who wait upon God. “To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.”

Ecclesiastes 3:1

Alpha α and Omega Ω

Alpha and Omega, the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet, plainly indicate that God is the beginning and the end of all things. God has all things under His direct control and for His purposes. ‘Alpha and Omega,’ is also one of the titles of the Lord Jesus Christ. In Revelation 1:8 Jesus states, “I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.” The Lord Jesus plainly stated that He was the, ‘Almighty.’”

The attributes of the Lord Jesus and the attributes of God are the same. The office, or responsibilities, of God, and the Lord Jesus, are different; but the attributes are the same. The Lord Jesus was God in the flesh. The disbelief of the trinity by the Jehovah’s Witnesses, the Mormons, and the other cults, are in doctrinal error.

‘I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.’ Eternal salvation is free, in any age, in any country, before the law, during the law, after the law, and during the Millennium. Salvation is free to all who choose to be saved. The teachings of John Calvin (Calvinism, the TULIP theory), are in doctrinal error; specifically, that man does not have a free will. Every saint that I know that has followed Calvin’s teaching winds up a spiritually, and compassionately, dead saint. Also, the independent Baptist brethren that believe people under the Law in the Old Testament economy, and the people in the Millennium, are saved through keeping the law and faith are also in error.

‘He that overcometh shall inherit all things.’ Revelation 3:12, “Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him that name of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.” See Revelation 1:8 In the aspect of eternal salvation, all saints are overcomers. All saints will receive an inheritance in the New Heaven and the New Earth.

In the area of rewards, not all of the saints are overcomers and not all of the saints will inherit rewards. Some saints walked in the flesh and did not walk in the Spirit. The saints who overcame the sins of the flesh, the world, and the Devil, and walked in the Spirit, will receive a better inheritance (reward). Please reference Romans 5:1 through 8:14 and Galatians 5:16-26

‘But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.’ Those who know that they ought to get saved, but were fearful of man, of pride, of position, and never got saved will be in the lake of fire. The individuals, who loved their abominable sins, and murderers, and sorcerers, idolaters, and liars, will spend eternity in the lake of fire.

The first lie in the Bible is from the Devil. “... Yea, hath God said. ...’ Genesis 3:1. So, in this study we will mention that religious lies are more hurtful than the continual lying by businessmen, politicians, et al. This includes all of the religious liars (false prophets), of the Old Testament, and all of the religious liars on the New Testament: The Mormons, the Jehovah’s Witnesses, the Seventh Day Adventists, Calvinism, Muslims, Buddhists, Taoists, The Pope and his minions, and numerous others that are too many to mention.

God’s judgment of sin is eternal damnation in a burning lake of fire.

Revelation 21:9-27, “The Holy Jerusalem.”

Verse 9-27, ”And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb’s wife. And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal; And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and name written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel: On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates. And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. And he that talked with me had a golden reed to measure the city, and the gates thereof, and the wall thereof. And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as

large as the breadth: and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal. And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred and forty and four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel. And the building of the wall of it was of jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass. And the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation was jasper the second, sapphire; the third, a chalcedony; the fourth, an emerald; the fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, a topaz; the tenth, a chrysoprasus; the eleventh, a jacinth; the twelfth, an amethyst. And the twelve gates were twelve pearls: every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass. And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it. And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it. And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there. And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it. And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life."

"I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife." In Revelation 19:7-9 we saw that in the marriage supper of the Lamb, the Lord Jesus, the bride is spoken as a person, (the church), in this passage, the bride is the holy Jerusalem: a city. The bride of Christ, the Redeemed of the Church Age, is chosen to live in the New Jerusalem. Hence, the bride is the church and the city. Both the people and the city can be referred to as the Bride.

The New Jerusalem is also the Holy Jerusalem. In Revelation 21:2, the city is referred to as the new and the holy Jerusalem, "And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband." The New Jerusalem is completely holy in all aspects.

"... that great city, the holy Jerusalem..." This is the city that Abraham, and every saint throughout the ages, are looking for; by faith. Hebrews 11:16, "But now they desire a better country, that is an heavenly: therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city." The Lord Jesus said, "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." The saints have a mansion in our heavenly country, with God as our God, and we are going to live in a mansion in the great and holy New Jerusalem.

“Having the glory of God” In heaven, we will live within the glory of God in all of our surroundings. This thought is unfathomable to us in our current minds. “But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither hath entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.” 1 Corinthians 2:9 Ought we not to love God more?

“... and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and name written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel.” In eternity, as we go in and out of the holy city Jerusalem we will see a name of one the sons of Jacob written on the top of the gate. Genesis 35:21-26

The Gentile nations of the world do not know what they worship and are in spiritual darkness with the various pagan religious beliefs. In John 4:22 the Lord Jesus said it plainly, “Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation if of the Jews.”

The church of the redeemed is, ‘grafted,’ into the nation of the children of Israel. “And if some of the branches be broken off, and thou, being a wild olive tree, wert grafted in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree; Boast not against the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee. Thou wilt say then, The branches were broken off, that I might be grafted in. Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear: For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee.”

Romans 11:18

Brethren, in eternity, we will be reminded that before our salvation, we were a wild olive tree far away from the blessings of God. Now, because of the wonderful grace of the Lord Jesus, we Gentiles, are grafted into the children of Israel, and become a child of Abraham, and we partake of the root (the Lord Jesus), and the fatness of the olive tree (Israel).

As we step through those gates of glory, we will be continually reminded of the eternal blessings of the promises and covenants of our heavenly merciful Father through the nation of Israel. An understanding of Ephesians 2:1-12 will help us in this doctrinal truth. “That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:” Ephesians 2:12 The Bible that we have in our hands that tells of us the Saviour, is a Jewish Book. Romans 3:1 and 2, “What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit is

there of circumcism? Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God.” The New Testament saints needs to have a humble heart and fear God. We should never boast against the nation of Israel but realize we are a wild olive tree, by grace, grafted into the chose race: Israel.

The Twelve Apostles

“And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.” The twelve foundations are named for the twelve apostles of the Lord Jesus Christ. A true apostle was called by the Lord Jesus Christ with an audible voice. Matthew 10:1 and 2a, “And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease. Now the names of the twelve apostles are these...”

The apostles had to have signs; including the power to heal. All of the original 12 apostles had the power to heal: including Judas Iscariot. The Apostle Paul, under the direct inspiration of the Holy Spirit, further adds, “Truly the signs of an apostle were wrought among you in all patience, in signs, and wonders, and mighty deeds.” 2 Corinthians 12:12

The Apostle Paul was audibly called to be an apostle by the Lord Jesus Christ. The Apostle Paul was personally called, and selected, by the Lord Jesus Christ on the road of Damascus, Acts 9:1-16, “But the Lord said unto him, go thy way: for he [Saul / Paul] is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel.” Acts 9:15 “Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead ;) Galatians 1:1

The apostle Paul had signs and wonders, cast out demons, and healed. Acts 16:16-18, 25-28; 19:11 and 12 and 20:7-12

The choosing of Matthias, as recorded in Acts 1:15-26, as an apostle, was chosen by casting lots. This unwise selection of Matthias caused unintentional harm to the ministry of Paul the Apostle.

Barnabas was also called an apostle by men, but was never personally called by the Lord Jesus. Acts 14:14, “Which when the apostles, Barnabas and Paul, heard of, they rent their clothes, and ran in among the people, crying out.”

No doubt both Matthias and Barnabas were men of God. But, the scriptures are very clear, there are only 12 foundations in the Holy Jerusalem and they are named for only 12 Apostles. The scriptures do not give one sign, miracle, and wonder, by either Matthias or Barnabas. Therefore, they do not meet the qualifications of an Apostle according to Matthew 10:1-8 nor 2 Corinthians 12:12

There are only 12 apostles personally called by the Lord Jesus Christ. Some of the brethren are of the mistaken interpretation that there are more than 12. This is in error. This error is based upon the early church calling men apostles who were not and an incorrect interpretation on Romans 16:7, "Salute Andronicus and Junia, my kinsmen, and my fellow prisoners, who are of note among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me." Paul does not state that Andronicus and Junia were apostles, only that they were known, or noteworthy, by the other apostles.

False Apostles

"For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ." 2 Corinthians 11:13 As in Paul's days, so it is in our days, there are church called apostles and there are false apostles. All of the apostles in the Charismatic churches are church called apostles or just plain frauds: false apostles. All of the apostles in the Mormon Church and the other cults are all false apostles.

"And the city lieth foursquare..." The New Jerusalem is approximately 1,500 miles in length, in breadth and in height. There were two items in the Temple furnishings that were, 'foursquare.'"

1. The Incense altar. Inside the Holy of Holies. Exodus 37:25, "And he made the incense altar of shittim wood: the length of it was a cubit, and the breadth of it a cubit; it was foursquare; and two cubits, was the height of it; the horns thereof were of the same."
2. The Burnt Offerings Altar: Exodus 38:1, "And he made the altar of burnt offering of shittim wood: five cubits was the length thereof, and five cubits the breadth thereof; it was foursquare; and three cubits the height thereof."

"... and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass. And the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones." Not only is the street(s) of the city pure gold but the city itself is pure gold! The foundations of the walls of the city are garnished with all sorts of precious gems.

Maybe, just maybe, the walls of our mansions are garnished with precious gems. The beauty of the 12 foundations are extremely beautiful.

“... the twelve gates were twelve pearls...” The twelve different gates (each gate), is made of one pearl. The Pearly White City!

“And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.” During the Millennium, we had the Millennial Temple, Ezekiel 40-48, but when God lives among us there will be no need of a Temple, nor a church, nor any other religious edifice.

“And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.” In Joel 3:17-21 we can see further blessings when God dwells in Zion.

“And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it ... And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb’s book of life.” Only saved people will dwell in the Holy Jerusalem. The Holy Jerusalem will stay holy for eternity. If there is anything in the life of the believer that is defiled, or is an abomination or a lie, than he needs to get rid of that defilement. If the saint does not get rid of the defilements of the flesh; worldly music, corrupt versions of the scriptures, filthy talk, filthy music (this includes the filthy contemporary Christian Music in our age), filthy companions in this life; then God will remove them before you step a foot in the Holy Jerusalem. The lost will dwell in hell. And there will be no tempter to tempt the people.

Revelation Chapter 22

Revelation 22:1-5, “Eternal Blessings from God.”

Verse 1-5, “And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. And there be shall 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 candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign forever and ever.”

“And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.” In Revelation 21:6, we see the first mention of the water of life. As the Apostle John continues his walk through the New and Holy Jerusalem, he describes wonderful scenes that the saint will behold throughout eternity. Please also remember, that our eternal home in the Holy Jerusalem is a continuation of the Millennial Reign of Christ that will extend throughout eternity.

The pure water of life is for mankind in eternity. The water and the tree of life we behold are for the eternal life of the physical body of the saints. Please remember, in His glorified and resurrected body, the Lord Jesus, ate, drank, and walked as any other normal human being; Luke 24:32, 35, 41 and 42. In Luke 22:18 the Lord Jesus plainly stated that in the kingdom of God; starting with the Millennium and then extending into eternity on the new earth, “For I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come.” Luke 22:18

The river of life from God is, “pure.” There will never be any physical contaminants in the river of life that proceeds from God. All of the blessings of this life and the eternal blessings in heaven, flow from God; James 1:17

“... the tree of life...” the tree of life is for the eternal physical life, and nourishment, of the glorified bodies of the saints. The tree of life was in the Garden of Eden, all ready for Adam and Eve to enjoy. But, sin entered in and destroyed that opportunity of eternal life for the body of Adam and Eve and their progeny. In order to preclude the eating of the tree of life by mankind, and before God renews the earth,

and to preclude the likelihood of any person with sin in its life, the tree of life was hidden from mankind; Genesis 3:22-24

Brethren, we need to remember one important detail about salvation. When a person gets saved the soul is saved, the flesh corrupts, but our soul has eternal life. When God gives us a new body, the eternal life of the body comes from the Tree of Life.

“... were for the healing of the nations.” What are the nations? And, or, who are the occupiers of the nations? Concerning the New Jerusalem, Revelation 21:24 states, “And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.” The various saints of the ages are included in the nations.

Please take careful note. I am not of the persuasion that the saints that enter into heaven can procreate. “For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels in heaven.” Matthew 22:29 Angels do not marry nor procreate. The belief that angels were allowed to marry women on earth in Genesis 6:2 is not scriptural.

As we enter into the arena of what, and who the nations are, we must bear in mind that in reality we are not positive exactly what will take place. But, we do know that eternity will be wonderful; 1 Corinthians 2:9 When a person dies, and does not reach the age of accountability; that person is innocent of sin and in heaven. This includes all of the babies, as way of illustration we will say, from birth to 4 years old. All of the babies in this definition, throughout the ages and nations, would total in the hundreds of millions. The number of babies that Pharaoh had killed in Exodus was tremendous. In every war there are innocent babies killed along with their mothers in the womb and out of the womb.

Once conception occurs, the person in the womb is a separate individual; Jeremiah 1:5 is very plain that before a person is born he is a separate individual. The amount of abortions throughout the ages and in the various nations would probably total also in the millions. Once in eternity the child in the womb God could easily mature a baby capable of life outside the womb.

Persons who are mentally incapable of the knowledge of sin, even though they may be an adult, throughout the various ages and nations would probably total several million.

In some primitive cultures, some nomadic tribes, and in some third world countries, the death rate of newborns is very high. Again, the number of these babies would number in the millions.

Eternal and Spiritual facts

1. Satan is in the Lake of fire so there will be no tempter.
2. The curse is eternally lifted.
3. The water of life and the tree of life is for the eternal life, and nourishment, of the physical body.
4. Manna is the food of angels. Will it also be the food of men? Is it the food of all the innocents killed throughout the ages and nations? Is some childless saint as we speak, hand feeding these innocent babes with a spoon? I personally know a lot of saints who never had children of their own, who would gladly, and wholeheartedly, feed and take care of these innocent ones in glory. Frankly, these saints would have a Baptist fit if they were able to.
5. Every child that dies in innocence has its own angel that is in the presence of God; Matthew 18:10
6. Every child that dies in innocence will be recognizable by the parents; 2 Samuel 12:22 and 23
7. Little children, physically, and spiritually, will enter the kingdom of God; Matthew 18:1-3
8. The Lord Jesus said, "Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish." Matthew 18:14. Not one child that dies in innocence will perish. Obviously, little children die, so the meaning is very clear that it not physical death but spiritual death in hell: no child that is in innocence will perish, i. e., spend eternity in hell; A careful reading of John 3:16 will show us that the Lord Jesus used the word, "perish," instead of, "hell." To perish (the soul, the spirit), means go to hell.

Psalms 127:3, "Lo, children, are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward." Could not children lost in this life be a heritage and reward from God in the next? There have been countless saints, from all nations, in all ages, who have lost a child in the womb, or a young child, or a mentally retarded child that never reached maturity. Maybe, just maybe, God has a special blessing reserved for them in eternity. Maybe God has a special plan for eternity that includes these sainted parents.

Would it not be possible to consider that in the New heaven and the New Earth, that God tells these sainted parents, “While on the earth I took away your child through death and caused you to miss having this child as an, “...heritage of the LORD.” I would like to make up for that. Here is your innocent child that never knew sin, I want you to take it, raise it your own mansion, and when it reaches maturity, and another such unwanted child also raised from another couple reaches maturity, they will marry, and procreate, and I will make it a nation of its own.” A childless parent would praise God for eternity if that would be the case.

Therefore, is it not feasible that God will use these untold millions of innocent babies of different nations to be able to grow into maturity and either make a nation of these innocents? Or, may I suggest that God allows these innocents to mature physically and reproduce into nations? And may we thus conclude that the Lord Jesus as the KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS will allow the saints who ruled with Him in the Millennium continue to rule these nations of innocents? Could this be a part of the Eternal Plan of God to continue the species of mankind throughout eternity?

“... And there be shall no more curse... “ The curse that God placed on mankind, and the animal kingdom, and all of the consequences, in Genesis 3:14-24, is lifted for eternity. Praise the Lord! Please study Romans 8:22 & 23 Brethren, the effect of the curse is upon all of us, all of our life, and on every aspect of livelihood on the face of the planet earth and everywhere, man travels. One day, for the saints only, the curse will be lifted in the New Earth and New Heaven.

“... the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it.” Please study Psalm 48:1 and Psalm 47:8 The saints of the ages will see the Throne of God and of the Lamb, Revelation chapter 4 and 5. We will experience the very presence of God and the Lamb for eternity.

“And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads.” In our glorified bodies, we will be able to see the face of God and of the Lamb. Please reference Revelation 3:12, 21:22 and 23

“... and they shall reign forever and ever.” As we studied in Revelation 20:4-6 the 1000 Year Reign of the Lord Jesus Christ as KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS is an everlasting Kingdom: it extends into eternity. Our rewards for serving the Lord Jesus in this life will extend into eternity: 2 Timothy 2:12

Revelation 22:6-11, “Remain Faithful.”

Verse 6-11, “And he said unto me, These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done. Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book. And I John saw these things, and heard them. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things. Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellow-servant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God. And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand. He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which 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.”

“These sayings are faithful and true” We are again reminded that the climatic and prophetic events of the Book of Revelation are true and faithful. “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.” Revelation 21:5 Psalm 119:90, “Thy faithfulness is unto all generations: thou hast established the earth and it abideth.” Psalm 119:86, “All thy commandments are faithful: they persecute me wrongfully; help thou me.” Brethren, it is required, not asked, nor recommended, but required, that the Man of God remain faithful. “1 Corinthians 4:2, “Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.” The steward is the man of God in the ministry. This requires being faithful in the matters of the body, in spirit, in doctrine, in purity and holiness. Every man in the ministry will be held accountable to the qualifications of the stewardship found in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:7-9

“Behold, I come quickly” The Lord Jesus is coming for his bride soon! The scriptures teach that the Lord Jesus would come and take us home to heaven without any notice, or, ‘imminent,’ without any visible signs, and within the twinkling of an eye, we would meet the Lord Jesus in the air! And, this coming is for the church only. Only believers in Christ are involved: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 and 1 Corinthians 15:51-56 and Matthew 24:42-44 May Jesus come today!

A Chinese Saying “A Sight Never to be Forgotten” 「歎為觀止。」

One of these days, hopefully today, the Lord Jesus will personally appear in the clouds of the air above us. One day the Great Shepherd of the sheep will call all of us home. And, like Lazarus, the Lord Jesus

will call His sheep by name: John 11:43 and Luke 10:3 First, He will personally call every dead saint from the graves and the body of the dead saints will rise, in a new, glorified body, to meet the Lord in the air. Second, in the twinkling of an eye, without any of the lost viewing the scene, the Lord Jesus will personally call each and individual by his own name, and we will in the twinkling of an eye, be raised to meet the Lord Jesus in the air. Our first glance at the Saviour will be in our new and glorified bodies. As the Chinese say, “A sight never to be forgotten” 「歎為觀止。」

The living saints, like Enoch of old, will never experience death. All of the saints will be in the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ. Like the individuals who tried to find Enoch (see Genesis 5:21-24), the folks here on the earth will not understand what happened. They will believe the lie of the Anti-Christ concerning why so many people are missing. “And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie.” 2 Thessalonians 2:11

I would like to encourage the reader to be encouraged by the story of Enoch in Genesis 5:21-24 and Hebrews 11:5, “By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.”

The visible coming of the Lord Jesus in Revelation 19:11-21 is for the reign of the Lord Jesus, coming with His Bride, the Church, for the Restoration of the Nation of Israel as foretold by the prophets. As such, His coming will be visible to all the earth. His coming will be preached by the two prophets as recorded in Revelation 11: 1-12. And, the time element, as written in Daniel 9:27 and 12:7-13, is clearly delineated. The church was not given any time periods, or signs, to look for; all of the time frames in Daniel 7:24-27 and 12:7-13 are signs for the Jewish nation of Israel only.

Therefore, the coming of Christ in Revelation 19:11-21 and the coming of Christ in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 are two separate and distinct events. Any attempts to make them the same event will produce an erroneous belief in the Second Coming of Christ through the incorrect dividing of scripture.

A Pre-Tribulation Rapture and Mid-Tribulation Rapture Comparison

Please take special note for those who believe in a Mid-Tribulation Rapture. The rising of the Two Witnesses in Revelation 11:11 and 12 plainly states, “And after three days and an half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and fear fell upon them which saw them.

And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them.”

This cannot be the Rapture of the Church. Paul clearly states in 1 Corinthians 15:52 that the coming of the Lord will be accomplished so fast the eye cannot see it. Yet, in Revelation 11:11 and 12 the two witnesses stand on their feet and everybody views them for a while and even their enemies watch them ascend into the clouds. The two events are so different that they obviously are two separate events at two separate times.

“... worship God.” The Lord Jesus said, “God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.” John 4:24 God is a Spirit and He is holy and righteous in His character. God will not accept any worship that is not done in spirit nor in truth. The Apostle John, like many others throughout the history of man, (through a sincere heart), temporarily thought to worship before the angel. The angel, as any true man of God, would not accept the worship of another. When Cornelius mistakenly bowed down to Peter, Acts 10:25, Peter immediately acted as a man of God would act, “But Peter took him up, saying, Stand up; I myself also am a man.” Acts 10:26

The Roman Catholic practice of men bowing down before the Pope, or a Cardinal, or a bishop, or an image, and kissing his ring, is a clear indication that these men are not men of God but liars and hypocrites.

“Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book” The Book of Revelation is the unsealing of the sequence of the prophetic events of the scriptures. God has condensed all of the prophecies of the Old Testament, and the prophecies of the Lord Jesus, specifically Matthew Chapter 24 and 26, the prophecies of Paul, Jude, and Peter, into one grand prophetic Book: the Book of Revelation. If a person wants to learn the proper sequence of the history of the church, the 7-Year Tribulation Period, the Restoration of the Sons of Israel, the Millennial Reign of Christ and the glories of the New Heaven and the New Earth, then he must have a proper understanding of the Book of Revelation. Only the Book of Revelation has the proper prophetic sequence of events of all the prophecies of the other books of the Bible.

To the individual that simply believes that the scriptures are the truth of all matters, and that believes in the literal fulfillment of the prophecies of God, the Book of Revelation is mostly, not all, understood: or unsealed. The passages of scripture not fully understood will be fully understood by the preaching of the two witnesses at the appointed time. “But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book,

even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.” Daniel 12:4. The book that the angel was referring to is the Book of Daniel and the prophecies contained therein. When, “the times of the Gentiles,” cease the last week of years (see Daniel 9:27), the 7-Year Tribulation Period will start. Then, God will completely unseal the times spoken of in Daniel 12:5-13

The Restoration of the Nation of Israel

In Acts 1:6 the disciples asked the Lord Jesus, “... Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?” Acts 1:6 The Lord Jesus gave them, and us, the answer, “And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the time or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.” Acts 1:7 The disciples were thinking of the promises and prophecies of Isaiah 1:25-27, 5:5-12 and 28:9-12. The Apostle Peter clearly states in Acts 3:19-21 that the Lord Jesus will remain in heaven until He comes again to restore the nation of Israel and commence His Millennial Reign on earth as depicted in Revelation 19:11-21. The Apostle Peter said, “Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.” Acts 3:19-21

The Apostle Paul, “And hath made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation.” Acts 17:26 God determines the times of the Gentiles and the times of the Jews. The Gentile Church are not to, “observe times,” “But now, after that ye have known God, or rather are known of God, how turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage? Ye observe days, and months, and times, and years.” Galatians 4:9 and 10 The times, dispensations, in the Book of Daniel and the times of the 7-year Tribulation are only for the nation of Israel. The church is not on the face of the earth during the 7 Year Tribulation Period. That time, or dispensation, is reserved for the direct dealing of the nation of Israel as specifically revealed as revealed to Daniel, “Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people an 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.” Daniel 9:24

“That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him.” Ephesians 1:10 The present dispensation is

the Church Age. Once God completes His wrath upon the earth during the 7-Year Tribulation Period the Dispensation of the restoration of Israel will commence.

As the nation of Israel is 'ripening' as a nation, and is ready to bud, the events of the Book of Daniel are being slowly unsealed further. Please study Matthew 24:32 and 33 and verse 43 The two witnesses, (Revelation 11:1-11), will fully expound the meaning of Daniel 12:5-13 completely and announce the soon coming of the restoration of the Kingdom to Israel.

“He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which 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.” Brethren this solemn warning is not only for the lost; but it is for the saved. It behooves all of us to be righteous in the sight of God. We need to have a repentant heart and cleanse our sins: our filthy sins, before it is eternally too late.

Paul taught the Corinthian saints that when a person believes in Christ as their Saviour he becomes a righteous person in the sight of God; “For he [God] hath made him [Jesus] to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.” 2 Corinthians 5:21 Paul also taught the Corinthian saints that if a saint keep his filthy fleshly sins, and was not righteous or holy in his daily walk with Christ, than that person also will be accountable for his actions in eternity; i.e. 'still.' Even a cursory reading of 1 and 2 Corinthians will be enough for any saint to see that the Christian walk of the Corinthian saints was not good. Some of these saints died, 'still,' in their sins: “For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.” 1 Corinthians 11:30

Paul taught that when the saint stepped into eternity that he would be held accountable for his filthy sins and will be judged accordingly: not for salvation, but for rewards for eternity: 1 Corinthians 3:13, “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 try every man's work of what sort it is.” Let this solemn warning encourage us to remain faithful to the Lord Jesus and to the true doctrines of the scriptures in these last days before His coming.

Revelation 22:12 and 13, “Behold, I come quickly.”

Verse 12 and 13, “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.”

“I come quickly.” Please take notice that the Lord Jesus is talking. And, the Lord Jesus, in the same time frame of the writing of these admonitions, says in verse 20, “He that testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.” Like John, we need to be anxiously waiting the Lord Jesus to come again. Matthew 24:42-51 is applicable to all of us, and the saint who heeds the warning of the Lord Jesus, is a servant who is truly blessed. Jesus said, “Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.” Matthew 24:42

All of us need to take serious heed of the words of the Lord Jesus and be ready in our spiritual life for His coming at any time. There are no signs that we are to wait for, as His coming is ‘imminent.’ The Lord Jesus will come in the, ‘twinkling of an eye,’ 1 Corinthians 15:52, “In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible.”

The Judgment Seat of Christ

“... my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.” Immediately after the Rapture, all of the saints in the Church Age will stand before the Lord Jesus at the, ‘Judgment Seat of Christ,’ for rewards, or, the lack of rewards. “... is with me...” When the Lord Jesus comes, He is coming with the rewards to give His saints.

Paul brought out that at the time of the judgment for the, “quick and the dead,” would be at the coming of the Lord for His church. “I charge thee before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom.” 2 Timothy 4:1 and, at the beginning of the Millennial Reign of Christ, the Lord Jesus will reward the tribulation saints. Revelation 20:4, “And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.”

Immediately after the coming of the Lord Jesus, as depicted in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, commonly referred to as “The Rapture,” the Lord Jesus will judge every saint and reward every saint, “... according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.” Please also study 1 Corinthians 3:11-15 2 Corinthians 5:10, “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.”

Romans 14:10-12, “But why dost thou judge thy brother? Or why dost thou set at naught thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.”

Paul the Apostle wrote, “... because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man’s work of what sort it is.” 1 Corinthians 3:13 At the Judgment Seat of Christ all of the work that a Christian did during his lifetime will be judged. Our judgment will not be for the salvation of our soul but for eternal rewards.

Due to intense persecution by his own people, and in a time of extreme grief, the prophet Jeremiah, inspired of God, wrote, “Then I said, I will not make mention of him, not speak any more in his name. But his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay.” Jeremiah 20:9 Again, inspired by God Himself, Jeremiah wrote the very words of God when he wrote, “Is not my word like as a fire? Saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces? Jeremiah 23:29

All of the saints will be judged from the very scripture itself. As the very words, used by the Lord Jesus, judges us, the judgment will judge what, “sort,”(or what kind), it is. It does not say what, “size,” it is. The Lord Jesus is more concerned about the “spiritual” nature of the work than the size of the work. A few examples may suffice. Why does a man do a certain work? For wealth? For fame? For the name of Jesus? The judgment will include whether or not a man was faithful in spirit and in body, 2 Corinthians 4:1 & 2, and whether we warred in the flesh or in the Spirit: 2 Corinthians 10:35

Our doctrinal beliefs will be judged. Did we endure teaching correct doctrine? Or were we moved by the false teachers to teach false doctrines? “For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers having itching ears.” 2 Timothy 4:3 The Judgment Seat of Christ will bring out those who sought the approval of God or the approval of man: 2 Corinthians 10:18, “For not he that commendeth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth.”

We need to ask ourselves some deep questions concerning our motive for preaching. Did we preach out of love, to create contention, or to create strife? “Some indeed preach Christ even of envy and strife; and some of good will.” Philippians 1:15 Did we work for the Lord Jesus lawfully? Did we work according to the Old Testament precepts, statutes, and judgments? And, did we work according to the New Testament commandments and doctrines? May we remind ourselves, even though we are not under the Law, the Old Testament is full of precepts, statutes, judgments, commandments, and examples of the right way and the wrong way of doing the work of the Lord.

Even though we are not under the Law, Paul taught the saints in Corinth to obey the Law in church matters: 1 Corinthians 9:7-14, 20-22 and 16:1 and 2 Or, did we just make our own rules according to the religious dictates of this present age? 2 Timothy 2:5, “And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully.” 2 Timothy 2:5 If our Charismatic brethren would obey the precepts of the Law as commanded by Paul the Apostle in 1 Corinthians 14: 34 the Charismatic churches would dry up. “Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law.” 1 Corinthians 14:34

Does the saint desire a prize? A reward in heaven? If so, the saint must keep his physical body under subjection and reject the sinful physical lusts of the world: 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 My dear brother, if you are working for the Lord Jesus, “lawfully,” than you can expect a crown, or reward, at the Judgment Seat of Christ. If you did not serve the Lord Jesus, “lawfully,” than do not expect a crown at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

In Revelation 4: 10 and 11 we clearly see that the crowns, or rewards, have already been handed out. “The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne saying, Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.” Revelation 4:10 & 11 It is my belief that the twenty-four elders represent the Church Age saints in a position of reigning in heaven.

Furthermore, in Revelation Chapter 5, after we read of the worship of the slain Lamb, and the opening of, ‘the book,’ we read these words, “And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And hast made us unto us our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.” Revelation 5:9 and 10

Paul the Apostle said, “If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us.” 2 Timothy 2:12 If a saint faithfully serves the Lord Jesus, and suffers for Him, the Lord Jesus will reward him with a crown. If a saint is not faithful in his service, his doctrinal beliefs, his personal holiness, his sufferings for Christ, than that person will be denied a crown, or rewards.

The saints pictured in Revelation chapter 4 and 5 are the redeemed people of all of the nations of the world that have been saved during the Church Age. Please take careful note that they were already, “made” kings and priests; the rewards have already been handed out. And, that they are already rewarded, or given authority, to reign on the earth. The reigning on the earth will commence after the 7-Year Tribulation Period is ended and at the start of the 1000 Year Reign of Christ, the Millennium, as written in Revelation 20:3-6. Also, please take careful notice that Revelation 11:15-19 shows this vividly.

A Wise Saint

The wise saint is a soul-winning saint. Proverbs 11:30, “The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise.” The wise saint is passing out tracts, going on door-to-door visitation, supporting soul-winning missionaries, and traveling the highways and byways of the city that he lives in telling folks how to be saved and leading them to a saving knowledge in Christ.

The soul winner will receive a crown for his labor for the Lord Jesus. “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 Thessalonians 2:19 & 20 Please take special note. The soul-winners crown, as with all of the other rewards, are handed out at the coming of the Lord Jesus as described in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 The rewards of the soul-winner will be as the brightness of the stars for eternity; Daniel 12:3, “And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.”

“Will There Be Any Stars?”

WORDS: Eliza E. Hewitt, 1897

MUSIC: John R. Sweney
Public Domain

First Stanza:

I am thinking today of that beautiful land I shall reach when the sun goeth down; When through wonderful grace be my Savior I stand, Will there be any stars in my crown?

Second Stanza:

In the strength of the Lord let me labor and pray, Let me watch as a winner of souls; That bright stars may be mine in the glorious day, when His praise like the sea billow rolls. Third Stanza:

On, what joy it will be when His face I behold, Living gems at His feet to lay down; It would sweeten my bliss in the city of gold, Should there be any stars in my crown.

Chorus:

Will there be any stars, any stars in my crown, When at evening the sun goeth down?
When I wake with the blest in the mansions of rest, Will there be any stars in my crown?

Paul quoted Isaiah 45:23, in Romans 14:10-12, but the Holy Spirit moved Paul to quote it as a reference to Christ, not a reference to God. Isaiah 45:23 is applicable to both the Judgment Seat of Christ and the Great White Throne of Judgment in Revelation 20:11-15

And, “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.” Philippians 2:10 and 11 this great confession will take place at the Great White Throne of Judgment in Revelation 20:11-15

“I am alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.” Again, all of these titles of the Lord Jesus are also titles of God Himself. Revelation 1:8; 1:17 and 21:6. You may study our previous comments in Revelation 21:6 for this verse. God thundered out in Isaiah 44:6, “Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God.” God again thundered out in Isaiah 48:12, “Hearken unto me, O Jacob and Israel, my called I am he; I am the first, I am also the last.”

The doctrine of the trinity is a doctrinal fact. The unbelief of the doctrine of the trinity was started by Arius (c. AD 250-336), and is called: Arianism.” The main concept of Arianism is that the Son of God, the Lord Jesus, did not always exist. Therefore, according to Arianism doctrine, Jesus was a created

being, and distinct, from God. The erroneous belief of Arianism, with some differences, is perpetuated by the Mormons, the Jehovah's Witnesses, and other cults.

The Lord Jesus, has no beginning, and has no ending: He is eternal. The Lord Jesus, our great High Priest, has an eternal priesthood: "Who is made, not after the law of a carnal commandment, but after the power of an endless life." Hebrews 7:16

Therefore, the salvation of our soul is eternal and will never end. "Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such a high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; ... Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us." Hebrews 8:1 and 9:12

Revelation 22:14 and 15 "The Tree of Life"

Verse 14 and 15, "Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murders, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie." This passage is a continuation of Revelation 22:2

In order for the physical body to live, it must have food and water. And, in order to grasp the teachings of the tree of life we must review the scriptural teaching of the water of life. In connection with the tree of life, please review the teaching on the water of life as found in Revelation 21:6 and 22:1

"Blessed are they that do his commandments." In our eternal relationship with God, and in the context of 1 John 3:20-24, the Apostle John clearly stated, "And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment." 1 John 3:23 Those people who do not obey the direct commandment of believing in the name of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, will not be able to partake of the Tree of Life for the eternal life of the body. The other commandments of the Lord Jesus to love one another is found in John 15:10-17 The commandments of Paul the Apostle, inspired by the Holy Spirit, is not for salvation, but for proper and righteous service to God.

And, by beloved brethren, we are, “blessed,” if we keep them. If a saint wants to have a close, and a good, relationship with the Lord Jesus, he will learn the commandments that are given for our good in the New Testament, and do them.

“... right...” God is righteous; God and all of His words, His actions, His thoughts, His motives, are “right.” Furthermore, God loves righteousness, “the act of being right,” and God wants all those saints who trust in Him for eternal righteousness to be righteous, or right, in all matters of faith, practice, doctrine, and service. “For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright.” Psalm 11:7

When a person, using his own free will, decides to trust in the Lord Jesus as his Saviour, then, at the moment of salvation, God imputes the righteousness of the Lord Jesus on that person, and that person becomes righteous in the sight of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21 says, “For he [God] hath made him [Jesus] to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.” Please study Genesis 15:6; Romans 4:1-8; Galatians 3:6 and James 2:23

“For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murders, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.” In connection with this passage I want to direct the reader to review the scriptural teaching on the condition of the lost as found in the parallel passage in Revelation 21:8. Please take careful note; the water of life and the tree of life are closely connected for the life of the glorified body of the saved, and the lack of a glorified body of the last souls in hell.

The aforementioned list is some, not all, of the characteristics of the lost who will not be granted the “right” to partake of the tree of life, or the water of life, or to enter in the New Jerusalem. We will briefly discuss the attributes listed.

Dogs - False Teachers in the Church

“For without are dogs.” In scripture, dogs and pigs are likened to lost people and to false teachers (heretics), who turned from the “holy commandment delivered unto them.” 2 Peter 2:1-22 is dealing with false teachers within the church. 2 Peter 2:1 says, “But there were false teachers also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you; who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that brought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.”

The Apostle Peter further taught, “For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again: and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.” 2 Peter 2:21 and 22 The Apostle Peter quoted Proverbs 26:11, “As a dog returneth to his vomit, so a fool returneth to his folly.”

The Noah Webster Dictionary of 1828 definition of pernicious is: 1. Destructive; having the quality of killing, destroying, or injuring; very injurious or mischievous. 2. Destructive; tending to injure or destroy. Evil examples are *pernicious* to morals. Intemperance is a *pernicious* vice.²

The American Heritage definition of pernicious is: *adj.* 1. Deadly; a *pernicious virus*. 2. Destructive: *pernicious rumors*.³

The teaching false teachers bringing heretical doctrines in our independent, fundamental, Bible believing, Baptist churches are pernicious. The following false doctrines are used by false teachers to destroy churches:

1. Calvinism is destroying soul-winning efforts. Calvinism, “TULIP,” is a pernicious doctrine.
2. Preterist Theology, Covenant Theology, Replacement Theology, a-millennialism, and a belief in a post-tribulation rapture, are destroying the hope of the soon return of Christ. And, is destroying the belief in the literal one thousand year of Christ and casting doubt on the veracity of the Book of Revelation. All of the above, ‘Theologies,’ are pernicious theologies.
3. In addition to the destroying the belief in the literal 1000 year reign of Christ, the Preterist, Covenant Theology, and Replacement Theology teachers are also destroying the belief in the literal fulfillment Covenants of God, the Promises of God, and the prophetic prophecies of the Old Testament prophets. They are, ‘pernicious’ theological teachers.
4. The new corrupt versions of the scriptures are destroying the very foundation of our faith and has cast doubt in the preservation of the word of God. Every new version, starting with the Revised Version of 1881 are, ‘pernicious’ versions.

² Webster, Noah. “Pernicious.” American Dictionary of the English Language. 1828. Cincinnati, OH: C. J. Krehbiel Company, 2000.

³ “Pernicious.” The American Heritage Dictionary. Fifth Edition. 2012

“Thou shalt not bring the hire of a whore, or the price of a dog, into the house of the LORD thy God for any vow: for even both these are abomination unto the LORD thy God.” Leviticus 23:18 The obvious spiritual teaching, and practical application, is that you do not give any of the tithes and offerings brought into the church to any false teacher. God’s money is to be spent on the man of God and not a teacher of false doctrine.

“... and sorcerers...” In Revelation 21:8, the Apostle John had previously stated that sorcerers would spend eternity in hell. Any type of sorcery, or for any reason, either in the Old Testament economy, Deuteronomy 18:9-14, and even in the age of grace, is forbidden, and is an abomination in the sight of God. Individuals who use any type of sorcery needs to repent. All of the Eastern religions are full of sorcery, the Masons, and the Roman Catholic Church are full of sorcery. Idolatry is always connected with sorcery.

The beast will use sorceries, as false religions use sorcery, in order to deceive the world. Revelation 18:23, “And the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee; and the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee: for thy merchants were the great men of the earth; for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived.”

“... and whoremongers ...” The marriage act is only for one man, with one wife, to create offspring, for life. “Till death do us part.” Before marriage the man, and the woman, are to remain virgins or chaste: pure in body. Ephesians 5:25-33 The marriage of a man and a woman is a type of Christ and His union with the Church.

When a man, or a woman, goes outside the God given marriage relationship, and has a physical union with another, he, or she, is committing physical whoredom. And, a person who sells their body to perform this physical union is a whore. Job, a man full of integrity, which is so lacking in our society, said, (in reference to whoredom and before the Law of God was instituted), “For this is an heinous crime; yea, it is an iniquity to be punished by the judges.” Job 31:11 The Levitical priests were forbidden to take a whore for a wife: Leviticus 21:7

The physical act of committing whoredom (fornication or adultery), has destroyed untold marriages. Proverbs 6:32, “But whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding; he that doeth it destroyeth his own soul.” Physical whoredom is pernicious to the soul, the body, and to any marriage.

Ecumenicalism - Spiritual Whoredom

All of the New Testament churches were local and independent assemblies. The concept of denominationalism started with the Roman Catholic Church. Denominationalism is a worldly concept (much akin to a business or a government). During the Reformation, the reformers spilt from the Roman Catholic Church and started their own denominations; then the cults, then the Charismatics, and other groups since that time has formed denominational headquarters in order to propagate their denominational beliefs.

In order to control all of the various denominations, the Roman Catholic Church is using the worldly concept (much akin to a business or a government), to control the various religions of the world. This is accomplished through the World Council of Churches, the American Council of churches and other religious organizations formulated to control the churches; This is called Ecumenicalism. Ecumenicalism is similar to when the nation of Israel followed the religious practices of the various nations surrounding them. God called this practice whoredom. The compromising of King Ahaz, and Urijah the priest, is similar to the ecumenicalism of our age.

“And king Ahaz went to Damascus to meet Tiglathpileser King of Assyria, and saw an altar that was at Damascus: and king Ahaz sent to Urijah the priest the fashion of the altar, and the pattern of it, according to all the workmanship thereof. And Urijah the priest built an altar according to all that king Ahaz had sent from Damascus: so Urijah the priest made it against king Ahaz came from Damascus. And when the king was come from Damascus, the king saw the altar: and the king approached to the altar, and offered thereon. And he burnt his burnt offering and his meat offering, and poured his drink offering, and sprinkled the blood of his peace offerings, upon the altar. And he brought also the brazen altar, which was before the LORD, from the forefront of the house, from between the altar and the house of the LORD, and put it on the north side of the altar. And king Ahaz commanded Urijah the priest, saying, Upon the great altar burn the morning burnt offering, and the evening meat offering, and the king’s burnt sacrifice, and his meat offering, with the burnt offering of all the people of the land, and their meat offering, and their drink offerings; and sprinkle upon it all the blood of the blood of the burnt offering, and all the blood of the sacrifice upon it all the blood of the burnt offering, and all the blood of the sacrifice: and the brazen altar shall be for me to inquire by. Thus did Urijah the priest, according to all that king Ahaz commanded.” 2 Kings 16:10-16

King Ahaz changed the worship of the Temple of God to match the worship of the false gods of Damascus. The priest, Urijah, went along with all of the changes, and then they forced the people to accept the changes. The compromising of both King Ahaz and Urijah the priest was done in defiance of the commandments of God concerning the Temple worship. In the sight of the Lord, not in the sight of man, the compromise was evil, abominable, and whorish.

According to the prophet Ezekiel (and Isaiah), those people who departed from true worship for the worship of the false gods of this world, like King Ahaz and the priest Urijah, commit whoredom. "And they that escape of you shall remember me among the nations whither they shall be carried captives, because I am broken with their whorish heart, which have departed from me, and with their eyes, which go a-whoring after their idols: and they shall loathe themselves for the evils which they have committed in all their abominations." Ezekiel 6:9

Compromising with the religious denominations of this world is spiritual whoredom. In a reference to the Roman Catholic Church, and all those churches allied with her, the Apostle John wrote, "And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH." Revelation 17:5

When the nation of Israel forsook God and committed idolatry with the false religions of the surrounding nations, Isaiah wrote, "Upon a lofty an high mountain hast thou set thy bed: even thither wentest thou up to offer sacrifice. Behind the doors also and the posts hast thou set up thy remembrance: for thou hast discovered thyself to another than me, and art gone up; thou hast enlarged thy bed, and made thee a covenant with them; thou lovedst their bed where thou sawest it." Isaiah 57:7 & 8 Please study Isaiah 57:1-12; Ezekiel 16:30-63

Any church, or denomination, that is in union with the Roman Catholic Church, any other false church, any false prophet, any false teacher, anything connected with idolatry, is in bed with them and committing spiritual whoredom.

"... and murders ..." Man is made in the image of God and it is not the right (except in self-defense) of any individual to take the life of another individual. God gave the civil government the right of the execution of murders and for the physical protection of its citizens, Romans 13:1-7. For those murderers that escape the hand of the State, the murderer will one day meet the final Judge.

One of the reasons why God gave the Jews, and mankind, the Law, was to enforce the punishment of evildoers. “Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers.” 1 Timothy 1:9

“We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death. Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.” 1 John 3:14 & 15 When we have hate in our hearts for our fellow man, particularly a brother in Christ, it is an indication that we are not truly saved. Hate, like all of the other issues of life, comes from our heart: Proverbs 4:23 and, is a characteristic of the flesh: Galatians 5:20

The Lord Jesus, like His Heavenly Father, had love for all. When the Lord died on the Cross of Calvary, He died for every person that ever lived. Besides John 3:16 and 2 Peter 3:9, and a host of other scriptures, we will just quote one in this study: “And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.” 1 John 2:2

The Calvinistic doctrine of the limited atonement is a lie. It is a slap in the face of Jesus Christ, a perversion of the scriptures, a doctrine of hate, and a blot on the Church. Anybody that teaches such a doctrine is a false teacher, and has a severe lack of love for the lost.

The Lord Jesus, our friend, our master, and our example, loved everybody. While on the cross, in the midst of severe physical, mental, and spiritual agony; Jesus died for all and forgave His enemies who put Him on the cross. The grace, and love, of the Lord Jesus, is truly amazing!

“... and idolaters ...” God is a Spirit, “God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.” John 4:24, and all man-made images made for religious worship are idols and are forbidden in the Old and New Testament: Exodus 20:3-5 “Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me.”

According to the above scriptures, a person who worships an image has an inward hatred of God in his heart. When the heart of the Jewish nation, and the heart of the individual, was bad, on most occasions, they went into idolatry. Idolatry, like all of the other sins of the flesh, is a heart problem: it is not a head problem. Please study Ezekiel 14:1-11

In the Far East: India, Japan, Taiwan, Korea, idolatry is rampant. Included in the worship of images are the images of the Roman Catholic Church under the deceitful guise of ‘Christian’ images. A large amount of the population in Europe is Roman Catholic, America, South America, the Philipppians, Mexico, and a host of other counties, under the deceitful guise of the Roman Catholic Church, is idolatrous.

During the 7-Year Tribulation Period, the anti-Christ will make an image for worship; Revelation 13:13-15

In Ezekiel 14:1-11 we can clearly know that God looks and tests the heart of men. We see the equivalent of Ezekiel 14:1-11 in the New Testament in Colossians 3:5, “Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry.” Are you covetous? That is spiritual idolatry. Do you covet possessions? That is spiritual idolatry. Do you covet fame? That is spiritual idolatry.

Paul the Apostle taught the saints in his age to ‘mortify’ these fleshly desires. Do you know what ‘mortify’ means? The American Heritage Dictionary says: 1. To shame, humiliate. 2. To discipline (one’s body and appetite) by self-denial. [Latin. *mortificare*, cause to die.⁴

“... and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.” The world is full of liars. And, God will punish every one of them. “A false witness shall not be unpunished, and he that speaketh lies shall not escape.” Proverbs 19:5 “A false witness shall not be unpunished, and he that speaketh lies shall perish.” Proverbs 19:9

All false doctrines, from all of the false teachers, from all of the false religions, are lies. A half-truth is designed to deceive. A half-truth, a partial truth, a twisting of the truth, a verse taken out of context, and other forms of deceit are lies.

⁴ “mortify” The American Heritage Dictionary. Fifth Edition. 2012

The doctrines of Calvinism, “TULIP,” are lies, Covenant and Replacement Theology are partial truths and bits of scripture designed to deceive. The Jehovah’s Witnesses are liars. Hell is a real place and so is heaven. Infant baptism is a lie, starting from Revised Version of 1881 to the present day; all of the new versions of the scriptures contain lies of some sort, half-truths, and partial truths and the twisting of the truth. The doctrine of a-millennialism is a lie. The interpretation that the book of Revelation is symbolic, figurative, or allegorical, are all lies. The Jehovah Witness’s belief that Jesus came in 1914 is a lie. Need I go on? “A false witness shall not be unpunished, and he that speaketh lies shall not escape.” Proverbs 19:5 “A false witness shall not be unpunished, and he that speaketh lies shall perish.” Proverbs 19:9

We need to heed the admonition that Paul the Apostle made to the saints in Ephesus. “And put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbor: for we are members one of another.” Ephesians 4:24 and 25

If any of the brethren are caught up in the religious lies of any of the false doctrines listed above, I admonish you to cease from believing these doctrinal lies and learn the truth. “Cease, my son, to hear the instruction that causeth to err from the words of knowledge.” Proverbs 19:27

Revelation 22:16 & 17, “Come.”

Verse 16 and 17, “I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the 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.”

“I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches.” The Lord Jesus sent His angel to guide the Apostle John (Revelation 1:1; 21:9, 22:1 and 22:8) and is now giving John some last instructions to the church. Please take careful notice that the angel specifically states that these admonitions are to, “the churches.” The book of Revelation is given to the churches to unveil the future events of the history of the world, the church, the nation of Israel and eternity.

“The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John.” Revelation 1:1 the events in the book of Revelation are literal, to be fulfilled in the future and will soon come to

pass. The teaching that the events of the Book of Revelation are symbolic, figurative, allegorical, or, is a reference to the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. is in error and heretical.

“I am the root...” Isaiah 11:1, “And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his root.” And, “And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign for the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.” Isaiah 11:10 The apostle Paul quoted Isaiah 11:10 in Romans 15:12, “And again, Esaias saith, There shall be a root of Jesse, and he shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles trust.”

A tree bears fruit due to the root. “Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.” John 15:4 The saint that desires to bear fruit should abide in Christ. This involves a personal relationship with the Lord. The Lord Jesus desires us to walk with Him now and in eternity.

“... and the offspring of David...” “The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.” Matthew 1:1 All of the blessings of the Gentiles stem from the root, and offspring, of David. The Lord Jesus Christ is trying to show us Gentiles that all of our spiritual, eternal, and physical blessings come from the nation of Israel. The saved Gentiles are grafted into the nation of Israel and are partakers of the, “New Covenant,” that God made with the, “... house of Israel and with the house of Judah.”

The Apostle Paul had previously taught, in Romans 11:16-25, that saved Gentiles are grafted into the nation of Israel. The apostle Paul further stated, “And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.” Galatians 6:16 and Hebrews 8:8, “For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah.”

“... and the bright and morning star” The Apostle Peter wrote, “We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts.” 2 Peter 1:19

The Lord Jesus gives the churches light concerning, “a more sure word of prophecy.” The world, and the religions of the world, are in spiritual darkness concerning the prophetic events of the future. The

saint that is taught by the Holy Spirit, and has the Bible as its final authority, has light to see the prophetic events that are written in the Book of Revelation. The Book of Revelation is unsealed to the saint who truly desires prophetic truth.

Spiritual Darkness Concerning Prophetic Events

“And the vision of all is become unto you as the words of a book that is sealed, which men deliver to one that is learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I cannot; for it is sealed: And the book is delivered to him that is not learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I am not learned.”
Isaiah 29:11 and 12

The world, the religions of the world, and the saint who does not walk close to the Lord, will remain in spiritual darkness concerning the prophetic events in the Book of Revelation. I will use the example the spiritual darkness of the Roman Catholic Church and those brethren who follow their teachings of future events: particularly a-millennialism.

To an a-millennialist, the book of Revelation is a sealed book. The events are not future; they took place in the past and were fulfilled at the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A. D. They cannot see the rapture of the Church, the 7 Year Tribulation period, the 1,000 year Reign of Christ, the Restoration of the nation of Israel as foretold by the prophets. To these religious folks, and to the brethren who accept their darkened doctrine, the Book of Revelation is sealed.

“And the Spirit and the bride say, Come.” God, in every age, and in every country, wants all men to make the decision to come, by faith, with a repentant heart, to Jesus for salvation. “The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.” 2 Peter 3:9 God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit agree that all men should come to Jesus for the eternal salvation of their soul.

Now, in these last words in the book of Revelation, The bride of Christ, the church of the redeemed, should tell everybody in every country to come to Jesus. For notes on the Bride of Christ, please see Revelation 19:7-9

“And let him that heareth say, Come.” Again, this is a reference to the churches. “He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.” Revelation 3:21 Every saint within the church walls

should be telling people to come to Jesus: a soul-winner. If you are walking with Jesus, if you are abiding in Him, you will be telling others to come to Jesus for salvation.

“And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.” Please review the notes on Revelation 21:6 Salvation is free to whosoever wants to 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.” John 3:16

The Calvinistic teaching of TULIP, specifically, “Limited Atonement,” is a total and complete falsehood. It is a repugnant lie.

Revelation 22: 18 and 19, A Solemn Warning

Verse 18 and 19, “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 out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.” Brethren, the warning given in Revelation 22:18 & 19 is one of the harshest, serious, and most solemn, warnings written in the scriptures.

Psalm 12:6-8, “The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever. The wicked walk on every side, when the vilest men are exalted.” In the English language, the Authorized Version, commonly called the King James Version (KJV) of 1611, is the preserved word of God. It is a, “pure,” Bible. It is untainted by the filth of the world and the corruption of false ministers of the gospel. The doctrines contained therein have not been tainted with the false prophets, false teachers, false ministers, and the religious denominational headquarters of this world.

The individuals throughout history, who commit the following transgression against the prophecies of the book of Revelation, and the deliberate miss translating of the scriptures, are destined for extreme harsh judgment from God. In this passage of scripture, God extends no compassion, no mercy, and no love for the foul deeds of the wicked men who tamper with the scriptures. The word, “wicked,” and “vile,” is God’s description of those who corrupt His written word. Psalm 12:8

“... the prophecy of this book ...” The book of Revelation is a book of prophecy. Revelation 1:3, “Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of his prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.”

The first three chapters are the history of 7 churches that John the Apostle knew about. These 7 churches represent the 7 different types of churches in the church age. Therefore, Revelation chapters 1-3 are partly historical and prophetic, “the things which are.” “Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter.” Revelation 1:19 All of the events in the church age are, “the things which are.” The rest of the book of Revelation, chapter 4-22, is entirely prophetic; “and the things which shall be hereafter.” Revelation 1:19

The preterist view of the book of Revelation contradicts this clear teaching that the words of the Book of Revelation is a book of prophecy. Therefore, along with other doctrinal reasons, the preterist teaching is incorrect. The teaching that the book of Revelation is symbolic, allegorical, and not prophetic, contradicts the clear teaching that Revelation it is a book of prophecy. Therefore, the symbolic and allegorical interpretation is incorrect.

The book of Revelation was written, approximately, in 96 A. D. Those who teach that the events of the Book of Revelation tell about the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A. D. also contradicts this teaching that the Book of Revelation is prophetic.

Furthermore, the teaching that the book of Revelation was written before 70 A. D. is a fabrication, originating with the Roman Catholic Church, in order to teach that the events of the book of Revelation is an historical book concerning the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A. D. and therefore, not prophetic. Therefore, the teaching that Revelation was written before 70 A. D. is not correct. The book of Revelation, after chapter 3, is a book of prophecy.

NIV readings in Revelation that take away prophecy

The following two examples of the New International Version (NIV) are examples of how the NIV changes the prophecies of the Book of Revelation. One of these erroneous examples are found here in Revelation 22:19

(KJV) Revelation 22:19, “And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.”

(NIV) Revelation 22:19, “And if anyone takes words away from the book of prophecy, God will take away from him his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.” The translators insert, “tree of life,” for, “book of life.” My dearest friend, that is ludicrous, and not correct. The, “book,” of life is totally different from, “the tree of life.”

The translators, take away, or add, words that affect the doctrine of the deity of the Lord Jesus in numerous verses in the scriptures. As we are dealing with prophecy, and specifically the book of Revelation, we will look at two of the examples where the NIV adds, “words,” in the book of Revelation in order to water down the deity of Christ.

(KJV) Revelation 1:8, “I am alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.”

(NIV) Revelation 1:8, “I am Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.”

By Old Testament verses, we know that God is Lord and Almighty. By adding the word, “God,” after Lord the NIV takes away the explicit meaning that Jesus is the Lord Almighty. The NIV reading sounds pious but by adding, the word “God” where it does not belong it takes away the direct reading that Jesus is the Lord Almighty. The pious sounding added words in the NIV is the mark of a smooth talking heretic that Paul warned us about in Romans 16:18, “For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.”

(KJV) Revelation 14:14, “And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle.”

(NIV) Revelation 14:14, “I looked, and there before me was a white cloud, and seated on the cloud was one “like a son of man” with a crown of gold on his head and a sharp sickle in his hand.” By adding the one word, “a” before son of man, the NIV attempts to take away the title of the, “Son of man,” the deity of the Lord Jesus, and make the Lord Jesus like any other individual.

False Prophets

The end of the false prophet, the false prophets mentioned in 2 Peter 2, the book of Jude, the false prophets of the Roman Catholic Church, the Jehovah's Witnesses, the Mormons, and other false prophets who take away from the prophecies of the book of Revelation, are all destined to be plagued by the plagues previously mentioned in Revelation 6:1-19:21. The scriptures, in 2 Peter 2:3 plainly differentiate between the false teachers and the saints who are under the influence of the false teachers.

2 Peter 2:3, "And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not." The result of the false teachers living a lie, and making merchandise of the saints, is punishment in the Lake of Fire.

Isaiah 29:24, "They also that erred in spirit shall come to understanding, and they that murmured shall learn doctrine." The false prophets who teach that the book of Revelation is symbolic, or allegorical, or were fulfilled in A. D. 70 at the destruction of Jerusalem, are in error: serious doctrinal error, of which one day God will correct. God will teach them correct doctrine and they will understand the error of their ways. The murmuring, complaining, nit picking, "staining at the gnat," of false teachers against the Authorized Version will not help them in the day of Judgment. "These are murmurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men's persons in admiration because of advantage." Jude 16

Those false prophets who deny the doctrinal validity of the Millennial Reign of Christ as clearly presented in Revelation 20:4-6 are in serious trouble when they meet God. Those false prophets who verbally deny the children of Israel their rightful blessings of the fulfillment of the covenants of the Old Testament as described in the book of Revelation are in serious trouble when they meet God.

Three Warnings in the Scriptures

God has warned men not to take away or add to His Words three times: at the beginning of the scriptures in Deuteronomy 4:2, in the middle of the scriptures in Proverbs 30: 5 & 6, and here in Revelation 22: 18 & 19.

Perverting the Scriptures

“And the burden of the LORD shall ye mention no more: for every man’s word shall be his burden; for ye have perverted the words of the living God, of the LORD of hosts our God.” Jeremiah 23:36 The American Heritage dictionary definition of pervert(ed) *adj.* is: 1. To cause to turn away from what is right, proper, or good; debase: *accused of perverting justice.* 2. To corrupt (someone) morally. See Synonyms at corrupt. 1. To interpret incorrectly.⁵

The NIV, and the other perversions of the scriptures, and the false teachers who use these perverted version, are causing many saints, (2 Peter 2:3, 14, and 18), to be deceived and to turn away from correct doctrines to believe incorrect doctrines.

Starting from the Revised Version of 1881, all of the modern translations are corrupted perversions of the word of God. As I am most familiar with the New International Version⁶, hereafter called the NIV, I will use just a few examples of its corruption.

The NIV is found to be a lying version of the scriptures.

Proverbs 30: 5 & 6, “Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him. Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.”

(KJV) John 3:16, “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.” Matthew 1:18-25 (John 3:16), fulfills Psalm 2:7, “I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.” The Noah Webster 1828 dictionary lists the definition of begotten as: procreated; generated.”⁷ See also John 1:14 and 18; 3:18 and Hebrews 11:17

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, the virgin birth, Luke 1:35, the Lord Jesus was the only ‘begotten,’ Son of God.

(NIV) John 3:16, “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” This verse is a perversion; a lie. The Lord Jesus was not

⁵ “pervert” The American Heritage Dictionary. Fifth Edition. 2012

⁶ The NIV Reference Bible Zondervan. 1994 Edition

⁷ “begot, begotten, *pp of get.*” Webster, Noah. American Dictionary of the English Language. 1828. Cincinnati, OH: C. J. Krehbiel Company, 2000.

the, “one and only Son.” Adam was the son of God, Luke 3:38. But, Adam was a created being that did not exist before the creation. The Lord Jesus was not a created being. Isaiah 9:6, “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given:...” God gave us His son. The Son, the Lord Jesus was in eternity with God; the birth of the Lord Jesus enabled the Son have a physical body like a man. The teaching of John 3:16 in the NIV is the same teaching of the cults: the Jehovah’s Witnesses and the Mormons.

“... shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy ...” The NIV is an example of a morally corrupt, or impure, Bible. The translators of the NIV took away the words Sodomy and whoredom.

(KJV) Deuteronomy 23:17, “There shall be no whore of the daughters of Israel, nor a sodomite of the sons of Israel.”

(NIV) Deuteronomy 23:17, “No Israelite man or woman is to become a shrine prostitute.” The NIV is a Bible ready made for the whoremongers and sodomites of our age to justify their perverted morals. The NIV is not only corrupt, impure, but is ludicrous and has no justification of any manuscript. There is no manuscript evidence for the NIV translation.

Please take extreme careful note: all three warnings clearly say we are not to take away the “words” of the scriptures. It is not the, “meaning,” it is not the “interpretation,” it is not the, “thoughts,” it is very clearly the, “words,” of the scriptures.

Why did the translators do these terrible things? One of the reasons is due to the fear of man. “The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe.” Proverbs 29:25 In the modern vernacular we may say due to, “political correctness.” There are so many social activist groups, women’s rights groups, minority rights groups, etc... that the modern translator is more interested in pleasing their rights than the right of God.

Dr. Douglas Stauffer wrote:

Considering the influence on the modern versions exerted by individuals sympathetic to the perverted homosexual lifestyle, it should come as no surprise that the NIV completely removes *sodomy* from its text. Of course, in doing so, the NIV becomes much more politically correct.”⁸

⁸ Stauffer, Douglas D., Dr. *‘One Book Stands Alone.’* Page 113

The translators of the NIV, and the other perverted version of the scriptures, are more interested in the political correctness, the world, and the moral deviants of this world than the words of God.

A second reason is for the love of money: or greed. 1 Timothy 6:10, “For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have pierced themselves through with many sorrows.” If a person wants to learn more about false prophets, and why they do teach false doctrine, I would suggest a close study of 2 Peter 2 and the Book of Jude. “And through covetousness shall they [false prophets and false teachers] with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.” 2 Peter 2:3

The false prophet, false teacher, the translators of the perverted version of the scriptures, are covetous and “make merchandise,” from the saints. The selling of the false bibles, raking in the tithe and offerings of the saints, the selling of their books, etc... is the primary motive of these false ministers of the gospel.

Dr. Douglas Stauffer wrote:

The publisher of each new, “best” bible translation that emerges on the market hopes to capture a substantial portion of the \$400 million dollars American annually devote to the purchase of “Bibles.”⁹

I would like to include a note concerning the above quote by Dr. Stauffer. The \$400 million dollars does not include the European, or Asian, sale of Bibles and this monetary figure was made in 2001.

A third reason why the modern translator adds and takes away from the scriptures is due to the lack of the Holy Spirit: no spiritual discernment. These false teachers, false ministers, and translators, do not have any spiritual discernment. They are walking in the flesh seeking the fame of the religious world and the monetary gains of this life. 1 Corinthians 2:10-16 and Romans 8:5-9

The lost teachers, translators, and false ministers, are not walking with God. Amos 3:3 nor are they abiding in Christ. John 15:1-7 The “spirit” behind the translator’s motives of these perverted versions is the spirit of the world. “Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils.” 2 Timothy 4:1

⁹ Stauffer, Douglas D. Dr., *“One Book Stands Alone.”* Page 125.

Severe Judgments

“God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.” Revelation 22:19 The false prophets, false ministers, false teachers, and the translators of these false Bible, are to receive the harshest punishments possible. These punishments are plainly listed:

1. The plagues written in the book of Revelation will be increased.
2. They will not be able to partake of the tree of life.
3. They will not be able to partake of the water of life.
4. They will not be able to reign with Christ in His 1000 Year Reign. Revelation 20:4-6
5. They will not be with God on the earth for eternity. Revelation 21:3

2 Peter 2:9, “The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished.” These translators have no fear of God nor of the Judgment of God. God, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, told us that the false prophets are, "unjust." They are not, "justified," they are unjust and still in their sins. The false prophets were never saved; just like the multitude of false prophets in our age. The false prophets say they are saved, but in the sight of God, they are, "unjust."

In conclusion, I also previously mentioned one of the root causes of the problem with these translators (false prophets), is that they have a complete lack of spiritual discernment. Like the Mormons and the J.W.'s they are the blind leading the blind. Matthew 15:10-14; 1 Corinthians 2:14; 1 John 4:1 and Romans 8:9, "But ye are not in the flesh, but in the spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his."

Revelation 22:20 and 21, “Surely I come quickly.”

Verse 20 and 21, “He which 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.” “He which testifieth these things...” This is a continuation of verse 16 and Revelation chapter 1. The Lord Jesus personally bears witness of the prophecies and judgments, “these things,” mentioned in the book of Revelation. We need

to remember that the whole book of Revelation is a direct prophecy from the Lord Jesus. “The Revelation of Jesus Christ...” Revelation 1:1

“... saith, Surely ...” Every word that the Lord Jesus spoke will come to pass. We can count on it. We need to hide the words of the Lord Jesus in our hearts when He said, “Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.” Matthew 24:35

“... I come quickly.” As this portion is directly written to the saints in the church age, verse 16, “I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches.” The Lord Jesus is personally coming and when He comes, we will see Him face to face in the air. This is a clear reference to the coming of Christ as declared by Paul the apostle in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

“Quickly” The word quickly in this context has two meanings. (1) Fast: like in an instant of time. Brethren, when the Lord Jesus does come, it will be in an, “twinkling of an eye.” “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 must be changed.” 1 Corinthians 15:52 (2) In the not too far distant future.

Since this was written in approximately 96 A. D., there has been approximately 1,925 years pass. To some folks, because so many years have passed they are of the notion that Jesus is not coming, “quickly.” This is a natural thought due to the human frailty to understand that in the mind of God that only a couple of days have passed. 2 Peter 3:8, “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.” We need to understand that with God, time is very temporary. The apostle Peter was trying to encourage the “beloved brethren” to continue on faithfully serving the Lord.

This is one of the reasons, several times in fact, that the Lord Jesus warned all the saints in the Church Age to have patience in waiting for Him to come again.

The Olivet Discourse

In the Olivet Discourse, we have many warnings about being ready for the coming of the Lord Jesus. These warnings can be applied to both the saints in the Church Age, or Dispensation, and to the saints in the Tribulation Age, or Dispensation.

Matthew 24:36, “But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.” Jesus is our Lord and we do not know when He is coming. The story of Noah in Matthew 24:36-41 is applicable to both the saints in the dispensation of the Church Age, and to the saints in the dispensation of the 7 Year Tribulation period.

Matthew 24:42, “Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.” The story of the faithful and unwise servants in Matthew 24: 42-51 is both applicable to the saints in the dispensation of the Church Age and to the saints in the dispensation of the 7 Year Tribulation Period.

Matthew 25:13, “Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.” The parable of the Bridegroom and the 10 Virgins in Matthew 25:1-13 can be applicable to both the saints in the dispensation of the Church Age, and the saints in the 7 Year Tribulation Period.

Matthew 25:19, “After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them.” The parable of the talents in Matthew 25:14-30 can be applicable to both the saints in the dispensation of the Church Age and to the saints in the 7 Year Tribulation Period.

“The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.” “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.” Ephesians 2:8 In eternity, all of the saints: from Adam to the last person saved in the Millennium, is saved by grace. From all of the ages, or dispensations, in the Old and New Testament: From Adam and Eve to the Law, from the Law to Grace (the Church Age), from the Church Age to the Millennium saints, from the Millennium saints to Eternity. All will be in eternity through faith in the grace of God through the Lord Jesus Christ.

From all of the different countries: from Israel to China, to Africa, to America, the British Isles, the Polynesian Islands, the European Continent, to the saints in South America; will be a showcase of the grace of God. “That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.”

“Amen.” The word amen is usually a firm agreement with what one has heard or what one has read. In Deuteronomy 27:11-26 we see an example of how God wanted all of His people to be in agreement with Him. Amos 3:3, “Can two walk together, except they be agreed?” Unless a person is in agreement with what God has said in His word, a person cannot walk with God. If a person believes a false doctrine is that person walking with God? No. Is the person saved? Maybe, maybe not? We do not know for sure. In eternity, as we walk with the Lord Jesus, He will correct all of the false doctrines believed by the

saints throughout the ages. The saints may not agree in this life, and walk together in this life, but my beloved friend, in eternity that problem will be corrected. One of the reasons why many brethren in many churches cannot walk together, or even talk in a civil way together, is because they do not agree. They cannot say, "Amen," to the brother's talk. Beloved brethren, we need to agree with God and then say, "Amen, so be it!"

It is my personal hope, and sincere prayer, that God above will put His blessings upon the words of this study in Revelation in order to glorify the Lord Jesus and help the reader understand the prophecy contained therein. May God richly bless all of you as you await the soon coming of the Lord Jesus.

Bibliography

- Greene, Oliver B., Dr., *Revelation*. Greenville, SC: The Gospel Hour, Inc., 1963.
- Stauffer, Douglas D., Dr. *One Book Stands Alone*. Millbrook, AL: McCowen Mills Publishers, 2001.
- The American Heritage Dictionary*. Fifth Edition. 2012, s. v. "Pernicious."
_____. s. v. "Pervert."
- Webster, Noah. "Pernicious." American Dictionary of the English Language. 1828. Cincinnati, OH: C. J. Krehbiel Company, 2000.
- "Begot, begotten, *pp* of *get*." Webster, Noah. American Dictionary of the English Language. 1828. Cincinnati, OH: C. J. Krehbiel Company, 2000.
- Revised Version of 1881
- "mortify" The American Heritage Dictionary. Fifth Edition. 2012
- New International Version, The NIV Reference Bible Zondervan. 1994 Edition

Reference Material

- Burgon, John William, B.D., "The Traditional Text of the Holy Gospels, Volume 1." Dean Burgon Society Press: Collingswood, NJ, 1998.
- Gipp, Samuel C. Dr., "*Gipp's* Understandable History of the Bible." Northfield, OH: Day Star Publishing. Second Edition, 2000.
- Dr. William P. Grady, "Final Authority." Published by: Grady Publications, Inc.
- David Otis Fuller, D.D., "True of False." Published by: Grand Rapids International Publications.
- Pastor D. A. Waite, Ph.D., "Defending the King James Bible." Published by: The Bible for Today Press.
- Laurence M. Vance, "Double Jeopardy." Published by: Vance Publications.

Personal Profile

In May 1971 Maurice graduated from Rapid City Central High School in Rapid City, South Dakota. In September of that year, he joined the United States Air Force. His job description in the Air Force was a Fuels Specialist.

In January 1972, while stationed in Castle Air Force Base in Merced, California, he believed in Jesus Christ as his Saviour. In June 1972, he was baptized in the Merced Baptist Church, Merced, CA. On January 23, 1973 while stationed at Ching Chang Kang Air Force Base, Taichung, Taiwan the Lord called him as a missionary to Taiwan. Maurice is a Vietnam veteran and was Honorably Discharged from the Air Force in May 1975 with the rank of Sgt., (E-4).

Maurice and his family have been serving on Taiwan as missionaries to the Chinese people since January 27, 1989. His work among the Chinese has been church planting.

Maurice received his Theology Degree ThG. from Baptist Bible College, in Springfield, Missouri on May 1979. On May 11, 2001, he received his B.A. Degree from Louisiana Baptist University, Shreveport, Louisiana. On May 10, 2002, he received his M.A. Degree also from Louisiana Baptist University, and on May 4, 2007, he received his PhD from Louisiana Baptist University.

Currently, Maurice is in the process of making the current church that he founded in Hua Lien, Taiwan, Victory Baptist Church, autonomous.